



## Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of  
THE BISHOP

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February 16, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

At a priest's ordination the Bishop prays: "Together with us, may they be faithful stewards of your mysteries, so that your people may be renewed in the waters of rebirth and nourished from your altar; so that sinners may be reconciled and the sick raised up. May they be joined with us, Lord, in imploring your mercy for the people entrusted to their care and for all the world" (*Rites of Ordination*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, USSCB).

The Diocese of Palm Beach is blessed to benefit from the dedicated priestly ministry of so many who have given their lives in joyful service to the Lord. Even after their retirement, many continue to labor tirelessly in the vineyard for the glory of God and out of love for the faithful. Eventually the burdens of age and infirmity take their toll and they are forced to withdraw from public ministry.

Each year the Diocese of Palm Beach has a second collection to assist the retired diocesan priests with the financial burden of advanced age and infirmity. Please remember to pray for our retired priests, especially those who can no longer minister publicly with their beloved parishioners because of age and infirmity. Your generosity is also greatly appreciated in the collection to be taken next weekend on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for all that you do for the priests of the Diocese of Palm Beach. Your love and care provides them with great spiritual strength and courage to carry out the mission of the Gospel and to be faithful stewards of God's mysteries.

With gratitude for your continued generosity and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito  
Bishop of Palm Beach

**NOTICE TO PASTORS: PLEASE PUBLISH THIS LETTER IN THE PARISH BULLETIN OR HAVE IT READ AT ALL MASSES ON THE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 16 AND 17, 2019. THE COLLECTION WILL OCCUR FEBRUARY 23 AND 24, 2019.**