



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

November 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thousands of retired sisters, brothers, and religious order priests offer their lives in service to others by working in Catholic schools, hospitals and agencies, often for little pay. Many still serve in ministry and remain committed to their vocations, volunteering within their communities. Others are in poor health and need assistance. Yet all remain committed to their vocations.

Today, religious communities find it increasingly difficult to provide for the growing number of aging religious due to rising health care costs, decreasing income and not enough retirement savings.

The Retirement Fund for Religious Collection will take place the weekend of December 11 and 12, 2021, in the Diocese of Venice. This annual collection, organized through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, benefits over 25,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care and other health care costs. It also helps religious congregations plan for future retirement needs. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Thank you for your generosity.

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

FJD/cg