

This letter is our Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund Drive, also known as Perpetuate the Gift. This Diocesan collection for the retirement fund of our Diocesan Priests. The Diocese assesses our parish for this fund based on a percentage of our total Sunday collections amount.

This year our assessment is \$6,963.48. This assessment is different than a goal. This assessment will have to be paid if parishioners donate to the fund or not. The balance due at the end of the collection period will be paid out of our general fund dollars. It is worth noting that dollars in our general fund already have been assessed by the Diocese. A dollar given to the general fund is only worth \$.90 after the general assessment. Our council does not disagree with assessments, we need them to keep our Diocese offices open but we have a way to get more bang for your donated dollar.

If you donate to the Perpetuate the Gift with the envelope provided in the pew and specify our parish, the full amount will be counted to the priest retirement assessment and the parish will not have to pay from the general fund. That is like getting 10% bonus for donating directly to the fund.

This Diocesan fund drive has already started and will continue through the end of the year. So far, we have raised \$1,160 with just 5 families giving.

You can give two ways:

If you go to website 'toledodiocese.org' you can donate online under the tab "Give" and "Donation Now". You will be directed to the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Toledo and set up an account. You can then use this account for all Diocesan collections in the future. I have done it this way and it is very easy. The link is in the bulletin.

Or if you would like to use an envelope, you can fill it out and specify our parish. It is preaddressed so you can mail it directly to the Diocese office and as long as you write St Peter, Archbold as the parish, we will receive credit for our assessed amount.

If you want to save a stamp, you can put your envelope in any collection. But we would like to note there will be a second collection the weekend of Dec 8 & 9. All envelopes and cash donated in the second collection will be applied to the Priest Retirement directly.

From experience in the past, it is better for the collection at the parish level be complete by mid-December so that funds can be counted and credited to the parish and your contribution will show on your annual contribution report. But you can donate online up to the end of December.

On behalf of Fr Stanbery and the Finance Council, thank you for your generosity.