

SECOND COLLECTION INFORMATION
Why Have Second Collections?

As Catholics we are part of a universal Church that extends well beyond our own parish boundaries. Jesus calls us to “make disciples of all nations” (Mt. 28:19). Through the second collection, we have a ready opportunity to give to those causes held up by our Church leaders as important in fulfilling that call of Our Lord.

Second collections develop international awareness of the needs of those beneficiaries—whether an Indian child on a North Dakota reservation or a pilgrim to the Holy Land. The bishops in the United States created the national collections so that by combining our resources we can more effectively carry out our mission as Catholics. Each of the collections is worthy of support and represents our community of faith at its best—working in the world, improving lives, and saving souls.

“Discipleship means that we care about one another. Discipleship means that the needs of the Church touch our hearts and inspire us to tend to the needs of others—whether those impacted by local floods and hurricanes that destroy the lives of people in our own nation or in lands that we have only just read about. It seems that all we require is a reminder of the need, and we open our lives in concern for other. It is a tradition that Paul began for the ancient Church, and we have been having ‘second collections’ since then—with no end in sight, as long as there is a need that we find!” – Archbishop Wilton Gregory

WHERE DOES MY SECOND COLLECTION MONEY GO?

(1) Church in Latin America:

4th Sunday of January

This collection provides support for pastoral projects throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Projects include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis.

For more information: <http://www.usccb.org/latinamerica/>.

(2) Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern Europe:

Ash Wednesday

This collection provides support to meet the needs of rebuilding the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe and the Ex-Soviet Union. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media.

For more information: www.usccb.org/aee/index.htm.

(3) Black and Indian Missions: 1st Sunday of Lent

The National Collection for Black and Indian Missions supports and strengthens diocesan evangelization programs among the African American, American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut communities of the United States.

**(4) Catholic Relief Services:
4th Sunday of Lent**

This appeal supports relief and resettlement services to victims of natural disasters, war, and religious and ethnic persecution. The appeal supports agencies that build the international social ministry of the Catholic Church through advocacy on behalf of the powerless and impoverished.

**(5) Holy Land Shrines:
Good Friday**

The national collection, taken on Good Friday, provides support for the sacred places and the educational and charitable institutions in the Holy Land; the collection assists in providing educational funding for young men for the Missions of the Custody of the Holy Land in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Cyprus, Rhodes, Israel and Egypt.

**(6) Catholic Home Missions Appeal:
Last Sunday of April**

The Home Missions Appeal strengthens the Catholic Church in the United States and its territories where resources are thin and priests are few. Grantees include 85 Latin and Eastern Catholic dioceses in Appalachia, the South, the Southwest, the Rocky Mountain States, Alaska, and the islands of the Pacific and Caribbean. The Appeal also supports about 25 organizations and religious communities engaged in home mission work.

**(7) Catholic Communications Campaign:
2nd Sunday of June**

The Catholic Communications Campaign produces and supports media projects that promote Gospel values and bring the Catholic Church's message to television, radio and other media, and through special projects of the Catholic press. An annual collection is taken up in the dioceses, which remit 50% of the funds collected to the national office. The remaining portion of the collection is retained by the dioceses for use in local communications projects.

**(8) Peter's Pence (Holy Father):
Sunday nearest to June 29th**

The Peter's Pence Collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests for aid to the neediest throughout the world - those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. It likewise provides the faithful with a tangible opportunity to

empower the weak, defenseless, and voiceless, and to sustain those who suffer.

— **(9) World Mission Sunday:** 2nd to last Sunday of October

In 1926, Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday. As a feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so all Christians will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world. The majority of this collection goes to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

(10) Campaign for Human Development:
Sunday before Thanksgiving

This collection addresses the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and transformative education. Of the total amount collected within the diocese, 75 percent goes to the National Campaign for Human Development Office and 25 percent remains within the diocese to fund deserving grant applicants here. For more information, visit <http://www.usccb.org/cchd/>.

(11) Retired Fund for Religious:
2nd Sunday of December

The fund provides restricted grants to any religious institute in the United States to meet retirement needs. It distributes basic, supplemental and special assistance retirement grants from the fund to religious institutes based on a formula and criteria approved by the conferences of major superiors and bishops.

Since participation is of free will , there is no need for your ushers to take up a special collection if you choose not to do so. However, it is suggested that you provide baskets at the doors to receive donations from your parishioners.