

## USCCB NATIONAL & OTHER SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Included below is a brief description of what the funds from these collections accomplish. Please feel free to use this information for promoting the collections in your weekly bulletins and parish newsletters.

COLLECTION	EXPLANATION
Church in Latin America	Support for various pastoral projects throughout Latin America and the Caribbean is made possible through the collection for the Church in Latin America. Projects include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis. Funding is limited to programmatic expenses and excludes building construction except in cases of emergency.
Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern Europe	This special collection channels aid through the bishops' conferences of Central and Eastern Europe to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church: 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.
Operation Rice Bowl	Provides funding for Catholic Relief Services' food security projects which support agriculture, nutrition, education and self-sufficiency in communities around the world. 75% is remitted to CRS for overseas projects and 25% may be retained in the diocese for local antipoverty programs.
Catholic Relief Services	Provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, USCCB office of International Justice and Peace, Migration and Refugee Services, and Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees; relief work of the Holy Father; and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.
Holy Land	Pontifical Collection. Collect funds for support of the Holy Places, but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities.
Catholic Home Missions Appeal	Launched in 1998, the Appeal strengthens the Catholic Church in the United States and its territories in 87 Latin and Eastern Catholic dioceses. The appeal funds a wide range of pastoral services, including evangelization, religious education, the maintenance of mission parishes, the training of seminarians and lay ministers and ministry with ethnic groups.
Catholic Communication Campaign	The essential mission of the CCC is to contribute to the process of evangelization by fostering activities in relation to television, radio, internet 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. From these funds, grants are made by the USCCB Subcommittee on the Catholic Communication Campaign. The remaining portion of the collection is retained by the dioceses for use in local communication projects.
Collection for the Holy Father (Peter's Pence)	The Peter's Pence Collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid 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 not only empower the weak, defenseless and voiceless, but also sustain those who suffer.

Black & Indian Missions	Mandated by the III Plenary Council in 1884, the 125 year old National Collection for Black and Indian people continues as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States. The funds are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease. The Collection was formerly known as The Black and Indian Home Mission Collection.
Catholic University of America	Provides funding for academic scholarships at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in response to the commitment made by the Bishops at its foundation in 1887. Catholic University is the only U.S. university with Pontifical faculties. Students are enrolled from all 50 states and almost 100 countries in 12 schools.
Propagation of The Faith ( <i>World Mission Sunday</i> )	In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. The Mission Sunday collection is always taken on the next to last Sunday during the month of October. That day is celebrated in all the local Churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world.
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	The Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development addresses the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and transformative education. Grants are awarded by the Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development with the approval of local bishops.
Retirement Fund for Religious	The Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR) provides funding to any religious institute in the U.S. that is listed in the religious institute section of the OCD with an identifying OCD number, and that has an unfunded past service liability. It distributes direct care, planning and implementation assistance from the fund to religious institutes, based on a formula and criteria approved by the conferences of major superiors and bishops. Annual Appeal began in 1988 and is approved through 2017.