

NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

There are 13 National Collections currently promulgated by the USCCB. In the Diocese of Fargo, we take up six of the thirteen. What are the collections and what are they used for?

Church in Latin America – fourth Sunday in January - Goes to church work in Latin America. NOT taken up.

Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe – Ash Wednesday - Started in 1990 to respond to special church needs after the collapse of communism. Initially taken up separately for three years in the Diocese of Fargo. NOT taken up now.

Black and Indian Home Missions – first Sunday in Lent - Funds evangelization and other programs for Native American and African-American Catholics. TAKEN UP second or third weekend in November.

American Bishops Overseas Appeal – fourth Sunday in Lent – Helps fund Catholic Relief Services and other Catholic refugee relief and development activities abroad. NOT taken up – God’s Gift Appeal contribution.

Holy Land – Good Friday – Helps fund maintenance of the holy sites under Catholic care in the Holy Land. TAKEN UP on Good Friday.

Catholic Communications Campaign – third Sunday in May – Assists in Catholic communication activities. NOT taken up – God’s Gift Appeal contribution.

Peter’s Pence – Sunday nearest June 29 (feast of Sts. Peter and Paul) – Goes to the Pope to be used for charities at his discretion. TAKEN UP next to last Sunday in January.

World Mission Sunday – first or second Sunday in October – Funds foreign missionary needs. TAKEN UP next to last Sunday in October.

Campaign for Human Development – Sunday before Thanksgiving – Assists in U.S. human development projects. NOT taken up – God’s Gift Appeal contribution.

Retirement Fund for Religious – second Sunday in December – Helps U.S. religious orders, especially those of women, to meet unfunded retirement costs. TAKEN UP second Sunday in December.

Collection for the Home Missions – last Sunday in April – Started in 1998 to replace the former home mission allocation from World Mission Sunday. It funds programs of ministry and evangelization in needy U.S. dioceses. TAKEN UP last Sunday in April.

Catholic University of America – Provides funding for academic scholarships at Catholic University in Washington, DC. NOT taken up – God’s Gift Appeal contribution.

Collection for Archdiocese for the Military Services – Funds Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program. Sunday before Veteran’s Day, every third year beginning 2013. Optional-parish picks date.

Also CRS Rice Bowl (throughout Lent) and Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa.