

Bulletin Announcements**For week prior to appeal:**

Next week the second collection benefits the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. More than 37,000 women and men religious are now past age 70 and their institutes struggle daily with the spiraling costs of health care. **Please give generously.**

Next week's appeal for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** asks us to recall those women and men religious whose ministry has nourished our own faith, served our church, and strengthened our nation. Today, more than 37,000 women and men religious are past age 70. Their institutes face critical economic challenges as the costs of health care escalate and as the need for handicapped-accessible housing increases. **Please give generously.**

For appeal week:

The total amount donated since 1988—almost \$500 million—would pay for just one year of skilled nursing and assisted living for more than 11,000 religious in need of such care today. Even the extraordinary response to this appeal actually represents a donation of only one dollar per year per adult Catholic in the United States.

Retirement Fund for Religious**Please give generously**

The average Catholic family spends \$12 per year on cookies, \$21 on potato chips, and \$29 on take-out coffee. Donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious average a little more than one dollar per year per adult Catholic. The RFR benefits more than 37,000 elderly women and men religious who received only small stipends for their decades of service. Your gift makes a difference!

Retirement Fund for Religious**Please give generously**