

# Retirement Fund for Religious

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National Religious Retirement Office



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## News

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### Message from the Director

As the needs of religious communities continue to evolve, so too must the ways we support those entrusted with their care. At the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), we remain committed not only to offering financial assistance but also practical resources and guidance to help leaders navigate the realities of aging members.

In that spirit, I am pleased to share that Dayna Larson-Hurst has joined the NRRO staff as Education & Outreach Manager. Many of you already know Dayna through her years of dedicated service as a consultant to our office.

In her new role, Dayna will help strengthen the NRRO's educational initiatives, including our webinars and conference workshops, and expand our resource library. She will also assist in shaping a more flexible and accessible consultation service as communities face ongoing challenges in leadership capacity, eldercare, and financial sustainability.

At the same time, we continue to look for new ways to support your outreach efforts. In this issue, you will find information about new digital tools designed to help (arch)dioceses, parishes, and religious institutes share the story of the Retirement Fund for Religious more effectively and connect with supporters in today's evolving communications landscape.

While our tools continue to develop, our mission remains unchanged. We are here to walk alongside you — assisting, sharing knowledge, and supporting your efforts to ensure the care and dignity of your senior members.

I encourage you to explore the resources available through the NRRO and to reach out if your community may benefit from consultation or support.

In Christ,



John Knutsen  
Director

## NRRO Announces New Education & Outreach Manager

Many religious institute leaders know Dayna Larson-Hurst through more than a decade of her service to the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) as an independent consultant. We are pleased to announce that Dayna has joined the NRRO staff as Education & Outreach Manager.



Dayna Larson-Hurst

“Dayna has helped many over the years,” says NRRO Director John Knutsen. “Her extensive experience, warm and positive personality, and true spirit of service make her a tremendous resource as many leaders seek additional help in caring for aging members.”

In her new role, Dayna will help strengthen the many ways the NRRO provides educational and resource support to religious institutes as they care for their elder members. She will also assist John in coordinating the NRRO’s evolving consultation process. Since the Planning & Implementation program ended in 2023 and NRRO eldercare consultant Sister Anna Marie Tag, RSM, departed in 2025, requests for

additional guidance on eldercare and other challenges have continued to come in. To meet this ongoing need, Dayna will help make the consultation service more accessible and flexible in collaboration with the NRRO’s team of volunteer consultants.

Many institutes are decreasing in size and facing new challenges. The NRRO is pleased to offer consultation services in addition to financial assistance from the national collection. “It’s not that religious institute leaders aren’t seeking additional help since the Planning & Implementation program ended,” John said. “There is still a need, but, given the changing landscape of religious life as institutes continue to age, a more adaptable consultation approach is necessary, particularly for the growing number of small institutes.”

Leaders whose religious communities may benefit from a consultation can visit the Consultation Service page on the [NRRO website \(under the Resources tab\)](#), where they will find a simple request form. Consultations are free of charge and may be conducted on-site or virtually.

“Dayna isn’t new to us at all, of course, as she’s been affiliated with the NRRO for a long time,” John notes. “We’re delighted to have her on the team in a new way.”

### 2026 NRRO Calendar

#### May

**18–22** 2025 Retirement Needs Analysis mailed

#### June

**22–26** Direct Care Assistance checks mailed

#### July

**20–23** CMSM National Assembly, Phoenix, AZ

#### August

**11–14** LCWR National Assembly, Orlando, FL

**18** NRRO Webinar (topic TBD)

#### September

**17–20** CMSWR National Assembly, Florissant, MO

#### November

**2–5** RCRI National Conference, St. Louis, MO

**10** NRRO Webinar (topic TBD)

#### December

**12–13** Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

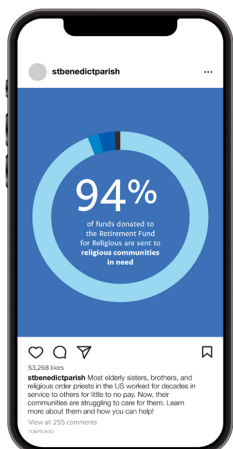
## New Digital Tools

### Help Share the Story of Caring for Aging Religious

Each year, the Retirement Fund for Religious collection offers the faithful an opportunity to express gratitude to the women and men religious who have devoted their lives to service in the Church.

As the ways people communicate and give continue to evolve, the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) is pleased to introduce two new digital resources designed to help (arch)dioceses, parishes, and religious institutes share the message of the Retirement Fund for Religious more easily and effectively.

These tools are intended to complement the promotional materials that (arch)dioceses receive each year, while also providing new ways to reach Catholics online.



### A New Social Media Tool Kit

The first resource is a new social media tool kit for (arch)diocesan coordinators, parish leaders, religious communities, and others to promote the collection online.

The NRRO created a simple guide with ready-to-use content to raise awareness of the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. The tool kit offers suggested posts, images, and short captions

for easy sharing on parish and (arch)diocesan social media accounts. These posts highlight the mission and impact of the Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

With clear messages and engaging visuals, the tool kit helps (arch)dioceses and parishes promote the collection and encourage participation. It is designed to be easy to use—even for those with limited experience using social media for ministry.

The tool kit is available for download on the Retirement Fund for Religious [campaign materials page](#) and can supplement traditional bulletins, parish announcements, and other materials.

### A New Online Giving Option Through iGiveCatholic

Along with new promotional materials, the NRRO is offering a new online giving option via [iGiveCatholic](#).

Offering a digital option lets supporters of the Retirement Fund for Religious contribute easily and securely from any device. On iGiveCatholic, donors can learn about the Retirement Fund for Religious mission and give directly to support aging sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

This online option does not replace the parish collection but offers another way for people to give, especially for those who wish to donate outside of Mass or electronically.

Parishes and (arch)dioceses are encouraged to invite parishioners to visit the [Retirement Fund for Religious website](#) to learn more and participate in this giving option.

### Supporting the Mission Together

The generosity of Catholics across the United States each year makes a profound difference in the lives of thousands of aging religious. Gifts to the Retirement Fund for Religious help provide medications, nursing care, and other essential needs for sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have given so much in service to others. (Arch)diocesan coordinators, parish leaders, and religious communities are invited to explore these new resources and incorporate them into their efforts to promote the collection.

Together, through both traditional outreach and new digital tools, we can continue to ensure that those who cared for others throughout their lives receive the care and dignity they deserve in retirement.

For more information and to access these resources, please visit the [Retirement Fund for Religious website](#) and [campaign materials page](#).



# National Religious Retirement Office

Sponsor of the Retirement Fund for Religious

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[uscgb.org/nrro](http://uscgb.org/nrro)

[retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)

The National Religious Retirement Office coordinates the national collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious and distributes these funds to eligible religious institutes for their retirement needs.

Our mission is to support, educate, and assist religious institutes in the United States to embrace their current retirement realities and to plan for the future.

#### Staff

##### Director

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## Stay Connected

Please send changes in address, phone, email, or congregational leadership to the NRRO, c/o Karen Cañas ([kcanas@uscgb.org](mailto:kcanas@uscgb.org)), so that we may keep our records and mailing lists updated.

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