PROGRAM MANUAL
2013
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>About LSRP</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Plan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Contacts</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting Started</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Alarming Truth</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequently Asked Questions</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSPR Logo &amp; Guidelines</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samples Advertisement</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press Release Sample</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended Bulletin Announcements</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Appendix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample Procedures from the Diocese of Charlotte</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from Diocese Bishop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample Pastor’s Letter</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priest’s Retirement &amp; Benefit Collection Suggestions</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fact Sheet</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Pulpit Announcements</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample Lay Presenter Talk</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moving Forward</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABOUT LSPR

Laity in Support of Retired Priests (LSRP) is an organization dedicated to the enhancement of life for bishops and priests in their retirement years. It was established in 2007 after a group of retired business professionals learned that a priest they knew was facing retirement with a poverty-level pension of only $1,000 per month.

Further research, in Florida and elsewhere, revealed that some Catholic dioceses had reasonable provisions to support parish priests in their retirement, but many did not. Investigating the clergy retirement plans of several major Protestant denominations, LSRP identified excellent models that potentially could be modified and used to improve the plans available to Catholic priests through their dioceses.

As a result, the Laity in Support of Retired Priests filed a certificate of incorporation with the state of Florida in 2007, obtained a 501 (c)(3) non-profit tax status, and formed an initial governing board consisting of four priests and 12 laypersons. Bishop A.J. Quinn of Cleveland, a canon and civil lawyer, has worked closely with the organization, serving as a strong advocate and is now on the Board of Directors.

LSRP board members then reviewed many research studies, consulted with priests and bishops, and formulated a mission to address the needs of aging and retired priests and to devise ways to support them comfortably in their retirement years. From the onset of the program, it was agreed that the aid of Catholic laity should be sought and be an important part of this effort.
Laity in Support of Retired Priests (LSRP) is delighted that you have joined us in this important venture. There has never been a greater need for support of retired or soon-to-be retired priests. The LSRP program is designed to eliminate many barriers and set in motion a cohesive and comprehensive plan.

This manual will provide you with many of the tools necessary for successfully developing, implementing and maintaining your LSRP program. We hope it will serve as an on-going reference for accessing helpful information and generating new ideas.

The information is not intended as a rulebook and is certainly not the only approach to successfully operating a LSRP program.

We recommend that each diocese hold an annual special collection to help retired or soon to be retired priests. A good day to hold it would be on Father’s Day. Therefore the items outlined in this Program Manual will help you with the steps needed to be successful.
KEY CONTACTS

LSRP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee
Chairman, J. Gary Ray
President & CEO, Thomas W. Hoban
Vice President, John Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, Louis Erste
Richard Becker
Matthew O’Rourke
William Vareschi

Board of Directors
Bishop A.J. Quinn
Dr. Mary Gautier, CARA Senior Research Associate
Vincent Murphy
Rev. John Rourke
Rev. Patrick Sullivan
Rev. Michael Tegeder

LSRP
P.O. Box 1019
Bonita Springs, FL 34133-1019
Email: th8159@earthlink.net
Website: www.LSRPInc.org
Phone: (239) 498-0736

Correspondence is preferred via e-mail.
GETTING STARTED

Our aging priests have served us well and now deserve a just retirement.

Things You May Not Know About Diocesan Priests’ Retirement

1. There are 28,000 total diocesan priests in the U.S. with 75% still active.
2. Approximately 25% of all diocesan priests are 75 years or older.
3. 10,000 of all diocesan priests still active expect to retire by 2019 or earlier.
4. Median annual benefit for retired priests is $18,000.
5. Median annual pension for all retired diocesan priests is $18,149 (2007); while the cost of living for senior priests is estimated to be $32,119, according to national sources.
6. Social Security benefits are very minimal.
7. Priests are independent contractors and often paying both employee and employer portion of Social Security and Medicare.
8. The annual collection in your parish does not benefit diocesan priests.
9. Housing and isolation are often critical issues for retired priests facing retirement.

As one priest wrote, “My greatest fear is to have no one to care for me in my old age or in bad health. All of my family is deceased and priest friends will be very limited to help me if needed. Diocesan priests are not like the religious who live within the community, but they still need regular contact and support.”
THE ALARMING TRUTH

Increasing Parishioners, Decreasing Priests:
- The parishioner-to-priest ratio today is 3,500:1, verses 1,500:1 in 1970.
- In 1970, 36,000 priests served the U.S. as opposed to today’s total of 28,000 priests, of which only 20,000 are active.

Full Retirement Benefits:
- 71 is the typical age of eligibility for full retirement benefits in their diocese. However, 29% report an eligibility age higher than 75; only 15% report one lower than that (most commonly 65).
- 67 is the average age of eligibility for early retirement with benefits, generally for health reasons.

Retirement Benefits:
- 60% agree their pension plan is adequate; 50% strongly agree they are able to provide for their financial needs. Yet, 10% strongly disagree with these statements.
- Many respondents believe that “we are still working under a feudal system concerning our wages, benefits and pension benefits. It’s sad and needs to change.”

Vesting:
- Vesting is defined as the length of service after which a priest has a guaranteed right to some level of retirement benefits.
- Statistics show that 51% receive vesting after a specified number of years, 30% are vested upon ordination and 19% receive no vesting provisions.
- Despite the percentages above reflecting vesting arrangements, a number of priests are not vested until retirement.

Portability:
- Portability is the transfer of funding and/or service to another retirement vehicle should a priest move to another diocese.
- About 69% of diocesan priests receive no portability provisions; 15% gain portability to plans accepting transfers; 12% have limited portability to other dioceses; 4% receive full payout rollover to an IRA or 403(b) plan.
- Relatively few priests report other types of retirement savings plans in their diocese: 17% report having an IRA through their diocese; 9% report an annuity program.

Other Benefits Provided By Dioceses:
- 90% of priests report their diocese offers health coverage; 89% receive health insurance, 78% receive prescription drug insurance and 70% receive dental and/or vision insurance.
- Far fewer (26%) report that their diocese provides them with long-term care insurance.

Housing/Transportation:
- Housing and transportation are usually offered by dioceses, contingent on continued ministry.
- A survey found that the availability of such housing is inadequate to meet increasing needs.
- Only 43% receive a housing allowance; 21% receive a car allowance.
• Half of retired priests say their diocese offers a residence for retired priests in need of assisted living; 35% confirm their diocese offers such a residence for skilled nursing care.
• 51% of retired priests would prefer to live in a house, apartment or condominium that they could rent or own.
• 47% of all retired priests would prefer to live alone; 28% would prefer to live with other priests.
• One respondent confirms “There are not enough diocesan-sponsored residences for all the priests who would like to live in such facilities, and many are on the waiting lists.”

Continued Service:
• There is no set age for retirement although many priests receive a pension at age 68. Many retired priests are elevated to senior priest at this time and continue working for three to five years.
• 30% of retired or semi-retired respondents strongly agree that “retired priest” is an inaccurate term for their lives after retirement from active ministry.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Is there a set retirement age for diocesan priests?
   A. There is no set retirement age for priests; it ranges between 65 and 75.

Q. What is the average annual income for a priest in retirement?
   A. $18,500 plus $8,000 from Social Security benefits.

Q. What does a priest require for an adequate retirement?
   A. $32,000 annually.

Q. Do we have an adequate supply of priests?
   A. On average, dioceses now have one retired priest for every two active priests. Half of all priests in active ministry are over age 60, and half of all priests in active ministry expect to retire by 2019 or earlier.

Q. Does the annual special collection for religious cover diocesan priests’ retirement?
   A. No, the diocese provides for the retirement benefits of senior priests.

Q. What happens to priests when they retire?
   A. Just like the general public, priests often rely on Social Security, retirement plans and family. Throughout the years, their income levels are generally low, and therefore their benefits can be lacking in some areas.

Q. Do priests have vesting privileges?
   A. Vesting refers to the length of service after which a priest has a guaranteed right to some level of retirement benefit. Most dioceses have vesting provisions ranging from immediately vesting upon ordination to some specified number of years, with the average being 14 years.

Q. Can they take their benefits with them no matter where they live?
   A. This is called portability, which refers to the transfer of funding and/or credit to other retirement vehicles. Some dioceses offer portability; others do not. It can be a challenge if a priest decides to move to another diocese when he retires. Approximately 70% of priests do not have portable benefits.
Q. How does a retired priest receive health benefits?
A. Most dioceses provide health insurance coverage for retired priests. However, many are not covered for long-term health care insurance specifically when they become incapacitated or disabled and need nursing home facilities. Appropriate skilled nursing facilities that allow access to a chapel and sacraments are also needed.

Q. Are there other issues facing retired priests?
A. Sometimes priests can feel a lack of connection with the community when they retire. After working so many years to support the community they may feel alienated and no longer needed.

Q. What are the primary goals of the LSRP?
• To enhance the lives of our diocesan priests in their retirement
• To create an awareness with the laity of the plight of many diocesan priests in retirement
• To form a national association of senior diocesan priests to deal with issues of isolation, loneliness and to speak with a uniform voice
• To develop guidelines for a just and equitable pension and benefit plan
LSRP LOGO & GUIDELINES

This “style sheet” is intended to be the most basic of guideline for use of the LSRP logo. Please send a copy of all correspondence/marketing materials where you have used the logo so we may keep for our records.

Green – PMS  356
Red – PMS 186     Red Text - 186
Gold – PMS 458
ADVERTISING

It is recommended that in order to effectively reach our goals of supporting retired priests that churches and dioceses help notify the local community. Below is a sample advertisement and press release that you may use. Please insert your diocese's or church's information before releasing. (If you have any problems, contact Ann Hughes at ann@hughesmcgrath.com.)

PLEASE HELP OUR RETIRED PRIESTS

The average annual benefit for retired diocesan priests is only $26,000.

Whereas, the yearly cost of living is approximately $32,100.

Your tax-deductible donation will go to help thousands of retired priests.

Please donate at your local parish during the month of June, in honor of Father's Day, to support retired and soon-to-be retired priests.
PRESS RELEASE

Please feel free to use the press release below. Simply insert your church’s or diocese’s information. (Suggested distribution- local magazines, newspapers, radio and TV stations.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City, State (Date) – The (list your church or diocese) has joined the Laity in Support of Retired Priests (LSRP) by helping to spread the word that our retired and soon-to-be retired priests and bishops need our support. On Father’s Day (list name of church or diocese) will be participating in a nationwide effort to help our retired or soon-to-be retired priests.

Recent statistics:

- Diocesan priests are independent contractors, often paying the employee and employer portion of Social Security and Medicare.
- Some pension plans are not portable; priests can’t take them with them if they leave their diocese or state.
- Social Security benefits for senior priests are minimal due to low annual incomes.
- Many semi-retired priests still serve 30 hours a week, and some retired priests work 14 hours a week.
- Some dioceses provide housing during retirement, but only under condition of ministry service.
- Dioceses vary widely on their retirement policies and the benefits they provide to retired priests.

LSRP strives to highlight diocese, state and national issues, and develop better communications to and between clergy. LSRP mailing address is P.O. Box 1019, Bonita Springs, FL 34133-1019. For more information visit, www.LSRPinc.org.
OPTION 1

SUPPORT RETIRED PRIESTS
The Laity in Support of Retired Priests (LSRP) strives to support diocesan bishops and priests in their retirement, in gratitude for their years of service to the Church. The organization seeks to enhance the ability of retired priests to continue in health and vitality to serve the Church, her people and the broader community – a commitment to which priests have dedicated their lives in creative and meaningful ministry. For more additional information, visit www.lsrpinc.org.

OPTION 2

Father! - to God himself we cannot give a holier name. ~William Wordsworth
Please donate in the special collection during the month of June, in honor of Father’s Day, to support retired and soon to be retired priests in our parish.

NOTE: Send a copy of all articles, ads and bulletins that mention either LSRP or the special collection for retired priests to:

LSRP
Attn: Dick Becker
P.O. Box 1019
Bonita Springs, FL  34133-1019
APPENDIX

This and the following pages are samples of an effective campaign from the Diocese of Charlotte

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

September 2012

My Dear Friends in Christ,

This year we celebrate 40 years as a diocese. Some of us remember fondly those priests who served us forty years ago when we first became the Diocese of Charlotte. Many of those priests are now retired, but still serving our parishes when asked to help. On the weekend of September 9th we will have an opportunity to “Celebrate the Past and Embrace the Future,” through a grateful and generous contribution to the annual collection to fund the priests’ retirement and benefits plans. With gratitude we celebrate the years of faithful service of our 23 retired diocesan priests, and we embrace the future service of those currently active in ministry. Our retired diocesan priests have collectively given us over one thousand years of priestly ministry. These holy men still give generously of their time through their daily prayer for the people of the diocese, celebration of Mass for the intentions of parishioners, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and helping in parishes throughout western North Carolina. They gave us years of faithful service, and now we celebrate their presence among us.

The annual diocesan collection to fund the priests’ retirement and benefits plans is a second collection that will be taken in all parishes on the weekend after Labor Day, and the envelope for this collection is part of your parish envelope packet. We will have an opportunity to show our appreciation for the many years of service our priests have given. Our goal for the priests’ retirement and benefits plans for 2012-2013 is $1,584,000. In addition to the 23 retired diocesan priests, we currently have 108 priests serving the faithful of western North Carolina. Twenty-seven of those are religious order priests for whom retirement contributions will be made.

You will find additional information about the retirement needs of our priests in the enclosed brochure and the August 31st issue of The Catholic News Herald. Please take the time to read them thoroughly, giving prayerful consideration to how you can show your gratitude to the many priests who serve the people of our diocese so faithfully.

I ask you especially to remember our retired priests in your daily prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, J.C.D.
Bishop of Charlotte

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203
Phone: (704) 370-6299 – Fax: (704) 370-3379 – www.charlottediocese.org
Sample Pastor’s Letter
2012 Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collections

The following sample letter for the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits collection may be modified or personalized in many ways. You may choose to use it as a newsletter or bulletin article instead of a letter. You could incorporate some of the historical facts provided on the “fact sheet,” or provide additional information regarding religious order retirement, if applicable to your parish. Your endorsement of the collection will encourage a positive response on the part of your parishioners.

Dear Parishioners,

The theme of this year’s Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection is “Celebrate our Past – Embrace our Future.” In reflecting on our own parish, I truly celebrate the ways that retired Father(s) ________________________, is/are still serving here when needed. I also see how my brother priests continue to live their vocation in their retirement. For a large number of our older priests their only family is the Church, and they depend on the generosity of parishioners to provide caring support in their retirement years. In order to afford well-deserved retirement benefits for our priests, the diocese has an annual assessed collection for Priests’ Retirement and Benefits. More information about this collection can be found in the August 31st issue of the Catholic News Herald. A letter from Bishop Jurgis along with a brochure should arrive in your mail early in September.

The amount needed from this collection for both diocesan and religious order priests’ retirement and benefits plans for the coming year is $584,000. This collection also assures that funds will be available in the future when our younger priests are ready to retire. Our parish has been assessed $__________, reflecting 3.5% of our annual offertory income. If each parishioner would contribute just twice his or her weekend offertory gift, then we would make enough to pay this assessment with one collection. This is a second collection that will be taken at all Masses on the weekend of September 8 & 9.

I am asking for your help to meet our assessment through a generous contribution to this collection supporting priests’ retirement and benefits. This is your opportunity to show your gratitude to all of those priests who have served this parish – those who are still active in ministry and those who are now retired and living their vocation in other settings. I ask, too, that you keep me and all of our priests in your prayers each day, and be assured of our prayers for you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Pastor
2012 Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection
Suggestions for Promoting the Collection in Parishes

Poster: Every parish & mission will receive two posters, English on one side and Spanish on the other side, advertising the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection. Please display the posters in a prominent place in the parish gathering area or bulletin board area for several weeks before and after the collection.

Bulletin Announcements: The enclosed sample bulletin announcements in both English and Spanish are suggestions for your use in promoting the collection. We encourage you to adapt them to your particular circumstances in your own parish/mission.

Pulpit Announcements: If your parish has a special time for announcements at the weekend masses, consider adapting the enclosed sample pulpit announcements.

Sample Pastor’s Letter: The pastor’s endorsement of the collection will encourage participation on the part of the parishioners. The letter could be mailed, included in the bulleting, or inserted in the parish newsletter.

Retired Priests as Concelebrant: If you have a retired priest in your parish or town, consider inviting him to concelebrate with you the weekend of the collection. He could share a few words about the joys of the priesthood and life in retirement.

Lay Presenter: Another way of promoting the collection might include having a layperson make a brief (2-3 minute) presentation on the weekend of the collection.

Selecting the right lay presenter could add to the success of the collection in your parish. A sample lay presenter talk is included in this packet of information. The following may be considerations in making your selection of a presenter:

- A good speaker, one who is energetic and enthusiastic
- A long-standing parishioner – someone who has a history with the parish who knows former parish priests who are now retired.
- He or she could be a member of the pastoral council, finance council, or a parish commission

Additional envelopes: Each parish will receive a supply of additional collection envelopes. Those parishes with a Spanish mass will also receive a supply of envelopes in Spanish. Make those available to parishioners who may not receive an envelope in their parish packet. Keep a supply in the parish office for those parishioners who might want to contribute at another time. Some of your parishioners might want to make a larger gift and pay it over several months. The additional envelope will afford them the opportunity to put a second contribution in the regular collection at a later date and credit it to the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection. These envelopes will be sent to you from Our Sunday Visitor Offertory Envelope Services.

Follow-up include a follow-up bulletin announcement indicating the amount collected for the collection along with a “Thank You” to those who contributed. Encourage those who were out of town or unable to give the previous week to prayerfully consider making a contribution to this important cause. A follow-up collection might be held the last weekend in September or the first weekend in October. Make envelopes available in the office or vestibule for those who wish to contribute.
2012 Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection
Fact Sheet

The following information is provided to give each pastor, pastoral administrator, and staff member a better understanding of the Priests’ Retirement and Benefit Collection. You may choose to use some of these facts as you promote the collection at the parish level.

- A total of 23 retired diocesan priests currently receive benefits.
- There are 81 diocesan priests in active ministry.
- A contribution will be made to the retirement funds of the 8 religious orders serving the Diocese of Charlotte.
- There are currently 27 religious order priests for whom contributions will be made.
- The total assessed amount to find the priests’ retirement and benefits program for 2012-2013 is $1,584,000. That amount is broken down as follows: $852,000 for pension contribution for diocesan and religious priests’ retirement plans; $700,000 for retirement benefits expanse for retired diocesan priests’ health plan, and campaign expenses of approximately $32,000.
- The amount assessed each parish is 3.5% of their annual offertory income. In most parishes that amounts to slightly less than two times their regular weekend offertory.
- After the close of Vatican II, the Diocese of Raleigh adopted a retirement plan for its priests, which included a yearly assessed collection to fund the plan. When the Diocese of Charlotte was established in 1972, one-half of the funds collected to that date were turned over to the new diocese. The assessed collection, amounting to 2% of the total parish offertory, added to the fund each year, allowing the fund to grow. This was strictly for priests’ retirement. It wasn’t until the 1980’s that benefits were added to the plan.
- About 18 years ago the assessed collection was dropped in lieu of a simple second collection.
- In more recent years, the number of retired priests increased, costing the plan additional money yearly. The number of retirement in this country is 65, priests are asked to serve until age 70 and beyond.
- In the fall of 1996, the Chancery established a task force to study the benefits offered in the retirement plan. That task force, composed of lay, clergy and diocesan staff, recommended the current priests’ benefits package.
2012 Priests’ Retirement & Benefits Collection
Suggested Bulletin Announcements

The following are suggestions for promoting the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection through the parish bulletin. If you will be holding the collection on a different weekend, please adjust accordingly.

August 18/19  
The annual collection for Priests’ Retirement and Benefits is scheduled for the weekend of September 8-9. Your contribution to this important collection is a way to show your gratitude to the priests who serve you so faithfully.

August 25/26  
Your August 31st issue of the Catholic News Herald features articles and information on the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection. Please take the time to read those articles so that you can be better informed about the retirement and benefits plans. All registered families should soon receive information in the mail from Bishop __________. Please respond generously to the second collection on September 8 and 9.

Sept. 12  
The dedicated priests who served us in the past (You may want to mention former pastors or parochial vicars who are now retired.) now deserve to live out their retirement years in dignity. Our parish has been assessed $xxxx for the priests’ retirement and benefits plans. This amount is slightly less than two times the regular weekend offertory. Please be as generous as you can in this second collection, which will be taken in our parish next weekend, September 8-9. Additional envelopes are available in the parish office.

Sept. 15/16  
Our parish received $________ in contributions to the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Collection last week. We are grateful for the generosity of our parishioners. Our assessment is $________. Those who were unable to give last week may still put a contribution in the regular collection any time. There are additional envelopes available in the parish office for those who did not receive one in the mail.
2012 Priests’ Retirement & Benefits Collection
Suggested Pulpit Announcements

The following are suggested pulpit announcements for promoting the Priest’s Retirement and Benefits Collection. If you will be holding the collection on a different weekend, please adjust accordingly.

August 18/19  Our priests give many years of faithful service. They deserve to retire with dignity and in comfort. Many of our retired priests have but one family – the people of the parishes they served. On the weekend of September 8/9 you will have an opportunity to contribute to the collection for Priest’s Retirement and Benefits. That second collection will take place here in the parish.

August 25/26  The latest issue of The Catholic News Herald provides you with articles and information on Priests’ Retirement and Benefits needs. Each parish has been assessed 3.5% of their annual offertory. The amount of our assessment is $_________ (slightly less than two times the regular weekend offertory) so please give prayerful thought to your proportionate contribution and be as generous as possible.

September 1/2  Next weekend, here in the parish, you will have an opportunity to express gratitude to our priests by contributing to the Priests’ Retirement and Benefit Collection. As with all 2nd collections, please make your checks payable to (name of parish).

September 8/9  A brief talk by pastor/presenter, or pulpit announcement is below:

Our second collection today is for the Priests’ Retirement & Benefits. Many of you may remember Fr. _________ (Here you may insert the names of any retired priests who served in the parish.) who is /are now retired. Your generosity to this collection will help both diocesan and religious order priests who served us so faithfully.
### Priests’ Retirement & Benefits Collection
#### Suggested Bulletin/Pulpit Announcements in Spanish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 18/19</td>
<td>La Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes tendrá lugar en cada parroquia el fin de semana del 9 de Septiembre del 2012. Su contribución a esta importante colecta es una manera de demostrar su agradecimiento a los sacerdotes que nos sirven tan fielmente.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 25/26</td>
<td>La edición de 31 de Agosto, 2012, del Catholic News Herald contiene artículos e información sobre la Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes. Por favor tome el tiempo necesario para leerlos e informarse sobre las necesidades de nuestros sacerdotes durante sus años de jubilación. Por favor medite en cómo puede demostrar su agradecimiento a los muchos sacerdotes que sirven a los feligreses de nuestra diócesis con tanta fidelidad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1/2</td>
<td>El Obispo Jugis ha escrito una carta a todos los feligreses inscriptos en nuestra parroquia sobre el tema de la Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes. En esta carta nuestro Obispo nos recuerda de la labor de estos sacerdotes que nos han servido en el pasado y que ahora merecen vivir sus años de jubilación con dignidad. La contribución de nuestra parroquia para la Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes ha sido tasada en $_________. Esta cantidad es poco menos del doble de la cantidad de una colecta dominical. Por favor sea generoso en esta colecta que tendrá lugar el próximo fin de semana. Los sobres especiales para esta colecta están disponibles en su paquete de sobres par alas colectas dominicales o en la oficina parroquial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8/9</td>
<td>El Obispo Jugis ha escrito una carta a todos los feligreses inscriptos en nuestra parroquia sobre el tema de la Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes. En esta carta nuestro Obispo nos recuerda de la labor de estos sacerdotes que nos han servido en el pasado y que ahora merecen vivir sus años de jubilación con dignidad. A contribución de nuestra parroquia para la Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes ha sido tasada en $_________. Esta cantidad es poco menos del doble de la cantidad de una colecta dominical. Por favor sea generoso en esta colecta que tendrá lugar el próximo fin de semana. Los sobres especiales para esta colecta están disponibles en su paquete de sobres par alas colectas dominicales o en la oficina parroquial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15/16</td>
<td>La semana pasada, nuestra parroquia recibió $_________ en contribuciones para la Colecta para la jubilación y los beneficios de los sacerdotes. Estamos agradecidos a todos aquellos que han contribuido a esta causa. Si usted no pudo contribuir la semana pasada, todavía puede contribuir en la colecta dominical. Por favor use los sobres especiales para esta colecta que están disponibles en la oficina parroquial. Acuerdese de orar por todos nuestros sacerdotes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

21
Sample Lay Presenter Talk

Hello, my name is ____________, and I have been a member of (name of parish) for 25 years. During that time, we have been blessed with many dedicated and holy priests who served us as Jesus himself would serve. You might remember Fr. ____________, who is now retired and living in ____________. (insert names and location above). I remember his Christ-like presence to my family and me when my mother died. (This is only an example… You might want to tell a short personal story about one of the priests.)

While the retirement age for most of us is 65, most priests continue to minister until they turn 70 and even beyond. Even in retirement, they continue to serve faithfully in our parishes with masses and confessions. Many of them still serve as spiritual directors to former parishioners. It is only through the generosity and continued service of retired priests that many of our active priests can take a much deserved vacation once in awhile. Some of you might remember Fr. __________ who filled in while our pastor was on vacation. (Here you could mention the name of a retired priest who might have filled in at your parish in the past.)

Each parish is assessed 3.5% of their offertory to pay for the Priests’ Retirement and Benefits Plan. That assessment became a necessity 15 years ago when it became evident that the funds on hand and those from the second collection would not meet the future retirement needs of our priests. This fund also provides for the future retirement of those priests currently in active ministry. It insures that funds will be there when they are ready to retire. Also, a portion of the total amount goes to the retirement funds of religious order priests serving in the diocese.

Our parish assessment is $____________. That amounts to slightly less than two times our weekend offertory. I would like to encourage you to join me in making a proportionate contribution to this important collection. If you would like to contribute part of your gift now and remainder next month, please use one of the additional envelopes available in the back of the church (or in the parish office) for the balance of your gift.

Finally, I ask you to join me in spending time each day in prayer for our priests. Pray in thanksgiving for the many gifts they bring to their priestly ministry and for the many ways they shepherd us through prayer, sacrament and service each day.

Remember… this special second collection today is for Priests’ Retirement and Benefits. Thank you for your kind attention.
Moving Forward

In the months ahead, LSRP hopes for a continued with appropriate Catholic leadership and organizations in the country, including the involvement of diocesan bishops, to enhance the lives of diocesan priests in their retirement years in recognition of their many years of dedicated service to the Church, its laity, and communities throughout our country.

We Look Forward to Your Thoughts

Again, you are encouraged to log-on to the LSRP website:  www.LSRPinc.org

You may also e-mail or write LSRP:

Thomas W. Hoban
President & CEO
Laity in Support of Retired Priests, Inc.
P.O. Box 1019
Bonita Springs, Florida 34133-1019
th8159@earthlink.net