



PLEASE SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAGINAW PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND

Unlike in many jobs where employees work a shift or have fairly regular starting and ending times, priests don't "clock out" after Mass or at the conclusion of a funeral or after vows are exchanged at a wedding.

There is preparation for the events of "public ministry" – writing homilies; making certain the church is set up properly; meeting with couples who will be married; counseling and comforting families as they prepare for a loved one's funeral; going to homes or hospitals for anointings; and the list goes on.

When in parish life, diocesan priests also act as the equivalent of business managers, overseeing the finances and day-to-day operations as well as responding to urgent needs and emergencies of their congregations and parish properties. Many also have additional responsibilities at the diocesan level in support of the bishop and the widespread ministries of the diocese.

Unlike others who retire, priests no longer receive a portion of their previous salary or benefits. They rely on the support of those who they have served.

Your gift to the Priests' Retirement Fund is your way to support those who have served, and continue to serve, you and your parish family.

DIOCESAN PRIESTS BY THE NUMBERS

35 non-retired priests and 11 senior priests still in day-to-day active ministry

- Preside at 290 Masses each week throughout the Diocese
- Minister at an average of 536 infant baptisms annually
- Preside at an average of 1,250 funerals each year
- Minister at an average of 121 weddings annually

37 priests currently have senior status

5 more priests will be eligible for senior status this year

Your gift goes directly to the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw's priests' pension plan, where it is invested and held in a trust account, which is administered by the Michigan Catholic Conference.

The pension plan provides for the monthly pension and medical benefits of our currently retired priests and helps fund the future retirement of our active priests.



5800 Weiss Street, Saginaw, MI 48603

989-797-6679

Being There for Those Who Were There for You

When we think of what our priests do, we usually think of celebrating Mass and the other sacraments. Over a career of about 40 years a priest will celebrate thousands of Masses as well as many baptisms, first communions, confessions, marriages, anointings, and funerals. These are the things we see priests doing. We could call it the public ministry of a priest.



We also call on our priests for advice or counsel in many situations. Often our priest is the first person we call to talk over something that is troubling us, when we have a difficult decision to make, or when we're not sure how to deal with a family matter. These encounters happen in many different ways. Sometimes people call and make an appointment, sometimes people catch their priest before or after Mass, and sometimes they just stop by the parish office and ask if their priest has a minute to talk. Priests know it will take more than a minute, but they are there and open to talk. Our priests are there for their parishioners, not just for Mass and sacraments, but however they are needed. Over their years as priests, they are there again and again.

In retirement priests need you to be there for them. Your donation to the Priests' Retirement Fund says you are there for them. You are there for and supporting those who are already retired and receiving their pension, and you will be there for those who will retire and receive a pension in the future.

Thank you and God bless you!

Fr. Peter J. Gaspary

President, Catholic Diocese of Saginaw Priests' Retirement

You may include the form below in the special envelope in your envelope packet and put it in your parish collection or submit in a separate envelope and mail to your parish.

— OR —

You can give online at www.saginaw.org/priestsretirement

You can also access information about matching gifts, stock transfer gifts and qualified charitable distributions gifts on the website: www.saginaw.org/priestsretirement

Yes, I would like to make a donation to the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw Priests' Retirement Fund.

Amount of my gift: _____

- I will give online at www.saginaw.org/priestsretirement
- Cash or check. (Make check payable to your parish.)
- Credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express)



Credit card # _____ Exp. ____/____ Security verification (____)

Signature for authorization to charge credit card: _____

Name _____

Street address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Thank you for your generosity. Your support is important to retired priests now and in the future.