

Diocesan Special Collections Dates
Diocese of Winona-Rochester 2026-2027-2028

Collection	Date of Collection	Occurrence
Latin American (50 percent) Catholic Communications (50 percent)	January 25, 2026 January 24, 2027 January 23, 2028	<p>4th Sunday in January:</p> <p>The Collection for the Church in Latin America supports pastoral programs as awarded by the Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Projects include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis. Funding is limited to programmatic expenses and excludes building construction except in cases of emergency.</p> <p>The essential mission of the Catholic Communication Campaign is to contribute to the process of evangelization by fostering activities in relation to television, radio, internet, and other media, and through special projects of the Catholic press. An annual collection is taken up in the dioceses, which remit 50% of the funds collected to the National Office. From these funds, grants are made by the USCCB Subcommittee on the Catholic Communication Campaign. The remaining portion of the collection is retained by the dioceses for use in local communication projects.</p>
Church in Central and Eastern Europe	February 18, 2026 February 10, 2027 March 1, 2028	<p>Ash Wednesday:</p> <p>This collection provides aid by the Subcommittee on Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe through bishops' conferences of Central and Eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet Union to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media.</p>
Rice Bowl (Catholic Charities)	During Lent	<p>During Lent:</p> <p>Not a parish collection but a Lenten program run in schools and parishes. CRS Rice Bowl provides funding for Catholic Relief Services' food security projects, which support agriculture, nutrition, education, and self-sufficiency in communities around the world. 75% is remitted to CRS for overseas projects and 25% may be retained in the diocese for local antipoverty programs.</p>
Catholic Relief Services	March 15, 2026 March 7, 2027 March 26, 2028	<p>4th Sunday of Lent:</p> <p>This collection provides funding for Catholic Relief Services; the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace, Department of Migration and Refugee Services, and Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, the relief work of the Holy Father, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.</p>
Holy Land	Good Friday April 3, 2026 March 26, 2027 April 14, 2028	<p>Good Friday:</p> <p>Pontifical Collection. Collect funds for support of the Holy Places, but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational and social works, which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities.</p>

Catholic Charities	Mothers' Day May 10, 2026 May 9, 2027 May 14, 2028	2 nd Sunday in May:
Peter's Pence	June 28, 2026 June 27, 2027 July 2, 2028	<p>Sunday in June closest to Feast of SS Peter and Paul on June 29:</p> <p>The Peter's Pence Collection fulfills two aims set by the Holy See: "(1) To support the Holy Father's mission, which extends throughout the entire world, from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education, peace, and brotherhood among peoples: thanks also to the many activities of service carried out by the dicasteries, bodies and organs of the Holy See that assist him every day; and (2) To support the numerous charitable works in aid of people and families in difficulty, populations afflicted by natural disasters and wars, or who are in need of humanitarian assistance or support for development."</p>
Catholic Home Missions (50 percent) Black and Native American (50 percent)	August 23, 2026 August 29, 2027 August 27, 2028	<p>Last Sunday in August unless it occurs on Labor Day weekend, then will be the Sunday before:</p> <p>Launched in 1998, the Appeal strengthens the Catholic Church in the United States and its territories in 85 Latin and Eastern Catholic dioceses. The Subcommittee on the Catholic Home Missions funds a wide range of pastoral services, including evangelization, religious education, and the maintenance of mission parishes, the training of seminarians and lay ministers, and ministry with ethnic groups.</p> <p>Mandated by the III Plenary Council in 1884, the 140-year-old National Collection for Black and Indian people continues as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States. The funds are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease. The Collection was formerly known as The Black and Indian Home Mission Collection.</p>
World Mission Sunday (Propagation of the Faith)	October 18, 2026 October 24, 2027 October 22, 2028	<p>2nd to the last Sunday in October:</p> <p>In 1926 Pope Pius XI established World Mission Sunday for the universal Church, and first worldwide collection took place the following year, in October 1927. Celebrated on the next-to-last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday invites Catholics to recognize our shared responsibility for the evangelization of the world and to express our unity through prayer and generosity.</p>
Campaign for Human Development	November 15, 2026 November 14, 2027 November 19, 2028	<p>33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>The Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development addresses the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and transformative education. Grants are awarded by the Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development with the approval of local bishops.</p>

Retirement Fund for Religious (90 percent) Catholic University (10 percent)	December 13, 2026 December 12, 2027 December 10, 2028	<p>2nd Sunday in December:</p> <p>The Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR) provides funding to any religious institute in the U.S. that is listed in the religious institute section of the OCD with an identifying OCD number, and that has an unfunded past service liability. It distributes financial assistance from the fund to religious institutes based on a formula and criteria approved by the conferences of major superiors and bishops. Annual appeal begun in 1988 and approved through 2027.</p> <p>Since 1903, the National Collection – the only nationwide second collection taken for higher education in the U.S. – has been a critical source of funding for Catholic University. Thanks to the collection, the University has been able to educate thousands of young minds in both faith and reason, while upholding the highest standards of education and conducting critical research to serve dioceses, parishes and pastors throughout our country.</p>
Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services	Not taken in 2026 Not taken in 2027 November 5, 2028	<p>Sunday before Veterans' Day <u>every third year</u>:</p> <p>The Archdiocese for the Military Services is responsible for providing pastoral care and services to active-duty men and women serving in all six branches of the United States Armed Forces stationed at home and abroad, enrolled in U.S. Military Academics, undergoing treatment at any of the 153 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond U.S. borders – and their families. For more information about the Archdiocese and its pastoral programs and services, visit www.milarch.org.</p>