



SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

JANUARY 15, 2018

Dear Parishioners:

In my letter of last month, I referred to the upcoming special collections for the year:

*Throughout the year we announce several special collections. Some may have greater appeal to you than others. To help your planning of donations to the year in addition to the regular Sunday donations, I have **listed on the other side of this letter** the special collections that will be taking place this coming year.*

Unfortunately, the printer neglected to print it on the back side of the letter. Rather than have a special mailing with that schedule, I told the printer that they could have it printed on the back of this letter.

This past Christmas we had a particular challenge. Christmas fell on a Monday. This meant that we had all the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses and then began the Masses for Christmas Eve at 4:00. There were in all 14 Masses over those days. I had separate homilies at each of the four Masses at which I presided. From my perspective the liturgies went very well. I got all sorts of kudos from people. I wasn't the only one busy on those two days. I would like to take this occasion to thank publicly all those who worked so hard to make it happen: my brother priests, the cantors, choir, musicians, sacristans, lectors, ushers, video ministers, altar servers, ministers of Holy Communion, decorators of the Church, maintenance crew, pastoral staff members, and so many others who are not seen but make such a difference. Many of these liturgical ministers were at more Masses than I. All of these do it not just as a job but in service of the Lord.

On the last day of the year, while talking with people after Mass, I met a visitor from the state of Washington. They commented on the beauty of the church. The wife, who was not Catholic, found the worship card very helpful in following the Mass. What impressed them most was the spirit of welcome they experienced. I want to thank you for making our community such a warm, welcoming experience for our visitors.

Remember that we have an early Lent this year. It begins on Valentine's Day. Easter is on April Fools' Day. May you have a blessed New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork

Pastor

2018 SPECIAL COLLECTION SCHEDULE

February 11

Together in Mission Campaign

March 11

Catholic Relief Services Collection
Church in Latin America (CLA)

March 30

Holy Land Collection (Good Friday)

May 6

Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity

June 10

Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests

July 1

Peter's Pence (Collection for the Holy Father)

July 22

National Needs Combined Collection:
Black and Indian Missions;
Catholic University of America;
Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC);
Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA)

August (TBD)

Mission Co-Op

October 21

World Mission Sunday:
Propagation of the Faith

November 18

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

December 9

Retirement Fund for Religious