



DIOCESE OF GALLUP

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GOOD SHEPHERD PRIESTS' RETIREMENT COLLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The presence of the priest in our midst is a tangible expression of God's love for each of us. The hands of the priest nourish us by the very Body and Blood of Christ. From his lips is spoken God's very word and forgiveness of sins.

It is our responsibility, as the community of faith that is the Diocese of Gallup, to see to the comfortable and dignified retirement of our priests. This is not only an expression of our gratitude for the years of service they have given us, it is also our response to the complete dedication of their lives that they have offered for each of us.

The Diocese of Gallup has few resources to depend upon to secure the financial needs required to provide for the retirement of our priests. This is a challenge for us as more and more of our priests approach retirement age. I ask you to please be as generous as possible when the Good Shepherd – Priests' Retirement Collection is gathered in our parishes throughout the month of September. These funds are used exclusively for the Priests' Retirement Fund for the Diocese of Gallup. I ask you to consider the years of hard work, devotion and dedication these men have offered as you determine how much you are able to give to this collection.

I take this opportunity to publicly affirm the ministry of our priests in the Diocese of Gallup and I invite you to do the same.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend James S. Wall
Bishop of Gallup