



**Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson**

Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

Dear Brother in Christ,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

### **Statement on Vandalism at George Washington University**

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington expresses its great sorrow at the anti-Semitic vandalism that occurred this weekend at the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity at George Washington University. We stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters in repudiating the hatred and intolerance that lies behind such vile incidents.

In addition to the deeply troubling rise of anti-Semitic attacks in our nation, violence against numerous religious institutions has also been increasing.

May all people of good will unite to work for peace and interreligious understanding, so that members of every religious tradition may worship God and express their beliefs freely, without fear of reprisal or violence.

### **2020-2021 Statistical Report**

It is that time of year again to complete the 2020-2021 Annual Statistical Report. You are requested to complete the report electronically by Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Please feel free to have a member of your staff complete this form on your behalf. Simply forward this email directly to them so they have the necessary information.

It is helpful to print the report [HERE](#) in advance to ensure you have all the necessary information. This will allow you to complete the survey [HERE](#) at one time. You cannot save the form until it is submitted, so gathering the necessary information before you complete the survey will expedite the process. For your reference, the entire report is also on the [Parish Office Section](#) of the Archdiocesan website.

The deadline to submit your report is November 30, 2021. Please contact Michelle Trilling at 301-853-4561 with any questions you may have.

November 2, 2021 2:44 pm

## Retired Priests Collection

Thank you for your support and cooperation in making the annual Retired Priests Collection successful since its inception in 2011. Your efforts helped raise \$619,000 in the 2020 collection and more than \$5.5 million since 2011!

The Development Office previously mailed the necessary materials to parishes a few weeks ago for the 2021 Retired Priests Collection to take place on the weekend of November 13 and November 14 but I share it electronically in this update.

Linked [HERE](#) in English and [HERE](#) in Spanish is the 2021 Retired Priests Collection Guide, which includes suggested language for your bulletin and pulpit announcements, as well as suggested talking points for the collection weekend. Linked [HERE](#) in English and [HERE](#) in Spanish is the collection processing instructions that I ask you to share with your bookkeeper and other parish leadership assisting with the processing of the collection.

The Office of Development has made the following outreach elements to support the 2021 Retired Priests Collection (RPC):

**Direct Mail:** Released a direct mail package to 75,000 households on September 27 to provide parishioners plenty of time to respond in lieu of making a gift at Mass. The reply envelope is postage-free to encourage participation.

**In-Pew Brochure/Envelope:** The in-pew envelope serves as a brochure, prayer for priests, as well as an envelope capable of being mailed on its own. Please place the envelopes in the pews and in a prominent location in the gathering area of the Church two weeks prior to the RPC weekend. Similar to the direct mail reply envelope, the RPC envelope is postage free so parishioners can complete and drop the envelope in the mail in cases where the standard collection method is not available at the parish or envelopes are returned on subsequent weekends after the parish has processed the collection.

**Special “Ways to Give” Poster:** Provided each parish with two special dual languages (English/Spanish) ways to give foam-backed posters with the four easy ways to support the RPC to display in the gathering area outside of Church and in front of cameras used for streaming Masses. The posters include easy-to-follow instructions on giving by using an in-pew envelope, online at [adw.org/rpc](http://adw.org/rpc), by text or through scanning a special QR code. The “Ways to Give” posters are in addition to the standard posters that can be posted in a number of areas.

**Talking Points and Announcements:** Similar to last year, the talking points and announcements this year heavily emphasize ways to give electronically. Offering and encouraging giving electronically (online, text and QR code scan) will make it easier, safer and more accessible for parishioners to support, whether participating in-person during Mass or through a streaming Mass. It also lowers the burden on the parish to collect and handle as many physical envelopes.

**Envelope Submission:** We have further streamlined the process for submitting envelopes and gifts made at the parish for this collection to minimize parish volunteer time processing and handling envelopes (see link above for processing instructions).

Posters, in-pew envelopes, golf pencils and copies of the guide have been delivered to your parish. If you have not done so already, please open the boxes to confirm you have enough materials. If you have not received your packages or need more materials, please contact Darlene Cruz, Development Operations Manager, at [cruzd@adw.org](mailto:cruzd@adw.org) or call (301) 853-4575. She will expedite a new package for you.

Please accept my sincere thanks in advance for your assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact Darlene Cruz should you have any questions about the collection.

### **CRIAC Relief Program for DC Parishes**

Each year all of our District of Columbia parishes will need to reapply in order to obtain the financial relief that parish properties are entitled to receive under the D.C. Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (CRIAC) Nonprofit Relief Program. See link [HERE](#) for details. The application period to receive reimbursement for a portion of the **CRIAC fee** on their monthly water bills began on September 1, 2021, and will remain open until August 31, 2022, but you are urged to apply as soon as possible.

**Applying:** Applying to the program can be done either online [HERE](#) or by submitting the application found [HERE](#). If you use the paper application, please see linked [HERE](#) the attached sample for guidance. As part of the application you will be asked to provide the most recent filing confirmation numbers for your parish's annual Exempt Use Report. The numbers can be found in the spreadsheet attached [HERE](#) under your parish's name.

Please give this matter your highest attention. The amount of money that can be saved from the CRIAC Relief Program can be quite significant.

Nearly all of our D.C. parishes were eligible last year and 30 applied and received relief, averaging \$6,883 per parish. Please also share this information with relevant parish staff. If you have any questions about the financial requirements, please contact Adrienne Willich, Executive Director of Parish and School Financial Operations, at [WillichA@adw.org](mailto:WillichA@adw.org) or (301) 853-5373, and direct other eligibility questions to Andy Rivas, Manager of Public Policy and Advocacy, at [RivasA@adw.org](mailto:RivasA@adw.org) or (202) 683-1721.

### **Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website**

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see [adw.org/coronavirus](https://adw.org/coronavirus) for information related to the coronavirus, [adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/](https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/) for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and [cathstan.org](https://cathstan.org) and [elpreg.org](https://elpreg.org) for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am  
Sincerely in Christ,  
Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia