June 14, 2017  
*Wednesday of the Tenth Week of Ordinary Time*

**ON SECOND COLLECTIONS**

Dear Brother Priests,

In my time with you and your communities around the diocese and as part of the qualitative research conducted by the Littlefield Agency, various concerns have been raised about the second collections. The concerns primarily address the issue of whether the present structure best lends itself to a proper understanding and practice of stewardship. In response to these concerns and in agreement with the Presbyteral Council, the second collections of the Diocese of Tulsa will now have categorical collections that represent several similar collections. For example, on a single weekend we will have the second collection for *Solidarity with Foreign Churches* and the donations given to that single collection will then be distributed to the *Church in Latin America*, the *Church in Central and Eastern Europe*, the *Church in Africa*, and *World Mission Sunday*. In sum, this approach will reduce second collections from approximately twenty to ten while still retaining the same charitable opportunities.

The new second collection schedules for 2018 and 2019 will include the following collections:

**A. Solidarity with Foreign Churches:**
1. Church in Latin America  
2. Church in Central and Eastern Europe  
3. Church in Africa  
4. World Mission Sunday

**B. National Missions:**
1. Black and Indian Missions  
2. Catholic Home Missions  
3. Catholic Communication  
4. Catholic University of America  
5. Retirement Fund for Religious

**C. Social Justice:**
1. Catholic Relief Services  
2. Catholic Campaign for Human Development
D. Infirm and Retired Priests:
   1. Infirm Priests
   2. Priests Retirement Fund

E. Faith and Works Appeal

F. Pro-Life
   1. Birthright
   2. Go Life

G. Good Friday Holy Land (Pope's Personal Appeal)

H. Peter's Pence (Pope's Personal Appeal)

I. Catholic Charities of Tulsa Appeal

J. St. Gregory’s University

The manner in which the funds raised for each category are distributed to each individual sub-collection is still under review. Overall, we believe this approach will help cultivate stewardship by reducing donor fatigue and increasing opportunities for more conscious giving. In order that the Christian faithful may be led into a greater sense of stewardship, I am asking that each pastor help educate his flock on these upcoming changes and use each second collection weekend as an opportunity to educate the laity on these worthy efforts. I would also remind pastors that *Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response* by the USCCB remains an excellent resource for understanding the spiritual excellence of stewardship.

May we receive the gifts of God with gratitude and in charity share them with others.

David A. Konderla  
Bishop of Tulsa & Eastern Oklahoma

Harrison H. Garlick  
Chancellor

cc. Fr. Elkin González, VG  
Fr. Michael Pratt, Chair of the Presbyteral Council