## Supporting those who have faithfully served us... Retired Diocesan Priests Collection September 17-18, 2016

Our priests dedicate their lives to further the mission of the Church, bringing each of us closer to Christ. They celebrate Eucharist in our parishes, baptize and confirm our children, witness marriage vows, share our problems and comfort us in times of sickness and sorrow. On both ordinary and extraordinary days, our priests have walked with us on our life's journey.

## Our Belleville Diocese currently has

61 diocesan priests of retirement age - 38 currently retired and 23 remaining in active ministry These priests have collectively given 2,612 years of ministry to us here in Southern Illinois!

With this large number of retirement-age priests and escalating health care costs, we are asking for your support to help provide for our retired priests now and in the years ahead.

## Your gift to the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection will be used for: ✓ Long-term nursing care ✓ Medicare supplemental insurance ✓ Prescription medications

Your donation to the collection is a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to our priests who have so faithfully served and given us so much.

Our diocesan priests do <u>not</u> receive any funding from the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection which is held in December.

## Please give generously!



<u>Give at your parish or donate by mail:</u> Retired Diocesan Priests Collection Catholic Diocese of Belleville . 222 South Third Street . Belleville, Illinois 62220