

**COLLECTIONS**1. *Term definitions*

Collection: the gathering of funds from the faithful for a specific purpose.

2. *Intent of the directive*

To make certain that funds contributed for a specific purpose are used for that purpose.

To avoid a proliferation of collections.

3. *Policy*

- a. Ordinarily, on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, there is but one collection authorized during Mass, i.e., the Offertory collection which has a definite liturgical meaning.
- b. Collections are to be used exclusively for the purposes for which they are taken up.
- c. In principle, it is preferable not to take up any collection at *funeral Masses*. However, where the custom exists, it can be tolerated for the time being. The money received in such a collection must be handed over to the parish -- not to the family of the deceased -- and used entirely for the celebration of Masses for the deceased.
- d. Special collections listed in the diocesan directory may be taken up in whatever way the parish priest deems more suitable for his parish. The usual form is to hold a second collection.
- e. Any other collection not listed in the diocesan directory must not be taken up during Mass (but, at the discretion of the parish priest, may be taken up at the doors of the church after Mass).

- e. In accordance with Decree No. 33 of the CCCB, in each parish the faithful shall be informed about the purpose of each special collection and, in due time, given an account of the results, in accordance with the prescription of c. 1287, §2.
- f. Likewise, in accordance with Decree No. 33, collections for cultural or philanthropic purposes shall not be taken up on the occasion of a liturgical service in churches or oratories without the prior authorization of the local Ordinary.
- g. The following are the special collections prescribed in the Archdiocese:
  - Diocesan and missionary works
  - Development and peace
  - The Holy Land
  - Vocation works
  - Pastoral works of the Holy Father
  - Needs of the Canadian Church
  - Evangelization of the Nations (Missions)
  - The Missionary Cooperation Plan

4. *Exceptions*

Any exception to this policy requires the approval of the Archbishop of Ottawa or his delegate.

5. *Effective date*

This policy is effective immediately.

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**SUPPLEMENT TO POLICY NO. 8***Special collections in the Archdiocese of Ottawa*

The following collections are called for by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, except for the first one which is diocesan.

1. *Diocesan and missionary works*

The collection for diocesan and missionary works is taken up on the First Sunday of Lent each year. It provides the Archbishop with a fund that allows him to make contributions in the name of the people of the Archdiocese of Ottawa in troubled situations, both here and abroad, such as disasters, projects for the underprivileged, as well as to missions and seminaries in developing nations.

This is the only collection which remains in the Archdiocese.

2. *Development and Peace*

The collection for Development and Peace is taken up on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

The organization was founded by the Bishops of Canada and carries out its work in developing countries.

3. *The Holy Land*

The collection for the Holy Land is taken up throughout the world on Good Friday. The proceeds of this collection are sent directly to the Holy Land through the Commissariat for the Holy Land in Canada (operated by the Franciscan Fathers).

4. *Vocation works*

The collection for Vocation works takes place on the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The funds are used exclusively for candidates for the Archdiocese of Ottawa.

Money from French-speaking parishes goes to the French Vocation Fund and money from the English-speaking parishes goes to the English fund.

It is important to note that these funds are in serious trouble and are about to be depleted. Serious action will have to be taken soon.

5. *Pastoral works of the Holy Father*

The collection for the Pastoral Works of the Holy Father is taken up on Trinity Sunday. The proceeds are sent directly to the Holy Father through the Apostolic Nunciature. This collection, which is taken up throughout the Church, allows the Holy Father to respond charitably to needs throughout the world.

6. *Needs of the Canadian Church*

The collection for the Needs of the Canadian Church is taken up in September each year.

The proceeds are used to support the Bishops of Canada in their national work and to support the specific needs of the Northern mission dioceses of our country which are unable to support themselves.

7. *Evangelization of the Nations (Missions)*

The proceeds from the collection on Mission Sunday are sent to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples to assist poorer dioceses with expenses they cannot meet.

8. *The Missionary Cooperation Plan*

Each year, the Pastoral Coordination Office selects missionaries to visit parishes throughout the year and to preach and take up a collection for their particular works.

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