

With the recent increased giving program and grand annual collection, as well as the commencement of the Catholic Appeal, Father Culloty and the Finance Councils of St. Jude and St. Edward Parish offer a brief explanation of the various collections taken up at each parish:

Offertory – Supports the operations of the parish. The weekly collection is used to fund parish operating expenditures in areas of pastoral and liturgical expenses; faith formation; clergy and lay salaries and benefits; office and administration; charitable contributions; heat and utilities; maintenance of buildings and grounds; and capital improvements.

Grand Annual – The grand annual campaign is taken up annually. The grand annual collection is used to supplement the parish offertory collection and assists in funding the operating budget, as well as capital improvements and unforeseen expenditures.

Catholic Appeal – Each parish is encouraged by the Archdiocese of Boston to support the Catholic Appeal, which funds the central, shared ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston. The Archdiocese provides support and assistance to parishes in areas of human resources, employee benefits, legal counsel, real estate, facilities, and insurance and risk management. Archdiocesan Central Ministries also supports Catholic Schools, Campus Ministries, Hospital Chaplaincies, Marriage Preparation, Pregnancy Help and many other ministerial programs.

Archdiocesan Second Collection – Special collections taken up throughout the year as a second collection. These funds are collected for local, national and international needs. As stated on the Archdiocesan website, the following are scheduled for the 2018 calendar year:

- **Support of the Church Around the World** – Helps fund the spiritual, educational and humanitarian needs of the Church around the World.
- **Holy Land Shrines (Good Friday)** – In the words of Paul VI, “not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities”.
- **Easter, Christmas, and Clergy Health and Retirement Collections** – To support the retirement, medical and financial needs of the priests of the Archdiocese of Boston.
- **Seminarians (Pentecost)** – Supports the formation and training of Seminarians in the Archdiocese of Boston.
- **Promoting the Gospel** – Support of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and Catholic Communication Campaign as these organizations communicate the Gospel by promoting works of justice, education and the dignity of human life.
- **Holy Father and Missionary Efforts** – Provides funds for emergency and disaster relief and for Catholic World Missions that support pastoral and evangelization efforts in mission dioceses. Also provides support to the Catholic University of America that educates priests and lay people for ministry and for the inner-city parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston.
- **Collection for Retired Women Religious** – Provides needed financial support for religious communities that have served the Archdiocese of Boston as educators and health care and social service providers.

It is through the generosity of time, treasure and talent of so many parishioners that St. Edward and St. Jude parishes can continue to offer programs and services that will benefit each member of our parish communities. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.