Schedule of (Diocesan/non-Diocesan) Collections 2017

The following schedule of special (Diocesan/non-Diocesan) collections will be expected for all parish and mission churches in the Diocese of Metuchen for 2017.

1. **"Together in Charity"** Diocesan collection to be scheduled for second weekend in January. The entire collection will benefit Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund. (January 14/15, 2017.)

2. **Foundation for Catholic Education Collection** will be scheduled on the weekend of January 21/22, 2017. The entire proceeds to benefit this foundation.

3. **Catholic Press Month** held during the month of February, donations for The Catholic Spirit will supplement the newspaper's free distribution to the parishes.

4. **Collection for the Development of the Peoples (Winter Collection)** – to be scheduled any weekend in February 2017. The proceeds benefit the Church in Latin America, the Church in Eastern Europe and the Catholic Home Mission.

5. **Catholic Relief Services (Spring Collection)** – to be scheduled on any weekend during Lent. The proceeds will benefit the Native & Black American Collection as well as Catholic Relief Services.

6. **The Holy Land Collection** – to be scheduled on Good Friday or any weekend that is convenient during Lent. The single beneficiary of this collection is the Commissariat of the Holy Land which is responsible for the preservation of the shrines of the Holy Land and the Sacred Congregation of Oriental Churches.

7. **Retirement Collection for Diocesan Clergy** – Diocesan collection to be scheduled on Palm Sunday. The proceeds from this collection will be designated exclusively to support the retirement plan of Diocesan Clergy.

8. **Trinity Dome Collection** – One-time collection to be scheduled May 13/14, 2017 to help fund the completion the Trinity Dome at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

9. **Catholic Communication Campaign (Summer Collection)** – to be scheduled on a weekend during the latter part of May or the early part of June. The proceeds benefit the Catholic Communication Campaign (national and local levels) and the Catholic University of America.

10. **Peter's Pence Collection** – to be scheduled on September 9/10, 2017. This collection is the annual Holy Father's Collection and all proceeds are designated for that singular purpose.

11. **Collection for the Campaign for Human Development** – to be scheduled the weekend before Thanksgiving. The proceeds benefit the Campaign for Human Development on both national and local levels.

12. **Retirement Fund for Religious** – to be scheduled on December 2/3, 2017. The proceeds from this collection will be designated exclusively to support retired religious Sisters and Brothers of the United States.

** **World Mission Sunday** – benefits the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the American Board for Catholic Missions and The Catholic Near East Welfare Association, to be scheduled on October 22, 2017. Specific information and materials will be forwarded to all parishes by the Diocesan Mission Office.

** **The Mission Cooperative Plan** – calls for the pastor to schedule a special collection in the parish before the last weekend in August for the benefit of a missionary order assigned by our Diocesan Office of Missions. The specific weekend for the collection will be determined by the pastor in consultation with the appropriate representative of the missionary order. Proceeds from this collection are to be forwarded to the missionary order.