



## DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

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### Schedule of (Diocesan/non-Diocesan) Collections 2026

The following schedule of special (Diocesan/non-Diocesan) collections will be expected for all parish and mission churches in the Diocese of Metuchen for 2026.

1. **Together in Charity** Diocesan collection to be scheduled on the weekend of **January 3/4, 2026**. The entire collection will benefit Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund.
2. **Foundation for Catholic Education Collection** will be scheduled on the weekend of **January 24/25, 2026**. The entire proceeds benefit financial aid to students attending diocesan and parochial elementary and high schools in the Diocese of Metuchen. (*Catholic Schools Week is scheduled for Jan 31-Feb 6*)
3. **Catholic Press Month** to be taken during the **month of February 2026**. Donations for The Catholic Spirit will supplement the newspaper's free distribution to the parishes.
4. **Retirement Collection for Diocesan Clergy** – Diocesan collection to be scheduled on **Palm Sunday weekend, March 28/29, 2026**. The proceeds from this collection will be designated exclusively to support the Maria Regina residence for our retired diocesan priests.
5. **The Holy Land Collection** – to be scheduled on **Good Friday, April 3, 2026**. 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.
6. **Catholic Relief Services** – to be scheduled on the weekend of **April 25/26, 2026**. The proceeds will benefit the Native & Black American Collection as well as Catholic Relief Services.
7. **Collection for the Development of the People** – to be scheduled on the weekend of **May 16/17, 2026**. The proceeds benefit the Church in Latin America, the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa, the Church in Eastern Europe and the Catholic Home Mission Appeal.
8. **Catholic Communication Campaign** – to be scheduled on the weekend of **May 30/31, 2026**. The proceeds benefit the Catholic Communication Campaign (national and local levels) and the Catholic University of America.
9. **Peter's Pence Collection** – to be scheduled on **June 27/28, 2026**. This collection is the annual Holy Father's Collection and all proceeds are designated for that singular purpose.
10. **World Mission Sunday** – benefits the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the American Board for Catholic Mission and The Catholic Near East Welfare Association, to be scheduled on the weekend of **October 17/18, 2026**. Specific information and materials will be forwarded to all parishes by the Diocesan Missions Office.

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11. **Works of Mercy Campaign (Formerly the Collection for the Campaign for Human Development)** – to be scheduled the weekend of **November 14/15, 2026**. The proceeds benefit the local needs of those within the Diocese of Metuchen community by addressing the social issues of poverty and hunger.

12. **Retirement Fund for Religious** – to be scheduled on **December 12/13, 2026**. The proceeds from this collection will be designated exclusively to support retired religious Sisters and Brothers of the United States.

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**\*\* The Mission Cooperative Plan (MCP)** – a special collection in each parish **before the last weekend in September** for the benefit of a missionary group assigned by our Diocesan Missions Office. The specific weekend for the Mission Appeal and collection is determined by the pastor in consultation with the appropriate missionary representative. Proceeds from this collection are to be sent to the Office of Missions at the Diocese of Metuchen by September 29. Please make checks payable to: **Society for the Propagation of Faith**.