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**March 20, 2018**

**To the Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Archdiocese of New Orleans**

**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:**

**The Archdiocese is truly blessed by the service of many holy and dedicated priests, especially our retired priests, who have served our Archdiocese so faithfully. We currently have over fifty retired priests, many who continue to serve in our archdiocese in many ways.**

**The annual retirement collection on Good Shepherd Sunday, April 21-22, 2018, is used to support the medical and retirement expenses of these priests.**

**Your participation in this collection is a way to say “thank you” to our retired Archdiocesan priests for their many years of service to us, the Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. I assure you that your support will benefit the priests for many years to come.**

**Please join me daily in prayer for vocations to the priesthood that others may follow in their footsteps to give their lives to be good shepherds in leading the flock of Christ.**

**With gratitude for your generosity and wishing you God’s blessings in this Easter Season, I am**

**Sincerely in Christ,**

**Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond  
Archbishop of New Orleans**

**GMA/ag**

**Please make this letter available in the most effective way possible the weekend of April 7-8, 2018**