



March 20, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Over the course of my lifetime, I have met many priests who have given their lives to the service of our Lord and His people. By their ministry, they have made a positive impression on me and inspired me in my vocation as a priest and now as your Bishop. I imagine that, like me, many of you have feelings of gratitude for the ministry of the priests who have served you so well over the years in the Diocese of Erie.

On the weekend of April 20 – 21, the annual Good Shepherd Collection for retired diocesan priests will be taken in our parishes. This is your opportunity to express your gratitude with your financial gift to help these priests who spent their lives in service to the Church. We look to you, the members of our Diocese, to help us with the care of our priests who are retired now and those who will retire in future years.

I know first-hand how generous our people are in responding to the needs of the Church in the Diocese of Erie. I thank you in advance for your generosity also to the Good Shepherd Collection to support our retired diocesan priests.

Finally, I ask you to remember all our priests in your prayers. Pray for those who are currently serving you and those who have retired and those who have died. Pray for vocations to the priesthood, that others may follow in the footsteps of those who have given their lives as good shepherds leading you, the People of God, through their ministry.

I wish you and your families a blessed Easter Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie