



Dear Friends,

June is a month filled with grace and gratitude — a time to welcome the warmth and abundance of summer and to honor the remarkable men who have shaped our lives through their loving guidance. To all the fathers and father figures in our faith community, I wish you a most happy and blessed Father's Day!

It is especially fitting, then, that June also invites us to turn our hearts toward our parish priests — men who have answered God's call and given their lives entirely to us as our spiritual fathers.

These dedicated shepherds pour themselves into the care of their parishes and parishioners, faithfully present through every season of life. When illness visits one of our beloved priests, the call falls to us, as Catholics, to stand by their side. In accompanying our clergy through their most vulnerable moments, we live out the Gospel's summons to care for the sick and to love one another as Christ loved us.

The Father's Day Second Collection exists for this singular purpose: to support our diocesan priests who are facing serious, long-term illness. Your gift helps provide essential medical care when a health crisis strikes and brings meaningful relief from the mounting costs of specialized treatment.

I ask you to take a quiet moment in prayer to discern how you might help. To give online quickly and securely, please scan the QR code below. Or, if you prefer, you are warmly invited to place your offering during the Father's Day Second Collection on June 20–21 at your parish.

On behalf of every priest who will be touched by your generosity, thank you. Your open and giving heart is a true blessing — a living witness to the faith we share.

With best wishes and God's blessings,

As I remain—  
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Dennis E. Spies  
Apostolic Administrator and Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet

