

A Celebration of Service



Today, we stand united as a spiritual family, eager to express our deepest appreciation for the retired clergy who have dedicated their lives to nurturing our faith. As we extend our heartfelt thanks, we also acknowledge the increasing challenges faced by these wise shepherds in their well-earned retirement.

The Retired Priests Welfare Fund is not just a financial initiative but a tangible display of our collective commitment to care for those who have shaped our spiritual journey. The growing number of clergy entering retirement brings with it escalating costs - expenses for healthcare, housing, and daily necessities that demand our attention and support.

In the spirit of our gratitude, we announce a special collection in every church on the weekend of March 9th/10th – this is an opportunity for each parishioner to contribute to the Retired Priests Welfare Fund. This second collection, a longstanding tradition of our diocese, represents more than a monetary offering; it symbolises our unwavering dedication to ensuring the golden years of our retired clergy are marked by comfort and dignity.

On the same weekend, bookmarks will be distributed, carrying not only our collective gratitude for the countless hours, prayers, and wisdom shared, but a reminder of our ongoing commitment to address the evolving needs of our retiring clergy.

Together, let us transform our appreciation into action, navigating the challenges of rising costs with grace, and ensuring our retired clergy step into their sunset years surrounded by the warmth of our collective support.

For those willing to contribute directly, donations can be made to the Retired Priests Welfare Fund account (Diocese of Middlesbrough, Sort Code 20-56-90, Account No 50421049), or through the provided QR code. Further details can be obtained from Dan Woodgate at fundraising@rcdmidd.org.uk.

