

**Altar Rosary Society** extends a heart-felt thank you to all our local sponsors of this year's **Christmas Raffle**. Please patronize these neighbors in appreciation of their generosity and remember them in your prayers: **Bluestone Gardens, Borderline Cafe, Bowman's North, Dean's Deli, Frigid Freeze, Goldberg's Bridge Street Bagels (Milford, NJ), Mueller's General Store & Kitchen, Riegelsville Inn, Trauger's Farm Market, Village Flowers & Gifts.**

### **Special Collections!**

Traditionally, during the period of late October, mid-November and early December the parishes of the Archdiocese have been asked to take up **3 Special Collections**. As tight as finances are for most of you, I ask you to be as generous to these causes as you can. They are the following:

- **The Annual Mission Collection.** This is one of the major collections which the Church takes up each year, asking you to support the poor Dioceses of the world, and the missionaries who work so hard to spread the Catholic Faith. This collection was taken up near the end of October; however, if you haven't made an offering to this cause, I'd ask you to give it serious consideration. Special envelopes are in the vestibule of the Church.

- **Collection for St. Charles Seminary:** The Archdiocese of Philadelphia is one of the few Archdioceses in the United States, who still maintains their own seminary. Most Diocese in the United States have had to close their seminary and send their candidates to prepare for the Priesthood to other seminaries. This is a great reflection of the people of the Archdiocese for over a century. As you can appreciate, it is becoming more and more difficult to accomplish this. For your convenience, special envelopes are in the pews, as well as the vestibule of the Church. Please, consider supporting the preparation for next generation of priests in our Archdiocese.

- **Retirement Fund for the Religious [of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia]:** Before our Country gained its Independence, religious women and men from various religious orders in Europe, dedicated their lives to spreading the Catholic Faith in our Country and in particular cities like Philadelphia, New York and Boston. Our St. John Neumann was one of them. They gave and continue to give completely of themselves for us and our children. Keep in mind they take a vow of poverty, which prevents them from generating adequate finances to take care of their Sisters and Brothers as they become aged, ill and infirmed. This collection is intended to support them in their needs. This Collection will be taken up on the weekend of 12/3-4/22. Many of us have benefited directly from the dedication of these wonderful Sisters, Priests & Brothers. Please help them in their need.