



Office of the Archbishop
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September 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Chicago through our second collection. By offering our financial support we provide these young men with the critical education and training they need to shepherd our parishes and administer the sacraments. Last year, more than \$978,000 was collected and I am thankful for your past and present support.

Pope Francis reminds us that, *“The Church and the world need mature and balanced priests, intrepid and generous Pastors, capable of closeness, of listening and mercy.”* There are currently 54 seminarians preparing for a life of service as your future parish priests. Our seminarians’ motivation and enthusiasm in their pursuit to answer God’s call is inspiring. They are the future guides for the spiritual and intellectual formation of our Catholic communities and are well deserving of our prayers and financial support.

Contributions made to this collection alleviate monthly expenses such as tuition and fees (\$1,672), room and board (\$638), and health insurance (\$171) for each seminarian and will be used solely for the formation of new priests for the Archdiocese of Chicago. You may utilize the remittance envelopes provided to your parish or should you find it more convenient, feel free to contribute online through our website at www.archchicago.org/seminarianfund.

For your generous support in the past and for your consideration of support again this year, I thank you. May God continue to bless you abundantly. Please know that I keep you in my daily prayers and intentions, and I ask for yours in return.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Card. Blase J. Cupich".

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago