

Serving those who Serve



Dear Father,

Increasing the Catholic community's awareness about the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS), and its sole responsibility for the spiritual care of approximately 1.8 million Catholic men, women, and children who hail from all 50 states and U.S. territories – *including those from your own parish* - is of critical importance. It is both a challenge and an opportunity for which I ask your help.

In November 2012, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a triennial National Collection for the AMS, which was first taken in 2013, and again in 2016. **The next National Collection for the AMS is scheduled for the weekend of 9-10 November 2019 (unless an alternative date has been selected by a particular diocese).**

Many who made an additional gift to the Church in support of the AMS mission, "*Serving Those Who Serve*," had not previously been aware of its ministry, services, or programs. **The generosity of the Catholic community will continue to be essential for some time to meet the needs of those who are engaged in the US conflicts around the world, of those who have served, of an annual operating budget of more than \$8.2 million, and of the anticipated cost of the Co-sponsored Seminarian Program (expected to exceed \$4.7 million over the next five years alone).**

The AMS receives no funding from the U.S. Government or U.S. Military in support of its effort to provide pastoral care and services to the AMS faithful spread across the globe and who face constant transition and uncertainty. The programs and services offered by the AMS are the same as those readily available to Catholics in every other U.S. diocese.

May I ask you to help me promote the 2019 Triennial National Collection and to help in increasing awareness about the AMS? Please include one or more of the enclosed bulletin announcements in your weekly publication, make collection envelopes readily available, and even consider asking an active-duty or retired military member of your parish to offer a witness to the benefit they experienced in having been able to receive the sacraments or counsel from an AMS-endorsed priest while on active-duty.

If you have any questions about the AMS, the triennial Collection, or if your parish needs additional materials, please contact my Executive Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving, Mary Lavin, at (440) 223-6482 or mlavin@milarch.org.

With my best wishes for your ministry and the expression of my gratitude, I am

Fraternally in Christ,

(The Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.
Archbishop for the Military Services, USA

**2019 Triennial National Collection for the
ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA**