

# ANNUAL REPORT



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## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your prayers, commitment and generosity are a testament to your faith and a reflection of your devotion and dedication. In response to your good stewardship, I am pleased to share with you the fruits of your generosity through the 2023 Annual Impact Report for the Diocese of St. Petersburg. It accounts for the gifts we received from the faithful, and how we utilized what was entrusted to us over the 2022-2023 pastoral year to Courageously Live the Gospel by strengthening faith communities and offering charitable works in God's name.

The overall financial health of our Diocese is positive, and I'm grateful for your support of our Church. We have seen growth in our vocations program with the addition of two new seminarians, as well as within our Catholic schools with increased enrollment. Our Ministry to Priests is deeply appreciated, and young adult programs are flourishing. Please know, your contributions are a blessing to so many, serving in countless ways.

I ask you to join me in giving thanks and praise to God for all He has done and continues to do in our Diocese as we strive to share His love with each other, and those in need. May we continue to build the Kingdom of God together.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ 

Most Reverend Gregory L. Parkes  
Bishop of St. Petersburg

FALL  
**22**



SEPTEMBER  
**17**

MYSPIRITFM.COM  
SPIRIT FM WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



OCTOBER  
**08**

HISPANIC MASS



OCTOBER  
**17**

SYNOD



NOVEMBER  
**06**

AFRICAN MASS



NOVEMBER  
**07**

FOCUS 11



NOVEMBER  
**20**

MATER DEI PRAYER SERVICE

SPRING  
**23**



JANUARY  
**21**

MARCH FOR LIFE



JANUARY  
**26**

DISCIPLESHIP DAYS



JANUARY  
**28**



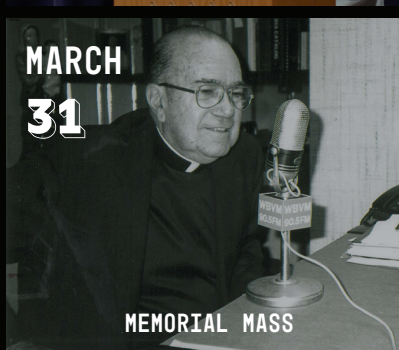
FEBRUARY  
**12**

MARRIAGE JUBILEE



FEBRUARY  
**26**

RITE OF ELECTION



MARCH  
**31**

MEMORIAL MASS



APRIL  
**04**

CHRISM MASS



APRIL  
**20**

TAMPA HOPE COTTAGES



APRIL  
**29**

ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION MASS



MAY  
**13**

MARIAN CONGRESS



MAY  
**20**

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD



JUNE  
**19**

GOOD SAMARITAN PROJECT

JUNE  
**24**



JUNE  
**20**

LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY INSTITUTE

# IMPACTFUL ENCOUNTERS

## MINISTRY TO PRIESTS

While our priests support and nurture our sacramental life and serve as administrators of parish life, some may wonder who serves them? In 2018, Ministry to Priests was formed to offer ongoing spiritual, fraternal and pastoral development for all diocesan and religious priests serving in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. And in the time since its creation, it has blossomed!

Currently under the guidance of Rev. Arthur Proulx, the “priest for priests,” spiritual direction, sacramental reconciliation, support groups for a variety of ages and stages in our priest’s vocation and care of retired priests are all a part of our pastoral ministry budget. **“I have enjoyed my whole ministry here as the Director of Ministry to Priests and ministering to people that I have a lot of admiration and concern for,”** explained Father Proulx, sharing how important it is for our diocese to have this ministry, sharing the reality of most retired

priests, explaining, **“I’ve been a priest since 1980, and this is one of the most rewarding jobs I’ve ever had. Particularly keeping in mind that a lot of priests have no family at all. It’s especially important for the Diocese to reach out to them, to let them know they haven’t been forgotten.”**

This ministry includes a variety of reflection and retreat opportunities offered each year, continuing development in areas of Scripture, spirituality and pastoral formation as well as working with our international priests and the growing number of newly ordained who diligently serve in parishes across our diocese.

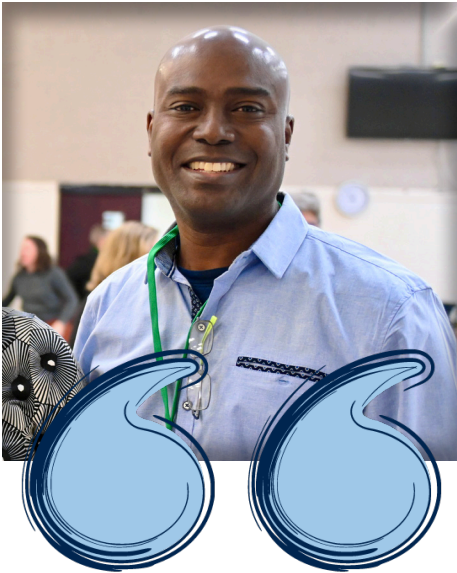
From covering Masses for parishes in need to collaborating with our Priest Wellness Coordinator, our Director travels from one end of the Diocese to the other to ensure the overall wellness of the dedicated men he serves.



**I’ve been a priest since 1980, and this is one of the most rewarding jobs I’ve ever had.**

- Rev. Arthur Proulx, Director  
Ministry to Priests





**This event actually empowered me to go to my members in the Haitian community, to share everything that I learned here to help them understand exactly what discipleship is and what we need to do to bring more people into the Church.**

- Peter Dickenson, Finance Counselor  
Immaculate Conception Haitian Mission

## DISCIPLESHIP DAYS

Growing our parishes has been a concern for many parish leaders post pandemic. In response to feedback from our previous "Parish Growth Summit" a diocesan pastoral team planned and presented a free, immersive dive into parish growth at Discipleship Days held in three different locations January 26, 27, and 28, 2023.

**"Our diocesan pastoral team collaborates with our parishes to unlock the potential for amazing ministry now and in the future,"** said Dr. Lois Locey, Chancellor for Administration and Chief Operating Officer of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. **"Our goal is to support and energize parishes' efforts to cultivate servant leaders who live out their baptismal calling, nurture disciples through vibrant encounters and empower communities to become missionary-focused."**

Discipleship Days, funded through donations to the Catholic Ministry Appeal, drew more than 350 clergy, lay ecclesial ministers and volunteer leaders from 75 parishes and six schools.

The headline speaker for Discipleship Days was the energetic and engaging,

author, TV host, renowned chef and national Eucharistic Preacher, Father Leo Patalinghug. Practical and applicable sessions provided attendees the unique opportunity to renew both personal and faith communities' commitment to the mandate of Jesus Christ to "Go and Make Disciples."

In addition, participants experienced inspirational sessions by Dr. Locey, Dr. Armando Chavarria, Executive Director of Missionary Discipleship, Rev. Chuck Dornquast, Diocesan Vocation Director and Carlos Flores, Director of Intercultural Ministries on the "path" to discipleship. Small group sessions focused on strategies for overcoming obstacles and short and long-term discipleship in parish communities.

Because discipleship and growing the Church are vital to our future, the Diocese of St. Petersburg is hoping to make events like Discipleship Days a part of how we courageously live the Gospel.



# GULF COAST CATHOLIC

Parish life and parishioner's stories about their faith serve as the inspiration for a new media tool to reach all Catholics throughout the Tampa Bay, Nature Coast and Suncoast areas. The Gulf Coast Catholic Magazine was launched by Bishop Gregory Parkes in September 2023 in response to ideas expressed during his listening sessions hosted throughout the Diocese. This new printed publication strives to connect and bring all parishioner of our five counties closer together.

**"This quarterly magazine's mission is to lead people closer to Jesus and His Church so we can live as good Catholics,"** said Teresa Peterson, the Executive Director of Communications at the Diocese of St. Petersburg. **"We provide timely and relevant articles, and testimonials for staying up to date with Catholic life and stories about those who are Courageously Living the Gospel."**

Since its launch, the magazine has been mailed directly to registered parishioners, approximately 100,000 households, and is now available on Instagram (@GulfCoastCatholic). In each issue, readers find tips for growing in faith, enhancing spirituality, and deepening prayer.

**"My hope for the Gulf Coast Catholic is that it increases awareness of issues that impact Catholics' faith. We also hope to increase the spreading of the good news by placing the magazine in businesses, restaurants and hospitals throughout the area,"** shared Peterson.

The Gulf Coast Catholic Magazine is supported through direct donations, gifts to the Catholic Ministry Appeal, as well as advertisements. Those interested in advertising or receiving their own issue of Gulf Coast Catholic, please visit our website at [dosp.org/gulfcoastcatholic](https://dosp.org/gulfcoastcatholic).

## GULF COAST CATHOLIC

Our goal is to lead you closer to Christ and His Church. We provide articles that are designed to **inspire you and guide you** through the challenges of life.



September, 2023

Publication Created



November, 2023

Advent/Christmas  
Issue 1



February, 2024

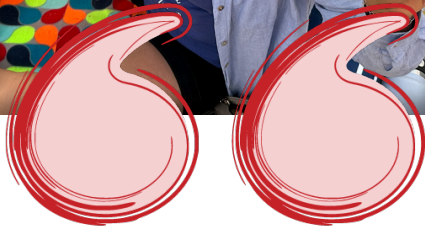
Lent/Easter  
Issue 2



May, 2024

Summer  
Issue 3





**World Youth Day was both physically and spiritually demanding, yet it was truly exciting and enriching. It was a pilgrimage through and through.**

- Ana Jahuey, Administrative Assistant  
Intercultural Ministry/  
Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute

## 2023 WORLD YOUTH DAY

Dating back to 1986, World Youth Day was introduced by Pope John Paul II as a way for the Holy Father to hear from our Church's youth from around the world, and for participants to encounter God and celebrate their faith.

In 2019, Pope Francis announced from Panama City, Panama the next World Youth Day would be in 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal. However, due to the increasing concern for COVID-19, the global event was pushed back to 2023. With an extra year to prepare, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry gathered 118 pilgrims from around the Diocese of St. Petersburg to embark on this journey.

Ana Jahuey, a young parishioner at St. Cecelia Catholic Church and Administrative Assistant for Intercultural Ministries and the Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, made the pilgrimage to Lisbon with her brother. **"Being able to experience World Youth Day with my brother has brought us closer,"** Jahuey stated, **"We grew up in a Marian household and Our Blessed Mother has been an inspiration for this trip. I'm glad we have this wonderful opportunity to journey**

**together and to live our faith at this moment of our lives."**

Having grown up Catholic, she recently began learning more about her faith. World Youth Day presented an opportunity to deepen her love for Jesus. The first stop of the 10 day journey through Portugal was in Fatima. The venue offered peacefulness for many, including Ana. **"Fatima was my favorite spot, getting to the house of Our Mother,"** she shared. **"It was a very special moment. She has shown me a lot and has brought me closer to the Lord. I believe I felt her maternal love in the breeze of the wind."**

World Youth Day may take place every few years, but the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry work hard at providing young Catholics in the Diocese of St. Petersburg with events and gatherings to meet others seeking a relationship with the Lord, no matter where they are on their spiritual journey. For more information about our youth and young adult ministry, visit [dosp.org/young-church](https://dosp.org/young-church).



# RECOGNIZING GENEROSITY OUR GIVING SOCIETY

The ***Mater Dei Giving Society*** recognizes more than 5,500 members **helping our diocese** put our **faith into action** through their generosity. Bishop Parkes looks forward to celebrating more gatherings, special Masses, morning and evening prayer, receptions, virtual events, and more in the coming year.

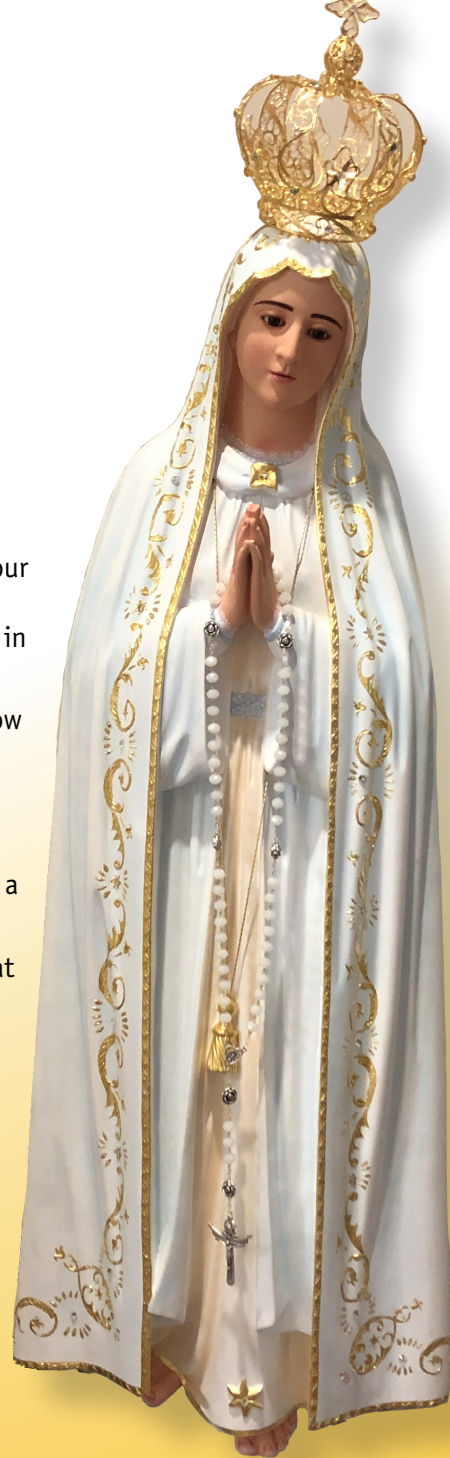
- ***Mater Caritatis Circle (Mother of Charity)*** recognizes those who have given 10 years in a row to one or more diocesan entity.
- ***Mater Unitatis Circle (Mother of Unity)*** recognizes those who have given a significant gift (of \$5,000 or more) this past year to at least one diocesan entity.
- ***Mater Spei Circle (Mother of Hope)*** recognizes those who have established a legacy gift for a parish, a mission or a diocesan entity in their estate.
- ***Mater Ecclesiae Circle (Mother of the Church)*** recognizes businesses and organizations that have given a significant gift this past year to a diocesan entity.

## APPEAL CHAMPIONS:

*Carmelo & Elba Meletiche*

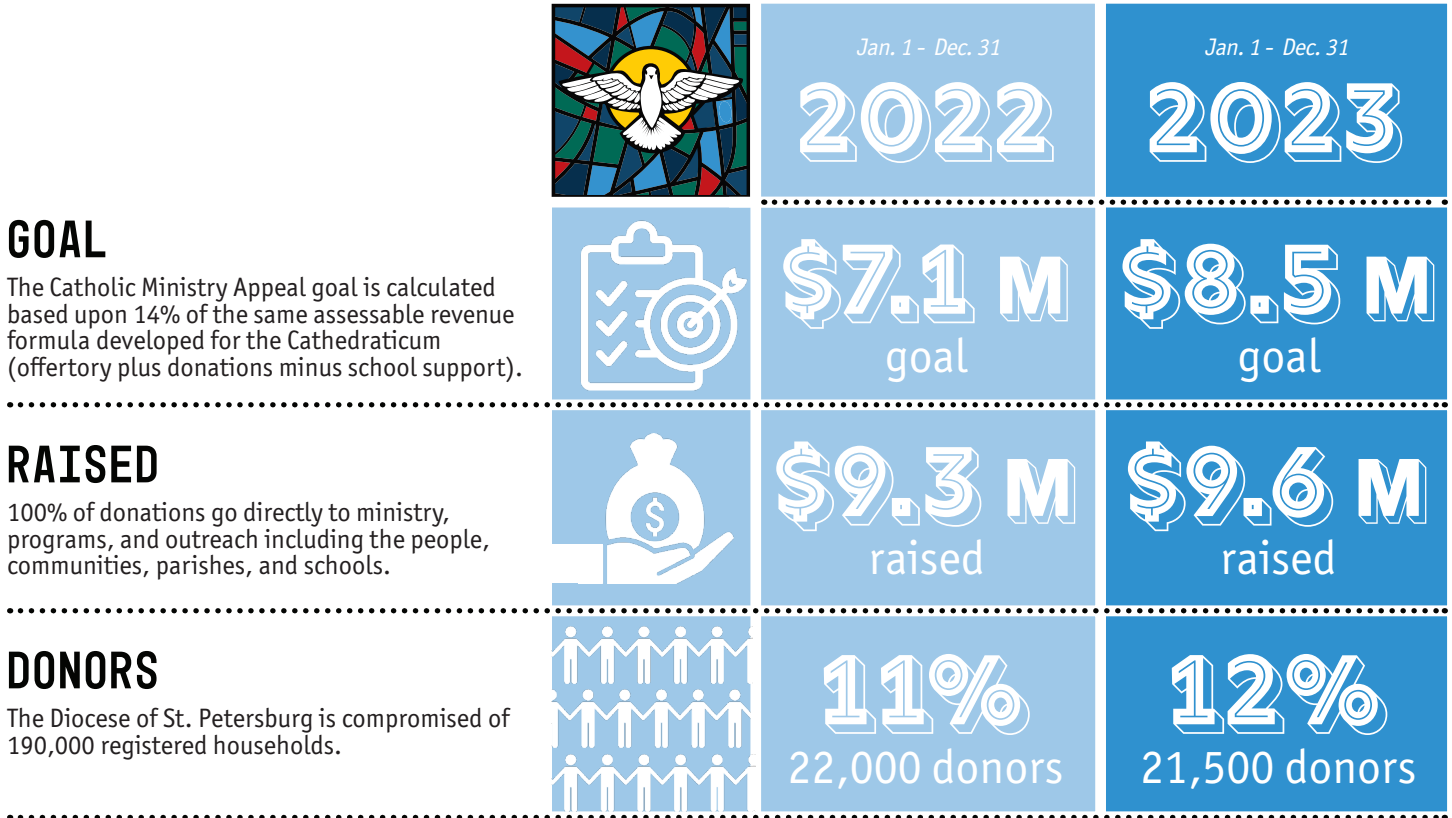


We have been blessed in many ways by the Lord and have been supported by the Church in times of need so we feel that we can thank both of them by supporting our parish as well as the Catholic Ministry Appeal...We feel very good knowing that our contributions are helping.





# OUR CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL



## PARISHES AND MISSIONS OVER GOAL

Individual parish and mission goals for the Catholic Ministry Appeal are calculated based on the number of pledges divided by individual parish goals. Congratulations to the parishes and missions listed below, who achieved their goal in 2022 and/or 2023.

All Saints Parish (2022 & 2023)  
Blessed Sacrament (Seminole) (2022 & 2023)  
Blessed Sacrament (Tampa) (2023)  
Cathedral of St. Jude The Apostle (2022 & 2023)  
Christ the King Catholic Church (2022 & 2023)  
Epiphany of Our Lord Parish (2023)  
Espiritu Santo Parish (2022 & 2023)  
Holy Cross Parish (2023)  
Holy Martyrs of Vietnam Parish (2023)  
Immaculate Conception Haitian Mission (2022)  
Incarnation Parish (2022 & 2023)  
Mary Help of Christians Parish (2023)  
Mercy of God Polish Mission (2023)  
Most Holy Redeemer Parish (2023)  
Nativity Catholic Church (2022 & 2023)  
Our Lady of Fatima Parish (2022)  
Our Lady of Grace Parish (2022)  
Our Lady Of Lourdes (2022 & 2023)  
Our Lady of The Rosary Parish (2022 & 2023)

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish (2022)  
Prince of Peace Parish (2022 & 2023)  
Resurrection Parish (2022 & 2023)  
Sacred Heart (Dade City) (2022 & 2023)  
Sacred Heart (Pinellas Park) (2022)  
St. Anne (Ruskin) (2022 & 2023)  
St. Brendan Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Catherine of Siena Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Cecelia Catholic Church (2022)  
St. Clement Parish (2022)  
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Francis of Assisi Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. James the Apostle Parish (2023)  
St. Jerome Catholic Church (2022)  
St. Joan of Arc Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. John Vianney Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Joseph (Zephyrhills) (2022 & 2023)  
St. Lawrence Catholic Parish (2023)  
St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church (2022)

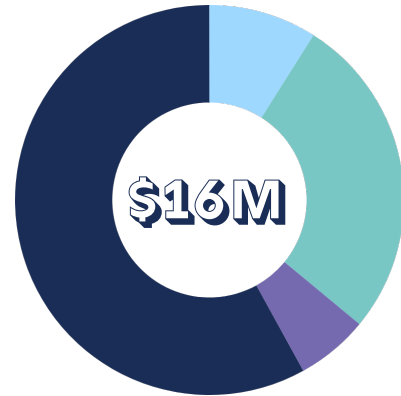
St. Mary Our Lady of Grace Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Mary Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Matthew Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Michael the Archangel (Clearwater) (2023)  
St. Michael The Archangel (Hudson) (2022)  
St. Patrick (Largo) (2022 & 2023)  
St. Patrick (Tampa) (2022 & 2023)  
St. Paul (Tampa) (2022 & 2023)  
St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church (2022 & 2023)  
St. Rita Parish (2022)  
St. Scholastica Church (2022)  
St. Stephen Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Theresa Parish (2022)  
St. Thomas The Apostle Parish (2023)  
St. Timothy Parish (2022 & 2023)  
St. Vincent De Paul Parish (2022)

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

### SOURCES OF REVENUE

Catholic Ministry Appeal	\$ 9,386,998.86
Bequests, Grants and Interest	900,841.90
Cathedraticum	1,455,746.59
Program Revenues	4,450,114.77
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 16,193,702.13</b>



**58%**  
\$9.4M



#### CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL

The Catholic Ministry Appeal is a direct, voluntary appeal to the registered households of our diocese. This annual effort runs over a calendar year, and 100% of all donations support and fund the ministries and services making an impact in the community.

**6%**  
\$900K



#### BEQUESTS, GRANTS AND INTEREST

Bishop Parkes and the ministries of the Pastoral Center are recipients of legacy bequests from generous parishioners through their estates, in addition to grants from independent organizations and foundations and a small amount of interest earnings. The amount of revenue from these sources vary year to year.

**9%**  
\$1.4M



#### CATHEDRATICUM

Cathedraticum refers to funds paid by the parishes of a diocese to support the work of the Bishop. In the new model, it is calculated and submitted by the parishes in the Diocese each month based on their reported offertory and donations. This means payments from parishes are based on current income, not past income.

**27%**  
\$4.4M



#### PROGRAM REVENUES

Program revenues include registration for events or programs, as well as fees paid by participants to some of our diocesan offices for direct services programs and services, such as parish level bookkeeping and accounting.

### COMING PASTORAL YEAR 2024:



#### PARISH SUSTAINABILITY TRUST GRANT

The Parish Sustainability Trust utilizes investment earnings to cover the administrative costs for the Office of the Bishop and our ministries, services and entities of the Diocese. In 2022-2023, these temporal offices were funded through past savings as we transitioned to this new funding model. Next fiscal year, the Parish Sustainability Trust will issue a grant to operate our administrative functions.

CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL

22%  
\$3.5M



**SUPPORT OF PARISH, SCHOOL AND DIOCESAN MINISTRIES**

Outreach and programs offering ministerial, organizational, and temporal service support for parishes, schools and diocesan ministries and services.

18%  
\$2.8M



**CATHOLIC FORMATION AND EDUCATION**

Programs and services which provide people of God the opportunity to practice the Catholic Faith, study the teachings of the Church and encounter Christ in one another.

14%  
\$2.2M



**CLERGY, RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS AND SEMINARIAN EDUCATION**

Promotion and support of vocations to the priesthood, seminarian and diaconate formation and education, as well as support for our religious and retired clergy.

9%  
\$1.4M



**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRIES**

Services and outreach to the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, focused on protecting public safety, promoting the common good and restoring community with justice and charity.

5%  
\$801K

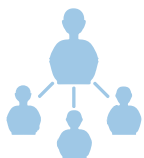


**STEWARDSHIP FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Formation services for those charged with helping others better understand our acceptance and use of God's gifts and the costs associated with resource development activities.

CATHEDRATICUM

9%  
\$1.4M



**PASTORAL LEADERSHIP**

Leadership and guidance for all operations and functions under the canonical direction of the Bishop, plus assessments which fund the worldwide Church.

PARISH SUSTAINABILITY TRUST GRANT

16%  
\$2.5M



**TEMPORAL AFFAIRS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

Fiscal and organization functionality support for parishes, schools and diocesan ministries and services.

PROGRAM AND SERVICE FEES

7%  
\$1.1M



**PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

Fiscal, organizational support and associated operational costs for programs and ministries related to the Diocesan Catholic Cemeteries, Bethany Retreat Center and Insurance Benefits Trust.

# 2023 Annual Report

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**COURAGEOUSLY**  
*Living the Gospel*

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