



TOGETHER WE PRAY

More numerous than the stars in the sky are your blessings, O Good and Gracious God.

You have called us to spread the **Good News** of your Son, **Jesus Christ**, through our words and actions.

Strengthen our faith and open our hearts to care for all our brothers and sisters, especially those who need us the most.

Help us to understand the difference we can make, the **love** we can share and the lives we can bring to Christ through our **Catholic Ministry Appeal**.

We pray that your grace, O Lord, will lead us to be your **loving heart and hands** today.

Amen.

THE *Mater Dei* GIVING SOCIETY

The *Mater Dei* Giving Society recognizes approximately 6,000 members helping our diocese put faith into action with their generosity. Each year, Bishop Parkes invites members to celebrate together at gatherings, special Masses, morning and evening prayer, receptions, virtual events, and more.

Mater Caritatis Circle (Mother of Charity)

Recognizes those who have given **10 years in a row** to one or more diocesan entity.

Mater Ecclesiae Circle (Mother of the Church)

Recognizes businesses and organizations that have given **\$2,500 or more** this past year to a 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 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.

WAYS TO GIVE

Online at GivetoMinistry.dosp.org or scan the QR code below
(727) 344.1611 | appealgift@dosp.org | www.dosp.org
Mail your gift to P.O. Box 458, Kensington, CT 06037-0458



DIOCESE OF SAINT PETERSBURG
**CATHOLIC
MINISTRY
Appeal**



*“Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose hope is the LORD.”*

JEREMIAH 17:5-8



WALKING WITH CHRIST

As a participant in the Benediction held on the Hillsborough River Walk, I could see the **light of Christ shining** in the faces of those around me as we proclaimed what is **true, beautiful and good**. To bring our Lord into a **public venue** in downtown Tampa, surrounded by the **Catholic faithful** was symbolic of Jesus coming into a world which can be **messy, chaotic, and busy**. It was a **visual and spiritual witness** as more than 2,000 people **prayerfully adored and focused on Jesus Christ present in the Eucharist in the Monstrance**.

- Most Rev. Gregory L. Parkes
Bishop of the Diocese of Saint Petersburg

Roar of the Rosary, May 2024



OUR GOAL: \$9.5 MILLION

23% | ENCOUNTERING GOD AND NURTURING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

- Bethany Center for Spiritual & Formation Development
- Lay Pastoral Ministry Formation Program
- Marriage & Family Life
- Ministry to Catholic Schools & Tuition Assistance Grants
- Ministry to Multicultural Communities
- Ministry to Youth & Young Adults
- Missionary Discipleship
- Office of Faith Formation
- Office of Worship & Diocesan Liturgical Celebrations
- Support of The Catholic University
- Tribunal Office for Canonical Information & Sacramental Support

33% | EMBRACING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE

- Diaconate Program & Formation
- La Clinica Guadalupana & Medical Clinics Support
- Pinellas Hope, Tampa Hope & Pasco County *Shelters of Hope* of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Saint Petersburg
- Prison Ministry
- Seminarian Education & Support, & Promotion of Vocations
- Vicar for Religious

44% | ACCOMPANYING OUR MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

- Clergy Care, Ministry to Priests & Continuing Education for Priests
- Diocesan Mission Initiatives
- Gulf Coast Catholic* Magazine
- Haitian Apostolate & the St. Rita, St. Joseph-Tampa & St. Clement Migrant Apostolates
- Justice, Life & Advocacy Promotion & Formation
- St. John XXIII Residence
- Safe Environment Program
- Stewardship Formation, Development Services & Ministry Advancement
- Support for Shrines in the Holy Land & Churches in Latin America

ENCOUNTERING GOD AND NURTURING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

The Eucharistic Congress served as a cornerstone for our diocesan leaders, deepening their understanding of the Eucharist and strengthening their faith practices. By sharing their insights, they are fostering a more profound and unified spiritual growth throughout the diocese. This ensures that the spiritual nourishment gained extends to every corner of our faith community, enriching the lives of all its members.

88 delegates
joined **150+**
parish representatives from
across the Diocese

EMBRACING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE

PRISON MINISTRY

Each week, devoted priests, deacons, and lay ministers from the parishes of the Diocese of Saint Petersburg minister to inmates, offering Masses, Liturgies of the Word, Reconciliation, Communion Services, and faith-sharing discussions. Volunteers have expressed that their focus has shifted from the inmates' past actions to their present efforts to live meaningful lives, sharing, "We witness the Holy Spirit at work within and among the men, women, and youth we serve."

100+
volunteers visit the
incarcerated in
county and state facilities
around the Diocese

ACCOMPANYING OUR MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

MINISTRY TO PRIESTS

Caring for our retired priests is essential. Gifts to the *Catholic Ministry Appeal* ensure they receive the comprehensive care and support they need, honoring their lifetime of service and inspiration to us all. By supporting them, we strengthen our future and continue their legacy of faith and compassion. Their selfless dedication to the Church and community deserves our gratitude and ongoing support.

45
priests are
currently retired
& **4** will retire
in 2025