

“The generous
will be blessed,
for they share...
with the poor.”

(PROVERBS 22:9)

2020



Diocese of Venice in Florida
~ 35th Anniversary ~

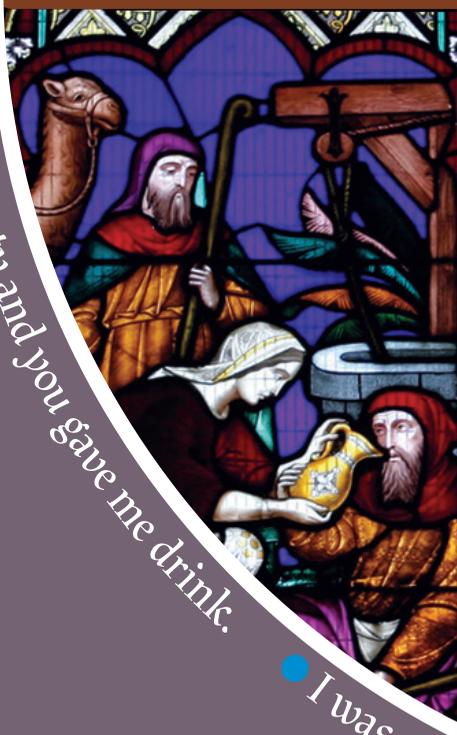
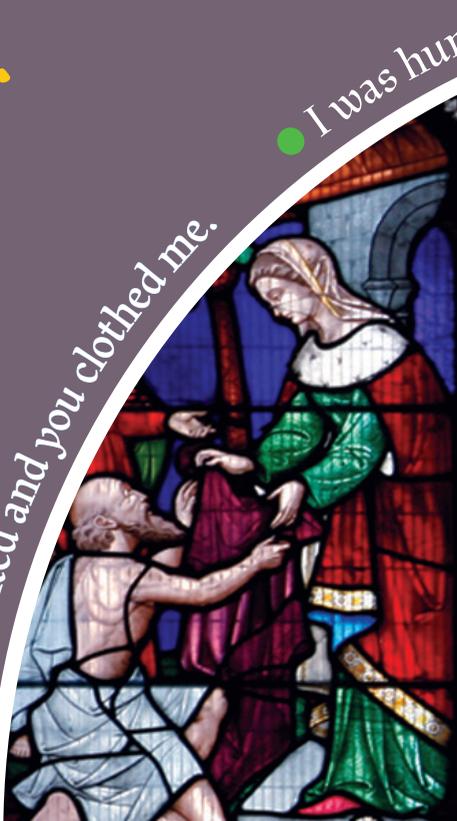
Catholic
Faith
Appeal

I was naked and you clothed me.

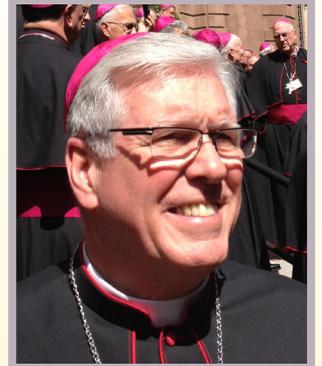
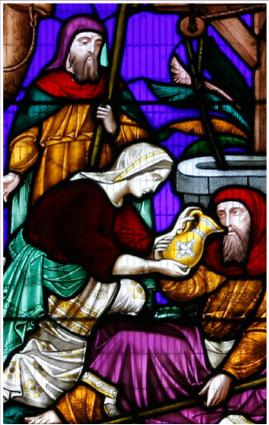
I was thirsty and you gave me drink.

I was hungry and you gave me food.

I was a stranger and you took me in.



Message from Bishop Dewane



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Scripture it is written, "The generous will be blessed, for they share ... with the poor" (Proverbs 22:9) affirming that God provides for those who care for their Brothers and Sisters in need.

Having the willingness to share one's blessings with others is an expression of our thankfulness and praise to God. As the Diocese of Venice celebrates its 35th year, we reflect on the blessing of those who have come before us. At the same time, we wish to express gratitude to you who continue the tradition of supporting good works in responding to the Church's Mission.

The Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) is an act of kindness that directly supports various ministries, programs and outreach that provide spiritual, charitable, and pastoral care here in the Diocese of Venice. The following pages contain many examples of how the CFA positively affects the lives of individuals, families and communities within Southwest Florida.

Your support of the Catholic Faith Appeal ensures that the Diocese of Venice can continue its commitment to address material, spiritual and pastoral challenges by mobilizing its resources to help the needy in our community.

May all of your generosity and good works bring you and your loved ones countless blessings from the Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank J. Dewane".

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida



About the Catholic Faith Appeal

Supporting the Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) joins together all of our Sisters and Brothers in Christ throughout the Diocese to do the Lord's work - spiritual, educational, charitable and pastoral outreach.

Your participation in the CFA is a direct way to proclaim Christ's Mission not only in word but also in concrete action. The Appeal helps bring the Gospel to life through evangelization and by providing those individuals and families in need with essential resources such as food, shelter, clothing and much more.

Faith in action can be seen in Parishes and Schools, soup kitchens and homeless shelters, religious education programs and vocational outreach. This Faith is lived by people of all backgrounds and from every neighborhood. Parishioners come together to support one another, and thus it is in this spirit that the Appeal continues to build strong communities.

Your contribution is deeply appreciated, much needed and makes a real difference in the lives of many.

Diocese of Venice in Florida Statistics:

- Total Population: 2,320,084
- Catholic Population: 239,708
- Number of Parishes: 61
- Number of Missions: 10
- Number of Schools: 15
- Number of Students in Catholic Schools: 4,608
- Total students under Catholic instruction: 18,181
- Number of Social Service Programs: 38
- Number of Active Priests: 140
- Number of Active Deacons: 84

“For I was hungry and you gave

The **Office of Vocations** works in collaboration with Parishes and Schools across the Diocese to raise awareness to God’s call in the life of each person. The three primary functions of this Office include promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life; assessing and evaluating candidates who present themselves for consideration; and overseeing the human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral formation of seminarians. The Seminary faculty provides guidance in an individual’s discernment process in a positive, supportive, and Christ centered way.



Seminarians need our spiritual and material support to sustain them in following Our Lord’s call. Currently, sixteen seminarians are preparing to serve the Faithful in the Diocese of Venice.



With expenses of nearly \$70,000 per seminarian each year, the CFA provides financial support that allows our seminarians to focus, first and foremost, on their continued discernment, formation and prayer life.

Planting the seed of Faith in those in our midst is a crucial Mission of the Church. Through the **Office of Evangelization**, conferences are made available to those wishing to learn more about the Faith. Further, the Office works to spread the Word of Christ and deepen the understanding of the Catholic Faith among the Faithful.

Numerous approaches are used to spread the Good News: hosting yearly Men’s and Women’s Conferences; promoting initiatives geared towards reaching and educating the Faithful; and sharing dynamic Faith formation through Scripture seminars and training sessions.



The **Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach** is dedicated to engaging adolescents, teenagers, college students, and young adults in participating in their Faith through activities and events. Each year the Office coordinates the Youth Rally which draws nearly 2,000 teens. In addition, training and resources are provided to assist the leaders in Parish youth ministry as they strive to fully incorporate young people into the life of their Parish.



The heart of the Church rests in our **Parishes**. This is where Faith is developed and nurtured; it is the grassroots level. The CFA helps Parishes serving financially challenged communities to continue sharing the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments and evangelizing. In addition, support is provided to those in need at the Mission sites.



me food...” (Matthew 25:35)

Spiritual Growth



Additional outreach:

- College Campus Outreach
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center
- Worship Office
- Campo San José Retreat Center

“I was thirsty and you gave me



Choosing **Catholic Education** means a child will receive a high-quality education with daily exposure to the moral and spiritual values of our Faith. This includes prayer, lessons on Holy Scripture, dedicated and faith-filled

instructors as well as civic and community activities. The STREAM curriculum, based on Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Math, has been integrated as one of the priorities in the Schools of the Diocese of Venice.

The **Department of Education** offers academic excellence with a variety of programs to support every teacher inside and outside the classroom. The Diocesan-wide Master In-Service Program



provides teachers a convenient and cost-effective online platform to earn continuing education credits toward their certification renewal. The Peer Mentoring Program offers persistent, one-on-one mentorship between new and seasoned teachers. The Department of Education also adopted cutting-edge curriculum mapping software that promotes collaboration and reinforces rigorous instruction throughout every School in the Diocese.

Faith formation and Sacramental preparation are at the heart of effectively building up the Church in the Diocese of Venice. To achieve this, the **Office of Religious Education**



drink...” (Matthew 25:35)

Educational and Faith Formation Outreach



oversees the curriculum offered to 13,573 children who are enrolled in Parish catechetical courses as well as Parishioners attending adult Faith formation programs. Learning opportunities are also provided



to the catechists who give willingly to assist others in Faith formation. These include Diocesan-wide catechetical retreats, conferences, workshops, and much more.



The **Institute for Catholic Studies and Formation** partners with the Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH to offer accredited Master level courses in Catechetics and Evangelization. The Faithful who are interested in learning more about their Faith can participate in the courses that are offered. With an expanded video-conferencing system in place, Parishioners are able to access online courses as well as



the Institute's video library, all from home.

Diaconal formation is coordinated through the **Permanent Diaconate Program**. The Office provides and facilitates the human, spiritual, and intellectual formation in order for these men to be suitably equipped in responding to the needs of the local Parish.



The **Office of Stewardship and Development** promotes and oversees stewardship practices to Parishes and Schools through seminars, workshops, and written materials.



“..naked and you clothed me..”



In its 24th year the “Undy Sunday Campaign”, run by Catholic Charities, Inc., garnered donations of new underwear and socks which were distributed throughout the public Schools in Collier County. Volunteers labeled and packaged 35,000 items for delivery to local Schools, plus several social service organizations that assist needy women and children.

(Matthew 25:35)

Charitable Outreach



The Diocese of Venice has welcomed a number

of **Religious Sisters** who are engaged in the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and are dedicated to being of service to others, mostly in impoverished areas. They serve in positions such as Directors of Religious Education, teachers, School principals, catechists, Directors of Adult Faith Formation, and more. Their work has a tremendous impact on the communities they serve.



Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Venice, Inc., assists individuals and families in need throughout the ten counties of the Diocese of Venice. The programs focus on helping people develop the skills and strength to move from crisis or isolation to stability, sustainability, and growth.



Since 1987, **Our Mother's House** has been providing transitional housing to homeless mothers and their children. The mothers are often former alcoholics or have had other addictions. The mission of the program is to offer single mothers and their children a safe and secure environment in which to achieve increased self-sufficiency through education, vocational training, and personal growth. Children attend Early Head Start, located on site, while mothers are in School or working. Mothers are required to attend life skills classes such as: parenting, self-esteem, nutrition, and financial literacy.



Guadalupe Social Services provides "The Clothing Room" which is open to anyone in the Immokalee community to shop once a month from items that have been donated. At the same site, "The Shower Program" serves the chronically homeless or individuals living in substandard housing. Those in need receive a change of clothes, hygiene products, a towel and of course, access to clean showers.



The **Judy Sullivan Family Resource Center** assists low and moderate income families through various programs. The Weekend Power Pack Food Program provides homeless elementary students with food to sustain them through the weekend when School meals are not available.



Other examples of programs and services provided by Catholic Charities, Inc. include:

- Anti-Human Trafficking Assistance
- Counseling for individuals and Families
- Disaster Relief Response
- Early Childhood Education



“...a stranger and you took me



Through partnerships with other organizations, **Catholic Charities** makes accessible programs that offer socialization, daily hot lunches, job placement, and mental health counseling at the **Golden Gate Senior Center**. Since isolation and loneliness are significant problems among the elderly, the Golden Gate Senior Center also provides recreation and developmental opportunities to the 1,300 seniors it serves.

Last summer, housing was made available in Arcadia for low-income seniors. The **St. John Paul II Villas** provide an affordable and quality place for the elderly to live.



The **Casa San Juan Bosco** Farm Worker Housing is a development, also located in Arcadia, that provides quality and affordable homes to area farm workers and their families. Education and enrichment activities are offered to both children and adults. At another location, a transitional residence for needy **Veterans** and their family is offered while they work to achieve self-sufficiency.



Family Life Outreach continues to help prepare men and women for their lifelong marriage vows to each other through retreats, conferences, and Natural Family Planning classes. In an effort to continuously promote marriage, enrichment seminars are offered for those who are already married. Bereavement training and a Mass honoring widows and widowers are coordinated through this Office.

The **Respect Life Department** exists to uphold the sanctity of each human life from conception to natural death. The staff coordinates events such as The March for Life and 40 Days for Life as well as legislative advocacy in Florida. Project Rachel is an outreach of the Catholic Church to those suffering deep pain and grief after an abortion. Help is offered through the sacraments, retreats, and referrals for professional counseling.



The majority of the cases presented to the **Diocesan Marriage Tribunal** involve petitions for declarations of matrimonial invalidity (Church annulments), allowing those who wish to remarry to enter into a sacramental Church marriage. Prior to marriage, tribunal officials assist with dispensations or permissions which may be needed for Catholic weddings.



Each Sunday, the Catholic Mass is televised through the coordination of the **Department of Communications**. This weekly broadcast is paramount in reaching the sick, the elderly and the homebound with Holy Mass. Without this broadcast, these members of the Faithful would not have the benefit of hearing the liturgy. The televised Mass enables the Faithful who are homebound to be further evangelized and drawn into prayer. In addition, it serves as a conduit for those moved to inquire about the Catholic Faith or those drawn back to the Church.

in.”

(Matthew 25:35)

Pastoral Care



Prison Outreach brings the Word of God and the sacraments of the Catholic Church to men, women and juveniles who are incarcerated.

Additional pastoral care includes:

- Hispanic Apostolate
- Haitian Apostolate
- Peace and Social Justice Office

Administrative Offices

To orchestrate much of the activity described in this brochure, the **Catholic Center** is staffed with dedicated employees who provide specialized services and guidance. This is complemented by countless volunteers who use their skills to assist the Parishes and other entities within the Diocese. As collaborators of the Body of Christ, these professionals and volunteers seek to achieve the goals set forth so as to advance the Mission of the Church. In addition to the programs and departments discussed in the previous pages, below are more examples of ways Diocesan Administrative Offices help to advance the Mission of the Church.

The **Internal Financial Services Department** oversees and coordinates Financial Reviews carried out by independent CPA Firms every three years for all Parishes, Schools and Missions. This Department performs operational and follow-up reviews of Diocesan entities in the off years. In addition, the Department provides training sessions for bookkeepers, business managers and financial administrators.

Technology is a useful and necessary tool of management and communication. Properly utilized, it enables the Church to evangelize from anywhere at anytime. The **Diocesan Office of Information Technology** strives to ensure that this form of communication as well as resource management is optimized. This is accomplished by overseeing and recommending software and procedures for use by Parishes, Schools and other Diocesan entities.



The **Human Resources Department** provides services regarding personnel for Parishes and other Diocesan organizations. The scope of the Department includes policy design and interpretation, disciplinary procedures, mediation processes, recruiting strategies, leadership training, performance appraisals

and regulatory compliance. The Department also oversees the **Safe Environment Program** which does background screening for priests,

religious, all employees and volunteers working with children

or vulnerable adults. In addition, the **Risk and Insurance Program** is handled through the Human Resources Department.

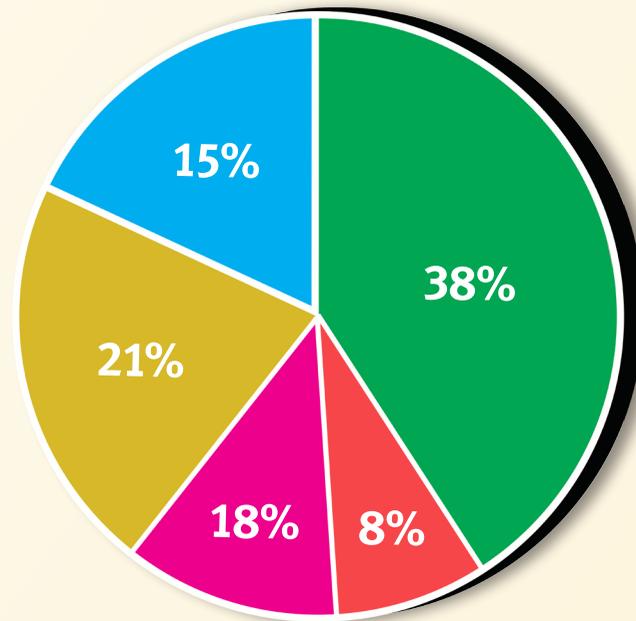


The **Finance Department** is responsible for the oversight of accounting and the accounting support of Diocesan Parishes, Schools and Missions. The Department also coordinates Investment Policies.

Assistance in the construction of new buildings, major maintenance projects, renovation projects, and emergency repairs is provided by the **Building Department**. Support staff is available to assist in providing Parishes and Schools with all the necessary steps and procedural documentation to complete construction related projects within a timely manner and ensure cost appropriate measures to obtain the best quality materials and services.



Catholic Faith Appeal at Work



- Ministry, Outreach, and Service 38%**
Evangelization • Youth & Young Adult Outreach • Caritas • Respect Life Department • Peace and Social Justice Office • Worship Office • Parish Services • Hispanic Apostolate • Prison Outreach • Catholic Center Administrative Services • Marriage Tribunal • Inter-Religious Affairs and Ecumenism • Bishop's Office and Episcopal Duties • Marriage Preparation • Family Life Outreach • Haitian Apostolate • Campus Ministry • Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center • Campo San José Retreat Center
- Catholic Education 21%**
Catholic Schools Department • Office of Religious Education • Catholic School Subsidy • Institute for Catholic Studies and Formation
- Catholic Charities 15%**
- Vocations and Clergy Support 8%**
Seminary Education and Formation • Permanent Diaconate • Diaconate Formation • Continuing Education for Clergy • Office of Religious Life
- Support of Poor Parishes, Missions & Convents 18%**

Ways to Give

PLEASE CONSIDER A PLEDGE TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

The Catholic Faith Appeal is an annual opportunity for every member of our Faith family to support the life-changing work and outreach programs of the Diocese of Venice. The programs and services assisted by the CFA, make a meaningful impact on the lives of individuals, families and communities.

By supporting the CFA, you share in the work of Christ and the grace of Catholic discipleship.

Remember, *"The generous will be blessed, for they share ... with the poor"* (Proverbs 22:9).

Pledging your gift may allow you to make a more generous and affordable contribution to the CFA. The pledge can be spread out over several months. You may pledge with an initial payment while the remaining balance can be donated at any time during the next several months. The Diocese will send you monthly reminders.

The following are possible suggestions on how to make your gift:

- **Credit or debit card** can be used for a one-time gift or a monthly amount.
 - Please send us the information via the pledge card *or*
 - Visit www.dioceseofvenice.org, click on **Catholic Faith Appeal Donate Now**.
- **Check** made payable to Catholic Faith Appeal.
- **Gift of Securities** – Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of the appreciated securities on the date of your gift.
- **IRA** – If you are over the age of 70½, you may donate up to \$100,000 per year from your Individual Retirement Account tax free to a charitable cause. Spouses may also participate to the same level if they have a separate IRA, giving married couples the opportunity to donate up to \$200,000. The funds must be paid directly to the Catholic Faith Appeal from your financial advisor in order to qualify.

Bishop's Cornerstone Society Gift Levels

Trustee	\$25,000 and above
Pillar	\$10,000 to \$24,999
Benefactor	\$ 5,000 to \$ 9,999
Patron	\$ 2,500 to \$ 4,999

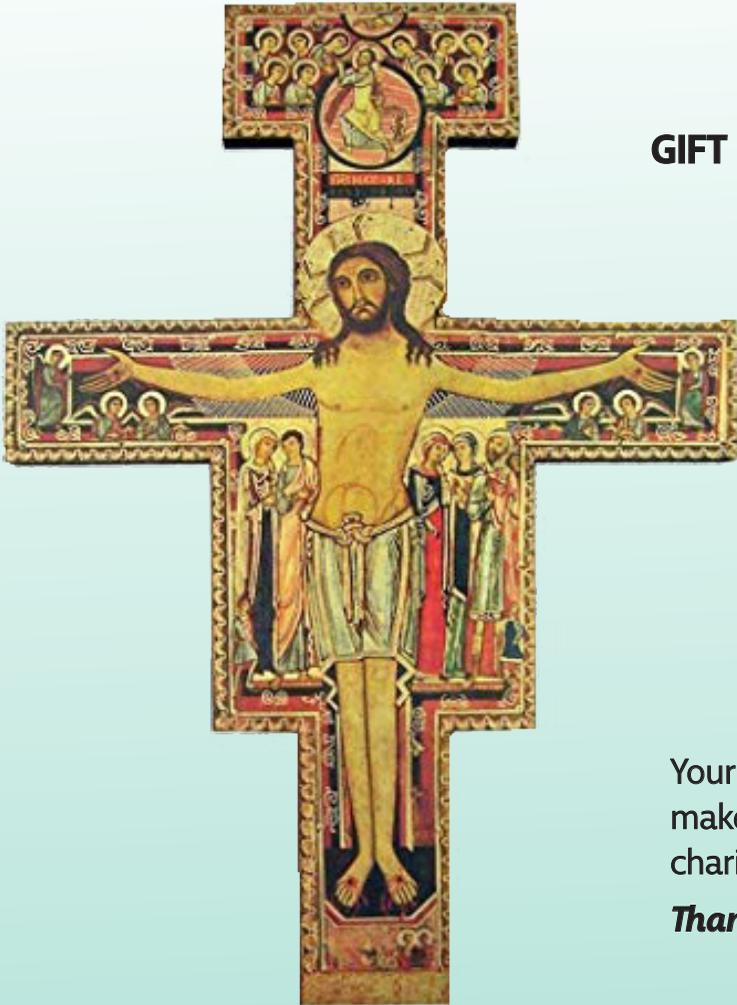


Leadership Society Gift Levels

Steward	\$1,500 to \$2,499
Angel	\$1,000 to \$1,499
Friend	\$ 500 to \$ 999



Gift Opportunities



GIFT OPPORTUNITIES USING THE 10-PAYMENT PLAN

Gift Amount	Initial Payment	9 Monthly Payments
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
\$25,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
\$15,000	\$1,500	\$1,500
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
\$ 5,000	\$ 500	\$ 500
\$ 2,500	\$ 250	\$ 250
\$ 1,000	\$ 100	\$ 100
\$ 500	\$ 50	\$ 50

Your gift to the **2020 Catholic Faith Appeal** will continue to make a difference in supporting the spiritual, educational, charitable and pastoral initiatives in the Diocese of Venice.

Thank you!



Catholic Community Foundation

For Good, For God, Forever

PRESERVING OUR FAITH, CREATING CATHOLIC LEGACIES



Have you ever worried about what would happen to your Parish, School or favorite Diocesan program after you are gone? Will the next generation be as devoted to their Catholic Faith? Will they regularly attend Mass, send their children to Catholic School or Faith Formation and be as willing to support the programs and ministries of the Church?

The Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida helps Catholics create lasting legacies by working with them to provide long-term support and sustainability to the Catholic entities and programs about which they care most.

The Foundation is the only community foundation in the Diocese of Venice that focuses on supporting the Mission of Christ and the Good Works of the Catholic Church, while also investing all gifts in alignment with the teachings of our Catholic Faith.

The Catholic Community Foundation offers a wide range of gifting options including Endowment/Scholarship Funds, Charitable Gift Annuities, Donor Advised Funds and more.

Please contact the Foundation to discuss how we might help you establish your Catholic legacy!
941-441-1124 | MORSE@DIOCESEOFVENICE.ORG | 1000 PINEBROOK RD, VENICE, FL 34285