



Our Gifts Impact Thousands

Individual gifts to the Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA) provide most of the funds needed to operate more than **50** pastoral ministries and services dedicated to strengthening the lives of the **487,000** Catholics living within our five-county area. It is heart-warming to know that one gift to APA can:

- + Provide shelter and services for the homeless, as well as support the affordable housing initiatives of Catholic Charities
- + Evangelize the faith-filled message of Jesus Christ through the latest communication methods including blogs and videos from our Bishop, messages and information sent via Flocknotes, social media outreach on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and our very own radio ministry, Spirit FM 90.5
- + Offer support, professional development and spiritual enrichment to parish youth ministers and Catholic school leadership

And, just as our parish has adjusted in response to the pandemic, our diocesan ministers have also adapted, finding creative ways to continue serving thousands throughout our diocese in a time of dramatic change. With courage and innovation, *a time of great challenge has been turned into a time of great blessings.*

Thank you to our parishioners who have already participated in the APA this year, helping our diocesan church extend Christ's love and mercy to those in need. Your generosity is a blessing to those we serve in Christ's name.

If you have not yet made a gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal, please consider making a gift online prior to December 31st.

Please remember, *no gift is too small and is greatly appreciated.* A gift of any size will not only help our parish achieve our goal but will also help us empower works of mercy in our parishes, schools and throughout the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Visit dosp.org/2020ministryupdate to learn more about the innovative ways our diocesan ministries have adapted and make your gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal today!



Your gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal generously and courageously helps us live the Gospel.



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Virtual Discernment & Ordination



Our Vocations Office took the lead in creativity, revamping discernment efforts and Ordination into successful virtual events with the help of the diocesan Communications Office:

- + **'Zoom Chats with Seminarians'** – 10 new discernment sessions saw 60 participants
- + **Virtual 'Abundance Holy Hours for Vocations'** – between 1,000-1,700 Facebook views May-August
- + **3 new priests** – we celebrated the Ordination of our 3 new priests on August 15 via livestream with 8,400 Facebook viewers and 16,000+ reached
- + **7 new Seminarians** welcomed this fall

Affordable Housing Efforts Expanded



In addition to increasing services and outreach over the past 6 months, Catholic Charities has stayed focused on one of our *Courageously Living the Gospel* goals – expanding affordable housing efforts:

- + **Bethany Family Apartments** – 12 units for families opening in Pasco County
- + **Bella Vista Apartments** – 12 units for families in Hillsborough County
- + **St. Teresa Apartments** – 14 veterans housed in 12 units in Hernando County
- + **Mercy Oaks** – \$2.4M grant from Hillsborough County to build 20 units
- + **St. Benedict** – permitting underway for 18 new units in Citrus County