



## Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As your Bishop, I am constantly in awe of the good work and ministry we do together. For over 50 years our diocese has responded to the needs of our local communities, and supported Catholics throughout their lives to grow in faith. This good work will continue through the *Catholic Ministry Appeal*.

Your gift directly supports critical ministries throughout our diocese. Your gift supports faith formation for children, adults, and families. It supports seminarians and priests. It provides for those in need of shelter, food, and clothing. In the spirit of faith and mission, I ask and pray that you will consider making a generous commitment to the *Catholic Ministry Appeal* of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Thank you for your support, and may the Lord's abundant blessings be with you!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory Parkes  
Bishop of St. Petersburg

## I offer special thanks...

In November 2020, I appointed a special Task Force of 11 pastors and priests to discuss options and to work with me to make positive changes to our annual appeal. This group accepted the challenge, and together we worked diligently to review feedback we had received from fellow pastors, parish staff and leaders. After months of discussion and discernment, we came to a unanimous decision to replace the *Annual Pastoral Appeal* (APA) with the *Catholic Ministry Appeal*. I offer gratitude for the time, commitment and dedication of the Task Force members:

Rev. Msgr. Robert Morris, V.G., Chair  
Rev. Curtis Carro  
Rev. Msgr. Michael Carruthers  
Rev. Jose Glenn Diaz  
Very Rev. Krzysztof Gazdowicz, V.F.  
Rev. Emery Longanga  
Rev. Richard Jankowski  
Very Rev. Len Plazewski, V.F.  
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Pellegrino  
Rev. John Tapp  
Very Rev. Joseph Waters, J.C.L., J.V.

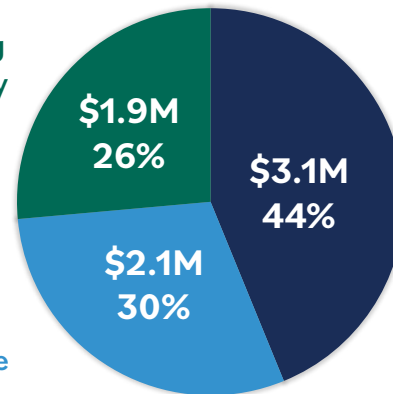
## MORE THAN A NAME CHANGE

The change from *Annual Pastoral Appeal* to *Catholic Ministry Appeal* came after much discussion, careful consideration and most importantly, constant prayer. The new appeal is simpler, more transparent, and it allows you to know exactly where your gifts are going so you can give with confidence.

This is the critical next step for our diocese and our parishes. With this change, every dollar donated to the *Catholic Ministry Appeal* directly funds our ministries, outreach, and programs. Your generosity goes toward nurturing spiritual life, embracing God's call to serve and accompanying missionary disciples.

## OUR GOAL: \$7.1M

Accompanying  
Our Missionary  
Disciples



Encountering  
God and  
Nurturing our  
Spiritual Life

Embracing  
God's  
Call to Serve

### ENCOUNTERING GOD AND NURTURING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

It is through sharing the faith and reaching out to others we encounter the face of God. These ministries of the Diocese of St. Petersburg assist parishes and offer all who seek God an opportunity to encounter Him and enrich our spiritual lives, fostering our response to God's call to serve.

### EMBRACING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE

To embrace God's call to serve means to hear His call and actively carry out His mission and ministry with love, gratitude and concern for others. Action, like a sacrament, is the visible form of the Holy Spirit. These ministries of our diocese encourage all to act, expressing God's saving love within us as we help give shape to the world.

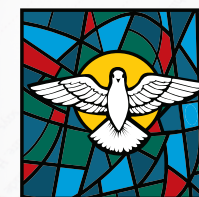
### ACCOMPANYING OUR MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

It is vital that we accompany those who are instrumental in the formation of the faithful as "Missionary Disciples," serving as living witnesses to Christ's message and love and serving those most in need. These ministries of the Diocese of St. Petersburg serve our priests, deacons, and lay leaders in their pastoral journey so they may continue offering our people the formation and foundation needed to bring God's message, mission, and ministry to our faith communities and world.

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DOSP.ORG/CATHOLICMINISTRYAPPEAL



DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG  
**CATHOLIC  
MINISTRY**  
*Appeal*



# ENCOUNTERING GOD *and* NURTURING *our* SPIRITUAL LIFE



# EMBRACING GOD’S CALL *to* SERVE



# ACCOMPANYING *our* MISSIONARY DISCIPLES



## Spotlight on: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Catholic schools develop and provide a faith-filled community where our students, families, faculty, staff, and the greater communities can grow spiritually, academically, and socially. Our Office of Catholic Schools and Centers offer resources, expertise, and support to each of our Catholic schools and early childhood centers. Most importantly, prayer and the sacraments are a part of daily life in every one of our Catholic schools.

Our Catholic Schools are ranked in the top **25%** nationally & our high school students complete **86K** hours of service each year

### YOUR GIFT SUPPORTS

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

## Spotlight on: SHELTERS OF HOPE

We are called to see the face of Christ in each other and answer the Gospel mandate to extend Christ’s mercy to those most in need. Through social services designed to preserve families, encourage self-sufficiency, and promote social justice, Catholic Charities brings faith and love to those they serve, including the 122 low-income families in residence at San Jose Mission in Dover, and all residents assisted through our affordable housing initiatives.

Shelters of Hope served **11,400** clients, providing **135,518** meals at shelters & through food pantries

### YOUR GIFT SUPPORTS

- Diaconate Program & Formation
- La Clinica Guadalupeana Support
- Ministries of Mercy through Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Petersburg
- Prison Ministry
- Seminarian Education & Support, & Promotion of Vocations
- Vicar for Religious

## Spotlight on: MINISTRY TO PRIESTS

Our priests care for thousands of parishioners, encouraging all of us to embrace God’s call. Our Office of Ministry to Priests offers our active and retired priests opportunities for spiritual direction, sacramental reconciliation, consultation, days of recollection, retreats, and mentoring for our newly ordained priests and new pastors.

Our **94** active, **63** world & **107** retired priests celebrate **44,564** Masses per year

### YOUR GIFT SUPPORTS

- Clergy Care, Ministry to Priests & Continuing Education for Priests
- Haitian Apostolate & the St. Rita, St. Joseph-Tampa & St. Clement Migrant Apostolates
- Justice, Life & Advocacy Promotion & Formation
- Safe Environment Program
- Stewardship Formation & Development Programs
- Support for Shrines in the Holy Land & Churches in Latin America