



# MINISTRIES IN ACTION

DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG | CATHOLIC MINISTRY *Appeal*



## THE DIACONATE: *Serving our people*

“ Through Diaconate Formation Program, our deacons are trained so that when Ordained, they know exactly what they have to do. They are being trained to preach, to do Baptisms and Marriages, learning church history, scripture, homiletics, and trinitarian theology - they are getting this type of training through the Diaconate Formation Program.

My deacons have different ministries and different talents and yet they all blend together. If it wasn't for Deacon Jose Cruz, we wouldn't have had the Spanish ministry. Deacon Mike Ruffner focuses on hospitality and working with the youth. Deacon Fred LaPiana works with the youth and confirmation class, and a spiritual group, Ignatian Spirituality.

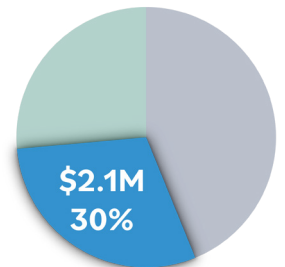
They help each other, they know their ministry, they know how to **serve our people**. And they help me so that we can be a more effective parish, so that we can be a more welcoming parish, so that we can be a parish that shows other people how important Christ is in their life. We've just been blessed to have them here. ”

-Rev. Patrick Rebel, Pastor  
St. Joan of Arc Parish, Spring Hill

**115**   
**active Deacons committed to**  
**1,725** hours  
**of continuing formation**  
**while providing 85K**  
**hours of ministry**

## EMBRACING GOD'S CALL *to SERVE*

The **Diaconate Program & Formation** is one of six diocesan ministries that embrace God's call to serve, and actively carry out His mission and ministry with love, gratitude and concern for others while encouraging all to act. Through the *Catholic Ministry Appeal*, this group of ministries will receive \$2.1 million of the total \$7.1 million appeal goal to carry out their good works.



**SCAN TO LEARN MORE  
about these ministries!**



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