## 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.



OUR GOAL \$9MILLION

Our Catholic Ministry Appeal allows us to extend the reach of our faith beyond the walls of ourselves and our individual parishes. The impact we have in our community is all thanks to the kindness, grace, and generosity of our diocesan family. The power of unity and sacrifice can lead to remarkable achievements beyond our imagination. "When we come together, our selfless actions can do things we never thought possible," said Bishop Parkes.

Through the *Catholic Ministry Appeal*, we served 214,189 meals and sheltered 1,552 clients through Catholic Charities; have six new seminarians studying for the priesthood; ordained eight men as permanent deacons; and held three visioning and implementation events. Together we are:

#### ENCOUNTERING GOD, AND NURTURING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE



- Faith Formation & Evangelization
- Ministry to Multicultural Communities
- Ministry to Youth & Young Adults
- and many more

#### **EMBRACING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE**



- Diaconate Program & Formation
- Seminarian Education & Support,
   & Promotion of Vocations
- Vicar for Religious
- and many more

#### ACCOMPANYING OUR MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

includes...



- Clergy Care, Ministry to Priests & Continuing Education for Priests
- Saint John XXIII Residence
- Safe Environment Program
- and many more

Visit www.dosp.org/catholicministryappeal to see the full list of ministries supported.

Diocese of St. Petersburg
Office of Stewardship & Development
6363 9th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
appealgift@dosp.org



#### **WAYS TO GIVE**

Mail your gift to P.O. Box 458 Kensington, CT 06037-0458 Online at SupportMinistry.dosp.org or scan the QR Code



# ENCOUNTERING GOD & NURTURING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

#### **WORLD YOUTH DAY**

The Ministry to Youth and Young Adults pilgrimage to World Youth Day began on July 28, 2023. After three years of planning and financial support from generous sponsors and donors, college students, seminarians, youth ministers, diocesan staff, priests, parents, and adults from various parishes joined over one-million pilgrims as they encountered God, and like Mary, "arose and went with haste." (Lk 1:39).



"In the art of climbing the mountain, what matters isn't not to fall, but not to remain fallen."

- Pope Francis, World Youth Day Vigil, Aug. 4, 2023

### EMBRACING GOD'S CALL TO SERVE

#### **DIACONATE ORDINATION**

The Office of the Diaconate supports individuals in their discernment process as they embark on a five-year journey of formation, marked by rigorous study and discernment, which actively engages their entire families. In 2023, this transformative experience has led to the heartfelt commitment of eight men who have answered God's call to serve and dedicate themselves to ministering to His people.



"Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach."

- Bishop Parkes, Diaconate Ordination, Oct. 14, 2023

## ACCOMPANYING OUR MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

#### **EUCHARISTIC ENCOUNTER**

Our *Missionary Discipleship Ministry* and other diocesan and parish ministry leaders supported more than **700** people on their spiritual journey to further deepen their love of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist. Being missionary disciples means being active witnesses that Christ is alive and at work with us today and everyday thereafter.



"Jesus allowed himself to be broken on the cross, to be broken in the Holy Eucharist...He's one with us, even in the midst of our brokenness."

- Mother Olga, Eucharistic Encounter, Sept. 16, 2023