



Bishop's Annual Appeal

FOR CATHOLIC MINISTRIES



2025
ANNUAL REPORT

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS *in Christ,*

As I reflect on the wonderful works in the Diocese of Dallas and the blessings of our many missions, I call to mind the commitment, dedication, and generosity of the people in the Diocese and how humbled I am to be your Shepherd. It is with deep gratitude and heartfelt joy that I share the 2025 Annual Report with you, highlighting the tremendous impact made possible through your generous support of our Bishop's Annual Appeal for Catholic Ministries. Your faithful giving is a powerful witness to your love for Christ, His Church, and our Diocese.

Because of your sacrifices, ministries across our Diocese have flourished from the formation of future priests and deacons, to serving those who are homebound or in the hospitals, reaching our brothers and sisters in Christ looking for redemption in the prison system, and beyond. Every gift has contributed to building up the Body of Christ in our parishes, schools, and outreach programs. I am truly grateful for all you do.





Thank you for placing your confidence in our Diocese as we fulfill our apostolic mission. Your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal ensures that we can continue proclaiming the Gospel with hope and compassion, reaching those in need and strengthening the life of faith in every corner of our Catholic community in North Texas. May God bless you and your loved ones.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Edward J. Burns
Bishop of Dallas

*“The movement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts will continue to animate our communities, our parishes, and our Diocese to be leaven to the world and bring others to Christ. **Renewal must begin from within.**”*

*Bishop Burns, Post-Synodal Letter,
Easter Sunday*



COMMITMENT TO *Jesus Christ*



DIACONATE FORMATION

“ It is also such a blessing to be in formation for the Permanent Diaconate in our Diocese. We can boast that we have one of the largest formation classes in the United States, and it has been a joy for Megan, my wife, and me to spend so much time with the other deacon candidates and their wives. Each of us has felt God's call to pursue our vocation as a Permanent Deacon in our Diocese. Our Diocese ensures that we are taught and properly formed by some of the best educators, most of whom are from the faculty at the University of Dallas, as well as other formators during our time at the St. Raphael Retreat Center. Our formation focuses on the human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral aspects of ministry that we may encounter.

My brother deacon candidates currently participate in practicum assignments, where we journey out and experience ministry first-hand. Some are affiliated with The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, others serve in hospital ministry, and some even participate in jail ministry. We have the opportunity to be Christ to those whom we are ministering to, but also, we can see Christ in those who are seeking help.

Diaconate formation has allowed Megan and me to become closer in our marriage and ensure it is Christ-centered. We have also provided better witnesses and instructions for our children.

We are all thankful for those who contribute to the Bishop's Annual Appeal financially and through their prayers. Our class is being prepared to be laborers, bringing Christ's harvest to fruition.”

— James Bailey

Candidate for Ordination to the Permanente Diaconate, Class of 2027

SEMINARIAN FORMATION

“My senior year, I attended St. Ann's Coppell youth group on occasion and would visit their Perpetual Adoration chapel at the invitation of a friend. I went up to Minnesota for college. It was at the University of St. Thomas where I gave my life to Jesus Christ while on a retreat. As I turned from sin, grew in prayer, and was strengthened by the life of grace in the Sacraments, I began thinking God was calling me to the priesthood. Kurt Klement, a minister at St. Ann, invited me to the St. Andrew Dinner one Christmas break, which I went to reluctantly, hoping God's plan for me was different.

I left school after my sophomore year to serve as a NET (*National Evangelization Team*) missionary, which opened my heart to God in a more radical way. Being college-aged, I wrestled with the question about what I would do with my future. The thought came to me that "there's nothing I'd rather do than be a priest" – especially thinking about the way that a priest sacramentally brings Jesus to people. It took many years to discern where God was calling me to be a priest, but with the help of Fr. Edwin Leonard, Vocation Director at the time, I entered the seminary at Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving for the Diocese of Dallas in 2018.

Now that I am a priest, I am very excited to serve the people of this Diocese and be an instrument of God's grace and mercy. From the depths of my heart, thank you for your financial support, friendship, and prayers that have made my vocation and formation possible.”

— Father Allen-Michael Muench
Ordained to the Priesthood, May 2025
First Assignment: Parochial Vicar,
St. Ann Catholic Parish, Coppell



COMMITMENT TO *Family*



EVANGELIZATION, CATECHESIS AND FAMILY LIFE

The Office of Evangelization, Catechesis, and Family Life calls forth the gifts of the laity, empowering women and men, married and with family, in their universal call to holiness, Christian maturity, missionary discipleship, and service. One of the ways that this mission was carried out last year was through catechist formation at the Parish Leadership Conference. In August 2024, over **300** people in diverse parish ministries gathered for a day of formation, prayer, and fellowship at St. Cecilia Catholic Church. Presentations covered formation in family life, sacramental preparation, evangelization, and catechesis.

In the area of marriage and family life, **126** couples received formation to strengthen their ministry of accompaniment for those preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Additionally, the office directly supported parishes in preparing **133** couples for marriage. In other areas of sacramental formation, **163** catechists received formation for Baptism, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation in both English and Spanish.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- Bishop Edward J. Burns appointed Jeannette C. Lambert as the new Superintendent of Catholic Schools, noting, she is a proven leader with a profound commitment to Catholic identity, academic excellence, and operational stewardship. Her vision and dedication will help us build on the strong tradition of Catholic education in the Diocese of Dallas and meet the challenges and opportunities ahead.
- Students across our schools engaged in impactful service projects, from tutoring younger children to environmental stewardship through beekeeping and community gardening, demonstrating their desire to **positively influence the world** around them.
- More than **5,100** student-athletes participated in the Dallas Parochial League, fostering discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Additionally, **49** diocesan high school graduates are competing in collegiate athletics, reflecting their hard work and the strong foundation laid by our athletic programs.
- St. Mark Catholic School was awarded its third National Blue Ribbon Award, an honor that recognizes excellence in academics and school culture.
- Our **480** graduating diocesan high school seniors earned **\$69.4 million** in college scholarships.



Holy Trinity Catholic School Teacher Marta Muñoz Awarded 2024 Educator of the Year

“Mrs. Muñoz is one of the kindest, most respectful, and most faithful teachers at Holy Trinity. She doesn’t just teach Spanish; she teaches us how to be better people and to live faithfully. We pray in her class before every activity, and she always leads by example in serving the Church.”

—Holy Trinity Catholic School student



COMMITMENT TO

Community Life



SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Bishop Burns witnessed the growing need for ministering to those who are homebound with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, the Diocese of Dallas developed training and support for Homebound Ministry. The Homebound Ministry has active leadership in 75 parishes, including network gatherings and dementia-care training. All parishes in the Diocese continue conducting weekly visitations with over **6,600** homebound visits per week. The Televised Mass continues to broadcast weekly in English and Spanish with **52,000** weekly virtual attendance. Another initiative is Dialogues of Faith, which aims to provide continuous religious education with a reach of over **50,000** weekly. The goal is to strengthen the connection between families practicing faith at home and the wider parish community.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

In January 2025, the Bishop's Annual Appeal sponsored the Mass for Life at the National Shrine Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, with approximately **1,000** in attendance.

HOSPITALS

The Diocese of Dallas is blessed to have hospital chaplains trained as spiritual caregivers to serve patients, families, and staff in a healthcare setting according to Catholic teachings and sacramental life, while also providing support to people of all faiths or none. During 2024 - 2025, the ministry brought support to **31,230** individuals through Holy Masses and Communion Services, Sacrament of Reconciliation, pastoral care visits, sacramental care, Baptisms, and Anointing of the Sick in over six major hospitals throughout North Texas.

PRISON MINISTRY

The Prison and Jail Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas has served the incarcerated for over 30 years. The ministry provides a Catholic presence that serves correctional facilities throughout our 9 counties. These correctional facilities include jails, prisons, and juvenile detention centers. This ministry has over 100 priests, deacons, and volunteers who bring messages of hope to those affected by incarceration within the Diocese of Dallas. During 2024-2025, the ministry brought a message of hope to about **6,500** incarcerated individuals through Holy Masses and Communion Services, 322 received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, prayer, Bible study, and the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA).





YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

The Office of Youth, Young Adult, & Campus Ministry has had an eventful year energizing and activating the Catholic youth of North Texas. Each of these initiatives reflects our mission to build a culture of missionary discipleship and to accompany leaders and communities in transformative ministry.

In November 2024, **860 participants** from 20 parishes attended the second annual Holy Fire Dallas, a one-day conference for middle school youth designed to help the young Church engage with its faith.

DALLAS CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

The *Dallas Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)* has continued to grow since the initiative began in 2012. In February 2025, **1,600 teens** from 53 parishes attended this year's conference, which was themed "Viva Cristo Rey!" (Long Live Christ the King!). Teens were able to attend large group sessions followed by small group discussions, ensuring that every teen had a chance to reflect and process what they had experienced. The conference ended with a Mass where parents are invited to join their children; this year, over **3,700 people** attended the Sunday Mass to close *DCYC*.

THE 635

The mission of *The 635* provides young adults in the Dallas area, regardless of their faith backgrounds, with an undeniable sense of belonging, a safe space to encounter God, and access to a supportive Christian community. It is a place for those who are searching, seeking, questioning, and longing for more. Over the past year, *The 635* hosted four young adult gatherings, each drawing an average of **400 participants**, offering dynamic worship and formation.



“DCYC is one of the most rewarding and impactful conferences anyone can attend. From attending as a high schooler to now having the privilege to mentor, the Dallas Catholic Youth Conference is something I look forward to year after year. The countless hours of dedication, love, and prayers can be felt throughout the whole weekend as thousands of kids from our Diocese (and even outside of our state!) meet as one Church, eager to deepen their personal relationship with God. From the teens attending to the adult volunteers, we’ve always agreed our favorite part is seeing the young Church, vibrant and unashamed of their faith, leaving everyone inspired to invite their friends next year and share their faith to them.”

- Juan Marques
DCYC Participant



OFFICE OF WORSHIP

The Office of Worship serves the faithful, parish staff persons, and clergy of our parishes in support of the Bishop in his role as “the chief steward of the mysteries of God and the overseer, promoter, and guardian of all liturgical life” in the Diocese of Dallas. The Office of Worship collaborates with the Office of the Bishop, the National Shrine Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe staff, and other diocesan offices to prepare prayerful and faithful liturgical celebrations for the Diocese and for parishes, managing over **180** liturgies over the calendar year and coordinating over **1,500** liturgical ministers.

An example of diocesan celebrations includes the Aviation Mass, launched in 2024, to recognize and bless the contributions of all those who work within the aviation community: pilots, air traffic controllers, maintenance personnel, flight attendants, ground crew, and all other professionals involved in aviation operations. Other celebrations include the Golden 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass, the Red Mass honoring lawyers and judges, and Blue Mass honoring first responders, the Multicultural Mass which gathers those from a variety of ethnic traditions to celebrate our Catholic diversity, and the Chrism Mass at which the Bishop blesses and consecrates the holy oils used throughout the Diocese in sacramental celebrations.

There is an average of over **1,000** persons attending each major diocesan liturgy. The Office of Worship also encourages and provides for formation and catechesis on the Church's liturgy and the formation of liturgical ministers, furthering a vibrant and healthy understanding of foundational theological and liturgical principles. Over the calendar year, the Office of Worship engaged with over **680** persons in liturgical formation.



7,523 Square Miles of the Diocese of Dallas



9
Counties within
the Diocese



Founded in
1890



Number of Registered Households
1.4M CATHOLICS



OVER
20K

Number of Households Giving
Towards the Annual Appeal



11,448

Infant, Child, and
Adult Baptisms



11,118

First
Communions



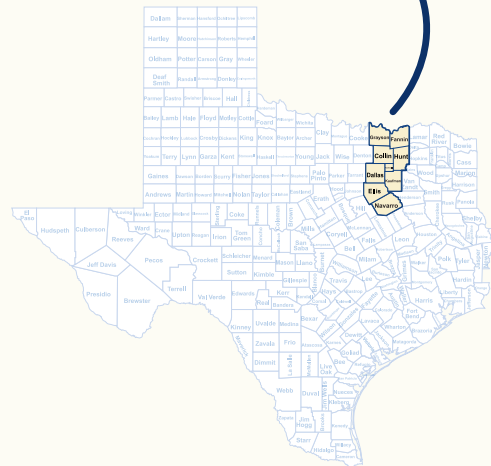
9,887

Confirmations



1,704

Marriages



SAINT RAPHAEL RETREAT CENTER

Established by the Diocese of Dallas in 1994 as the Catholic Conference and Formation Center, Saint Raphael Retreat Center in 2024 celebrated 30 years of serving as a cornerstone for spiritual and mission retreats, diaconate formation, ACTS Retreats, and more.

Since its inception, the center has welcomed thousands of retreatants, fostering spiritual growth and community through a variety of programs. The retreat center, a multi-function meeting and events facility that serves as a hospitality ministry of the Diocese of Dallas, initially opened three decades ago, hosting diaconate formation and Marriage Encounter weekends.



“In 30 years of ministry, we have expanded and welcomed thousands of retreatants who experience spiritual transformation, peace, renewal, and joy. We celebrate this milestone with gratitude and continued stewardship.”

- Bertha deBastiani
Director of Saint Raphael Retreat Center

Saint Raphael Retreat Center is located on a 13-acre complex in Oak Cliff, offering space for retreats, and can accommodate several hundred guests for daytime events or 135 guests overnight. The center was dedicated as the Catholic Conference and Formation Center on March 1, 1994, after functioning for 20 years as the St. Joseph Youth Center and prior to that for 32 years as the St. Joseph Home for Girls. In November 2022, it was renamed the Saint Raphael Retreat Center.

St. Raphael is the patron of healing, happy meetings, travelers, the blind, medical workers, and Christian marriage. Of Hebrew origin, Raphael's name means “God Has Healed” or “Medicine of God.” Those ideals of healing and connecting people to God remain core elements of the center's mission.



COMMITMENT TO *Parish Life*



PARISH NAME	GOAL (\$)	COMMITTED (\$)
All Saints	294,000	257,547
Blessed Sacrament	46,000	41,556
Christ the King*	560,000	574,013
Church of the Incarnation	52,000	32,660
Corpus Christi, Ferris	22,000	13,085
Divine Mercy of Our Lord*	22,000	30,280
Epiphany, Italy	9,000	7,035
Good Shepherd, Garland	81,000	65,166
Holy Cross	57,000	53,022
Holy Family of Nazareth, Irving	121,000	103,218
Holy Family, Van Alstyne	58,000	49,690
Holy Spirit, Duncanville	141,000	96,589
Holy Trinity*	182,000	191,854
Immaculate Conception, Corsicana	54,000	45,258
Immaculate Conception, Grand Prairie	41,000	35,003
Mary Immaculate	183,000	137,570
Mater Dei Personal Parish*	15,000	20,030
Mother of Perpetual Help*	146,000	180,202
National Shrine Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe	84,000	69,892
Nuestra Senora del Pilar	54,000	36,843
Our Lady of Angels*	177,000	181,674
Our Lady of Fatima, Quinlan	5,000	2,905
Our Lady of Lourdes	27,000	23,010
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	21,000	15,765
Our Lady of San Juan*	10,000	12,441
Our Lady of the Lake	201,000	165,574
Prince of Peace	270,000	229,043
Sacred Heart of Jesus Chinese, Plano*	15,000	18,610
Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Carrollton*	46,000	47,054
Sacred Heart, Rowlett	64,000	49,287
San Juan Diego	34,000	11,231
Santa Clara	28,000	22,293
SMU Campus Ministry	35,000	26,245
St. Andrew Kim	27,000	24,585
St. Ann, Coppell	462,000	437,844
St. Ann, Kaufman*	22,000	33,610
St. Anthony, Dallas	10,000	17,034
St. Anthony, Wylie	120,000	119,449
St. Augustine	26,000	21,529
St. Bernard of Clairvaux	61,000	48,028
St. Cecilia	52,000	46,914

PARISH NAME	GOAL (\$)	COMMITTED (\$)
St. Edward	34,000	36,307
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Plano	361,000	358,246
St. Elizabeth of Hungary	66,000	63,181
St. Elizabeth, Bonham*	9,000	10,456
St. Francis of Assisi, Frisco	442,000	407,564
St. Francis of Assisi, Whitesboro	15,000	11,285
St. Francis, Lancaster	30,000	25,363
St. Gabriel the Archangel, McKinney	250,000	229,144
St. James*	31,000	38,445
St. John, Ennis	72,000	56,235
St. John, Terrell	24,000	22,101
St. Joseph Vietnamese, Grand Prairie	51,000	47,540
St. Joseph, Commerce*	15,000	17,845
St. Joseph, Richardson	220,000	194,403
St. Joseph, Waxahachie	92,000	78,866
St. Jude Chapel	46,000	34,605
St. Jude, Allen*	449,000	484,698
St. Luke, Irving	104,000	86,045
St. Mark the Evangelist, Plano	350,000	338,608
St. Martin, Forney*	38,000	48,744
St. Mary of Carmel	20,000	15,141
St. Mary, Sherman	92,000	74,981
St. Michael the Archangel, Grand Prairie	81,000	70,363
St. Michael the Archangel, Garland	94,000	87,333
St. Michael, McKinney	129,000	98,412
St. Monica*	285,000	293,042
St. Patrick, Dallas	249,000	187,588
St. Patrick, Denison	47,000	43,103
St. Paul the Apostle, Richardson	199,000	186,932
St. Peter the Apostle*	12,000	17,695
St. Peter Vietnamese	28,000	28,300
St. Philip the Apostle	41,000	38,331
St. Pius X*	114,000	124,176
St. Rita	638,000	567,334
St. Thomas Aquinas*	338,000	370,078
St. William, Greenville*	37,000	38,959
No Parish Designated	0	108,927
Totals	\$ 9,000,000	\$ 8,535,015

These numbers reflect gifts committed through June 30, 2025. Parishes in **bold** and asterisk (*) have exceeded goal in committed & received YTD dollars. Parishes in **bold** have exceeded goal in committed dollars.

2,832
FIRST-TIME
DONORS for 2024

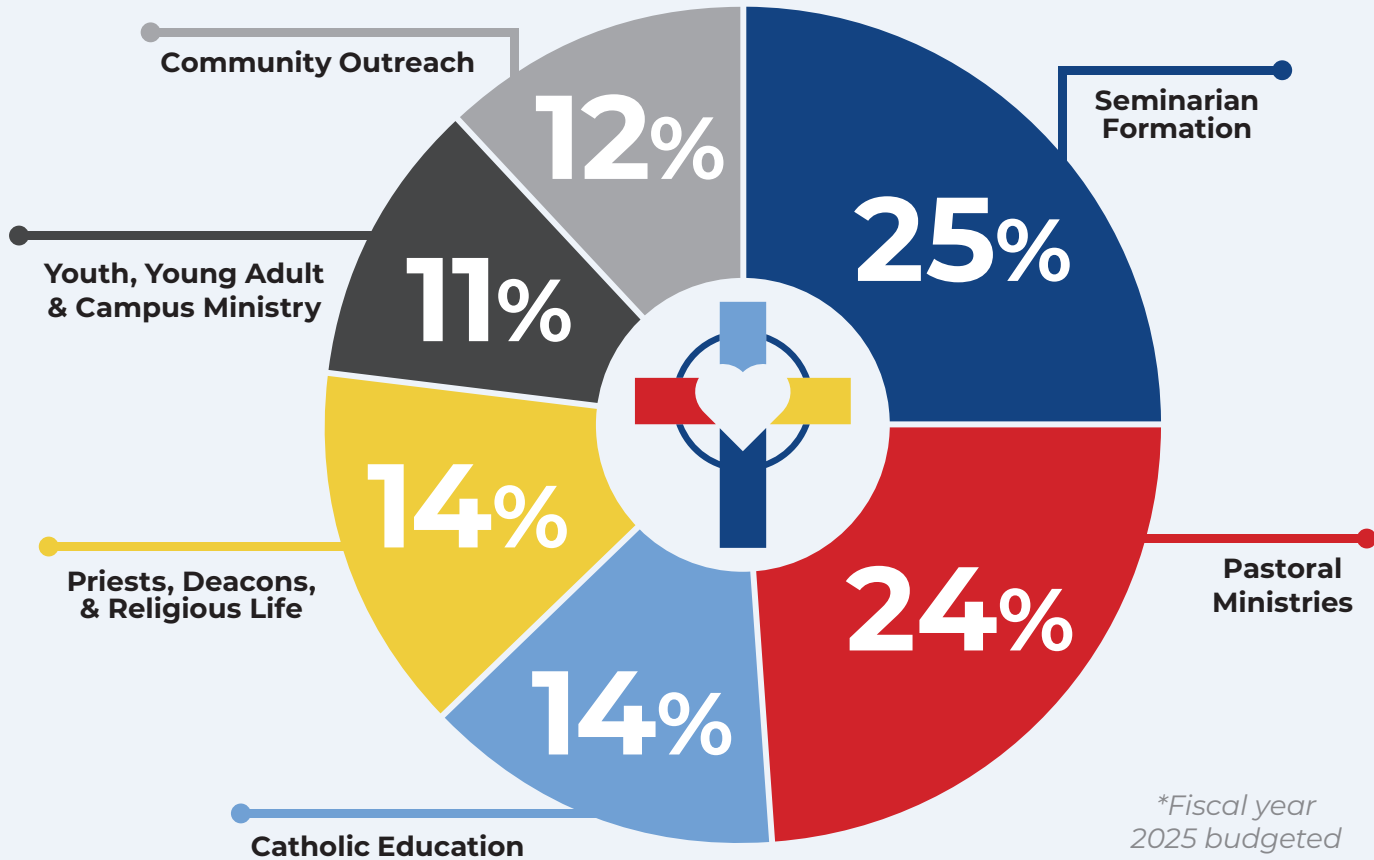
\$1,003,533
from 445 **DONOR**
ADVISED FUND/
FOUNDATION
DONATIONS

MISSION OF THE *Appeal*

The mission of the Bishop's Annual Appeal for Catholic Ministries is to support the spiritual and material needs of our Catholic community in North Texas, promote the teaching of Jesus Christ, and fulfill the Apostolic mission to serve those in need. Through the generosity of our donors, we aim to provide critical resources for programs and ministries that foster faith formation, evangelization, social justice, and charitable outreach. We strive to cultivate a culture of stewardship, encouraging all members of our Catholic community to share their time, talent, and treasure for the greater glory of God and the flourishing of His people.



Areas of Support



**Fiscal year
2025 budgeted
distributions*



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**Visit dallasbishopsappeal.com
to learn more.**



**Diocese of Dallas
SYNOD**

The Diocese of Dallas Synod, shaped by years of prayer and consultation, brought forth the historic Synod Assembly in December 2024, where nearly 300 delegates considered almost 400 resolutions to shape a strong, unified path forward for the local Church. The Synod demonstrated the power of collaboration and drew upon the gifts of clergy, laity, and leaders across the Diocese. As a result, the Synod has led the Diocese to not only discern priorities but to build capacity for clear and hopeful action in the years ahead.

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Appeal, the Synod established a clear strategic direction that is both visionary and sustainable. These resources have supported pastoral structures, frameworks, and evaluation tools that ensure a shared mission across the Diocese of Dallas.

At its heart, the Synod has been a movement of renewal; a call to inspire the faithful and rekindle our missionary identity. As we look ahead to the release of our Post-Synodal Pastoral Letter & Plan in December 2025, let us prepare ourselves spiritually to receive it with apostolic zeal.