

REPORT ON THE  
GIFTS TO THE  
2024 ANNUAL  
DIOCESAN APPEAL

# Honoring Christ's Commandment

**IN THIS REPORT:**

Which ministries were funded?

Did your parish reach goal?

Will the goal be higher in 2025?

Thank you for putting **Catholic Stewardship in Action** through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. You helped support parishes, outreach ministries and the vital programs of the Diocese of Fort Worth by honoring Christ's commandment to "Love one another as I have loved you." This report offers a comprehensive account of how gifts to the Annual Diocesan Appeal were used throughout the year, ended June 30, 2024.

**Renée Underwood**, CFRE  
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



Christ's commandment to "Love one another as I have loved you" was honored this year by thousands of Catholics through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Christ's love is a sacrificial love, a gift of charity that cannot be repaid. "Even with the price of goods increasing, North Texas Catholics were generous towards one another through the appeal," says Rachel Martinez, CFRE, director of annual giving and grants. "Many parishes were already struggling before inflation increased the price of almost everything. For those who could not pay a \$100 electric bill, the thought of a \$150 bill was daunting. Parishes in the most need, whether rural or inner-city, will receive operating grants to help ends meet," says Mrs. Martinez.

## **YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK**

For the second year in a row, one of the parishes receiving operational support is All Saints Catholic Church in Fort Worth. All Saints meets the needs of the food insecure population. When the food distribution is open each month, the car line forms for blocks down 21st Street. Following COVID, the parish



lost community funding for this service and turned to the diocese for help. Deacon Ricardo De Leon says, "This is our form of Catholic social justice. It is not just that people struggle to feed themselves in our area. To love one another as

## ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

CATHOLIC  
*stewardship*  
IN ACTION

Christ loves, we are called to provide basic needs to those in need. Thanks to the Annual Diocesan Appeal we can continue to provide food to the community we see every day on our parish's doorstep."

## HOW EVERY PARISH IS IMPACTED

The Diocese of Fort Worth provides services and ministries for all 92 parishes and thousands of parishioners through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. The spiritual journey of parishioners is impacted when the diocese can support the ministries in need of the most financial support, such as clergy formation and poverty intervention. "The Annual Diocesan Appeal provides parishes, schools, Catholic Charities and ministries of the Diocese of Fort Worth with the necessary funding to reach the least and lowly," says Bishop Michael F. Olson.

Participating generously in the Annual Diocesan Appeal empowers the disciples serving the needs of the vulnerable. Serving others is the key to authentic greatness for our status in the Kingdom of Jesus.

**DID YOU KNOW**, the deacon formation process is approximately five years long? If your parish has a deacon, the appeal helped fund his education for his entire formation period. If your parish now has a recently ordained priest, it was the appeal that funded part of his formation in seminary.

"It is providential that the same diocese that supported my educational time in seminary, upwards of \$50,000 each year, is now asking me to donate and invite my beloved parishioners to do the same," says Father Joseph Moreno. "Yes, God provides, and when God asks, we too must provide our part. Remember, He will never be outdone in generosity. My small rural parishes could never raise \$50,000 towards the annual appeal, but they have benefited greatly from having a priest of their own, a 'homegrown' product of diocesan fundraising. Because of their faithfulness in giving, my parishioners trust that God, through the diocese, will always provide a priest to minister to them and lead them home to Jesus Christ."



Nathan Mena, campus minister at Tarleton State University, accepts a grant award from Fr. Jonathan Wallis and Foundation President and CEO Clint Weber.

## MAKING AN IMPACT WITH LARGER PARISH GRANTS

This year, 22 of the most financially struggling parishes are receiving operating grants from the Annual Diocesan Appeal. The grant review committee carefully considered the savings, offertory trends, and other financial resources of each parish that applied for grants. In the end, they chose to award larger grants to the parishes with the most significant needs. Many of these grant awards help parishes pay for staff, utilities, and other expenses not covered through offertory. In other cases, the recipients are addressing diocesan priorities such as outreach to those in prison, college students, or the poor.

### TRUST THAT THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL IS ADDRESSING THE MOST VULNERABLE AREAS IN THE DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH.

As the Diocese of Fort Worth grows, so do the pressures on its budget. To support 92 parishes, 17 Catholic schools and many vital programs and ministries, as well as serving the poor and vulnerable, requires almost \$10 million annually. In 2024-25 the Annual Diocesan Appeal is counted on to raise half of that amount.

# Thank You!

ANNUAL  
DIOCESAN APPEAL  
CATHOLIC *stewardship* IN ACTION

2024 GOAL: \$3,700,000

TOTAL COLLECTED: \$3,792,381

**Gratitude and Support for the Clergy**  
13%

Diaconate Formation  
Seminar Education  
Retired Priest Care

**Service to those in need**  
44%

Parish Support • Parish Grants  
Respect Life • Poverty Intervention

**Faith-based Education**  
26%

Catholic Schools Security  
Teacher Salaries • General Operating  
Learning Specialists

**Evangelization and Faith Formation**  
12%

Youth Ministry • Campus Ministry  
Family Life • Prison Ministry

Generous Catholics from throughout the diocese contributed \$3,792,380.97 to parishes, schools and ministries within the Diocese of Fort Worth during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 through the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

Parishes are listed in order of the percentage of actual donations compared to goal. The bolded names indicate those parishes with more than 30 percent of families supporting the appeal.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please reach out to the Advancement Foundation at 817-382-4939.

Parish	2024 Parish Goal	2024 Total Paid	% Goal Paid	% Part.	Avg. Gift	Parish	2024 Parish Goal	2024 Total Paid	% Goal Paid	% Part.	Avg. Gift
<b>St. Teresa of Calcutta - Roanoke</b>	\$1,325	\$2,632	199%	<b>217%</b>	\$202	St. Mary - Dublin	\$24,000	\$19,826	83%	15%	\$342
St. Mary - Jacksboro	\$1,450	\$2,603	180%	26%	\$145	St. Martin de Porres - Prosper	\$78,900	\$63,818	81%	18%	\$862
St. Mark - Denton	\$158,200	\$265,621	168%	13%	\$788	St. Bartholomew - Ft. Worth	\$71,600	\$57,632	80%	6%	\$490
Holy Rosary - Cisco	\$3,500	\$4,852	139%	24%	\$285	St. Catherine of Siena - Carrollton	\$73,000	\$58,524	80%	11%	\$396
<b>St. Francis of Assisi - Graford</b>	\$8,200	\$11,354	138%	<b>49%</b>	\$668	St. Peter - Lindsay	\$44,250	\$34,865	79%	28%	\$286
Our Lady of Mercy - Hillsboro	\$12,100	\$16,631	137%	24%	\$223	St. Ann - Burleson	\$94,300	\$72,541	77%	16%	\$296
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Breckenridge	\$8,500	\$11,518	136%	8%	\$576	St. Frances Cabrini - Granbury	\$53,600	\$40,361	75%	11%	\$260
St. Joseph - Crowell	\$1,200	\$1,568	131%	10%	\$784	St. Matthew - Arlington	\$70,900	\$53,362	75%	17%	\$214
Holy Trinity - Azle	\$23,200	\$28,266	122%	13%	\$463	<b>St. Mary - Windthorst</b>	\$23,000	\$17,148	75%	<b>36%</b>	\$202
<b>St. Paul - Electra</b>	\$2,500	\$3,027	121%	<b>58%</b>	\$275	Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary - Penelope	\$3,300	\$2,455	74%	15%	\$223
<b>Immaculate Conception of Mary - Wichita Falls</b>	\$4,300	\$5,115	119%	<b>42%</b>	\$138	Assumption BVM - Decatur	\$21,800	\$16,072	74%	8%	\$324
<b>St. Theresa - Olney</b>	\$4,900	\$5,762	118%	<b>32%</b>	\$363	<b>St. Joseph - Nocona</b>	\$6,500	\$4,753	73%	<b>30%</b>	\$264
St. John - Strawn	\$2,675	\$3,103	116%	13%	\$388	Holy Redeemer - Aledo	\$58,000	\$42,308	73%	16%	\$580
St. Mary - Graham	\$17,700	\$20,227	114%	28%	\$302	Good Shepherd - Colleyville	\$299,500	\$217,848	73%	9%	\$737
St. Rose of Lima - Glen Rose	\$7,250	\$8,157	113%	21%	\$291	St. William - Montague	\$8,300	\$5,872	71%	17%	\$489
St. Joseph - Rhineland	\$14,700	\$16,509	112%	25%	\$472	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Keller	\$286,000	\$194,589	68%	9%	\$552
Holy Cross - The Colony	\$47,700	\$53,418	112%	7%	\$387	Vietnamese Martyrs - Arlington	\$59,250	\$40,307	68%	6%	\$221
Immaculate Heart of Mary - Abbott	\$13,750	\$15,327	111%	28%	\$291	St. Joseph - Arlington	\$90,800	\$61,690	68%	8%	\$432
Christ The King - Ft. Worth	\$36,000	\$39,507	110%	18%	\$293	St. Mary - Gainesville	\$33,600	\$22,220	66%	6%	\$377
St. Jerome - Bowie	\$4,500	\$4,900	109%	27%	\$449	Jesus of Nazareth - Albany	\$3,600	\$2,350	65%	17%	\$588
<b>Christ the King - Iowa Park</b>	\$3,500	\$3,804	109%	<b>65%</b>	\$173	All Saints - Ft. Worth	\$35,100	\$21,655	62%	15%	\$259
<b>St. Boniface - Scotland</b>	\$5,200	\$5,521	106%	<b>41%</b>	\$204	St. Francis Xavier - Eastland	\$3,600	\$2,215	62%	8%	\$338
Our Lady of Lourdes - Mineral Wells	\$17,600	\$18,610	106%	9%	\$532	Sacred Heart - Muenster	\$85,100	\$51,309	60%	22%	\$310
<b>Our Lady of Fatima - Ft. Worth</b>	\$52,400	\$54,757	105%	<b>32%</b>	\$330	Sacred Heart - Comanche	\$12,750	\$7,593	60%	7%	\$400
<b>Santa Rosa - Knox City</b>	\$4,000	\$4,110	103%	<b>38%</b>	\$316	St. Rita - Ft. Worth	\$22,400	\$13,150	59%	2%	\$398
<b>Sacred Heart - Seymour</b>	\$18,900	\$19,409	103%	<b>36%</b>	\$349	St. Vincent de Paul - Arlington	\$130,700	\$76,205	58%	7%	\$358
<b>St. Jude Thaddeus - Burkburnett</b>	\$15,300	\$15,617	102%	<b>38%</b>	\$294	St. Joseph - Cleburne	\$20,300	\$11,274	56%	13%	\$155
Most Blessed Sacrament - Arlington	\$214,000	\$215,483	101%	15%	\$1,077	St. Thomas the Apostle - Ft. Worth	\$63,250	\$35,015	55%	8%	\$391
Immaculate Heart of Mary - Ft. Worth	\$67,750	\$68,025	100%	14%	\$171	St. Peter the Apostle - Ft. Worth	\$45,000	\$23,867	53%	5%	\$314
Sacred Heart - Wichita Falls	\$96,000	\$95,262	99%	14%	\$469	St. Paul the Apostle - Ft. Worth	\$18,900	\$8,116	43%	6%	\$204
St. Philip the Apostle - Flower Mound	\$180,000	\$178,157	99%	8%	\$497	Our Mother of Mercy - Ft. Worth	\$9,500	\$4,043	43%	16%	\$126
St. John the Baptizer - Bridgeport	\$15,200	\$14,759	97%	13%	\$360	<b>St. Benedict - Ft. Worth</b>	\$39,600	\$16,092	41%	<b>42%</b>	\$847
Holy Family of Nazareth - Vernon	\$12,500	\$11,967	96%	15%	\$299	St. Stephen - Weatherford	\$88,800	\$34,033	38%	5%	\$425
Our Lady of Guadalupe - De Leon	\$7,400	\$7,036	95%	18%	\$335	Immaculate Conception - Denton	\$107,600	\$40,859	38%	3%	\$324
Holy Angels - Clifton	\$12,100	\$11,010	91%	16%	\$397	St. Thomas Aquinas - Pilot Point	\$37,750	\$13,893	37%	11%	\$194
Holy Family - Ft. Worth	\$178,000	\$160,653	90%	11%	\$692	St. Mary of the Assumption - Ft. Worth	\$38,100	\$13,543	36%	3%	\$271
St. Francis of Assisi - Grapevine	\$134,500	\$121,330	90%	11%	\$454	St. Jude - Mansfield	\$85,400	\$28,443	33%	3%	\$327
<b>Korean Martyrs - Ft. Worth</b>	\$12,100	\$10,906	90%	<b>32%</b>	\$574	Holy Name of Jesus - Ft. Worth	\$50,650	\$16,198	32%	8%	\$162
St. Brendan - Stephenville	\$19,500	\$17,485	89%	8%	\$448	Our Lady of Guadalupe - Ft. Worth	\$59,900	\$18,874	32%	13%	\$157
St. Michael - Bedford	\$134,000	\$119,080	89%	6%	\$456	Our Lady of Guadalupe - Morgan	\$2,600	\$787	30%	5%	\$197
<b>St. Mary of the Assumption - Megargel</b>	\$4,800	\$4,193	87%	<b>81%</b>	\$326	St. Mary - Henrietta	\$4,500	\$1,350	30%	29%	\$169
St. John Paul II - Denton	\$17,300	\$15,092	87%	28%	\$488	St. George - Ft. Worth	\$17,200	\$5,042	29%	5%	\$168
St. John the Apostle - Ft. Worth	\$101,900	\$87,636	86%	8%	\$379	St. Rita - Ranger	\$2,800	\$760	27%	7%	\$127
St. Patrick Cathedral - Ft. Worth	\$177,900	\$151,252	85%	9%	\$712	Our Lady of Guadalupe - Wichita Falls	\$21,200	\$5,344	25%	2%	\$191
St. Maria Goretti - Arlington	\$137,000	\$114,882	84%	16%	\$429	St. Mary - Quannah	\$1,300	\$282	22%	9%	\$56
Our Lady Queen of Peace - Wichita Falls	\$49,150	\$40,797	83%	21%	\$287	Priests with no parish affiliation		\$3,125			\$1,563
St. Andrew - Ft. Worth	\$221,000	\$182,937	83%	5%	\$953	Direct Gifts		\$40,336			\$251
						TCU Catholic Community		\$570			\$190
						<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,700,000</b>	<b>\$3,792,380</b>	<b>103%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>\$423</b>

| ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL FOR 2025 |

# GROWING DIOCESE, GROWING NEEDS

As the price of everything continues to increase, the diocese is only able to reach the immediate needs of the most vulnerable parishes, schools and ministries of the diocese.

The rapidly growing Diocese of Fort Worth is experiencing an increased need for resources to support our essential ministries in evangelization, education, and vocations. As you know, spreading the Good News of the Gospel, educating our youth, and nurturing vocations to the priesthood and religious life are fundamental to the growth and vitality of the Church in North Texas.

More families are seeking the light of Christ, more students and parents are eager for a faith-filled education, and more young men and women are discerning their call to serve God. To address these opportunities, we are ready to expand our efforts and resources.

Placing trust and hope in the Lord and His Church, the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal goal is \$5 million. With this \$5 million the diocese will be able to provide assistance

outside of the immediate needs in vulnerable parishes.

The 2025 goal aims to increase support toward evangelization and faith formation by providing extra support to youth ministries in parishes such as paid youth ministers, scholarships to retreats, mission trips and conferences. It will also provide more support to campus ministries at eight universities in the diocese, including UNT, TWU, TCU, UTA and others. We hope to increase the support from 12% in 2024 to 20% in 2025.

Clergy support will increase from 13% to 25% in 2025 if the goal is met. This will support more men in seminary as well as the rising cost of retired priest care, such as insurance and medical expenses.

Support for all 17 Catholic schools will increase in order to assist them with the \$100,000 per school expense for security officers. Teacher pay increases will be more attainable with this new goal.

The Gospel reading from St. Mark on September 19 will share, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." You are invited to place yourself last and provide stewardship of service throughout the diocese. Consider a gift of prayer and share your requests. Consider volunteering in your parish with evangelization roles. And **consider a gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, knowing your charity is feeding the hungry, helping children, and providing for those in need, especially the poor in spirit within the 28 counties of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Your additional support will enable us to extend our reach and impact even further, ensuring that we can continue to provide vital services for the financially struggling parishes and schools, as well as opportunities for spiritual growth throughout our diocese.**

## PARTICIPATION IS PARAMOUNT

Parishes with high participation are more likely to reach their Annual Diocesan Appeal goal. This is because participation is fundamental to *Catholic Stewardship in Action*. A rising tide lifts all boats. Working together as the Body of Christ completes the whole picture of generosity.

There are many ways to give to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, such as online, via text, company matching gifts and gifts of stock or asset.

**Every gift, no matter the amount, is essential to this yearly appeal.** Some years are better than others with job changes, inflation, and life changes. The average gift to the Appeal is \$422, or \$35 a month. Some can give more, some can give less.

The St. Francis Circle is a group of donors at all levels who commit to a recurring monthly gift, saving the Foundation nearly \$25,000 in printing, postage and processing expenses. Further details about these option for giving can be found at [www.advancementfoundation.org/annual-diocesan-appeal](http://www.advancementfoundation.org/annual-diocesan-appeal).

THROUGH  
SERVICE  
WE BRING CHRIST  
TO THE POOR IN SPIRIT,  
CHILDREN, AND  
THOSE IN NEED.

*Bishop Michael F. Olson*

