

# ADVANCING THE MISSION

*Advancement Foundation Newsletter + Diocese of Fort Worth*



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An update on the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

## McGread Conference Reunion

Past McGread Stewardship Conference attendees gather for a reunion to continue the conversation about living the Stewardship way of life.

## Donors, Our Number One Priority

Donors to the causes managed by the Advancement Foundation are vitally important to the overall efforts of the Diocese of Fort Worth, its ministries and parishes. The Advancement Foundation is a separate 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission to educate, motivate and invigorate Stewardship, to garner resources in a fiscally transparent and responsible manner and to manage and distribute solicited gifts for the immediate and long-term needs of the faithful of the Diocese of Fort Worth. One of the most important ways the Advancement Foundation lives up to its mission is by making it the highest priority to respect donor intent and express gratitude to donors for their financial support.

When you give to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, become a member of the St. John Paul II Shepherd's Guild, establish an endowment or

make provisions in your estate for the Advancement Foundation you can expect that your donation will be used for the purpose you intend, and that great care will be taken to manage your gift responsibly. The Advancement Foundation adheres to the Donor Bill of Rights and the ethical standards of the Association of Professional Fundraisers which you can view on our website. These guiding principles demonstrate our dedication to our donors and assist us in meeting our mission of donor service.

Just as donors give gifts out of love for others, the Advancement Foundation in turn respects and honors our donors and their donations. The Advancement Foundation staff is here to assist you, our donors, we welcome your phone calls and emails if you have questions or need assistance. Thank you for entrusting the Advancement Foundation with your gifts. Together we are making a difference in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

# The Eucharist Makes Us the Church

Lent, a perfect time to make a donation to the Annual Diocesan Appeal



Prayer, fasting and almsgiving, the pillars of Lent, are the gift the Church gives us as a guide during this season. These pillars are our way to a stronger friendship with Jesus Christ as we pray, practice self-denial and give freely from the gifts we've been given.

During these 40 days, we invite you to make a donation to the Annual Diocesan Appeal as part of your Lenten almsgiving. The Appeal goal is \$4.2 million and provides for vital ministries and services for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Your donation

will make a difference in the lives of men studying for the priesthood and our retired and infirm clergy, aid in the elimination of poverty in our community, strengthen the vocation of marriage by offering education and support to engaged and married couples and participate in the truth, beauty and goodness of our Catholic schools by providing funds for tuition assistance.

All gifts, all alms given for the Annual Diocesan Appeal are important. We need your help to achieve this goal to fund these ministries. Please consider a donation today as part of your Lenten observance. There are several ways to give, we invite you to visit [bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal](http://bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal) to learn more or contact Renée Underwood, CFRE for assistance.

## Congratulations!

These parishes have achieved their Annual Diocesan Appeal goal!

St. Mary, Dublin	143.88%
St. John Paul II, Denton	142.47%
St. Mary, Graham	128.35%
Holy Redeemer, Aledo	123.49%
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary, Penelope	118.78%
St. Peter, Lindsay	117.68%
Sacred Heart, Comanche	116.16%
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fort Worth	113.97%
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Abbott	109.05%
St. William, Montague	107.10%
Sacred Heart, Seymour	106.52%
St. Brendan, Stephenville	105.59%
Korean Martyrs, Fort Worth	104.54%
Jesus of Nazareth, Albany	104.41%
St. Theresa, Olney	100.91%

## Ways to Give



**Year Round Giving:** Set up your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal through monthly bank or credit card draft and continue it from year to year. Enroll in the St. Francis Circle at [bit.ly/StFrancisCircle](http://bit.ly/StFrancisCircle)

**Text to Give:** Text ADA to 91999

**Online:** [bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal](http://bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal)

## Eye on the Goal

Thank you to the 10,675 families across the Diocese who have committed close to \$2.8 million for the 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Through March 8 we have reached 66.22% of our \$4.2 million goal.

There is still time to give and be part of the movement that makes a difference for many in our Diocese. To see the giving options please visit [bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal](http://bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal) or text ADA to 91999 to make a donation now.

When you give you are supporting the needs of others. Thank you!



# Change - The Basic Requirement of Stewardship



*"Stewardship is nothing less than a complete lifestyle, a total accountability and responsibility before God." ~ John Westerhoff III*

The arctic cold of March 4 likely kept many people at home but the fire of Stewardship in the hearts of past McGread Conference attendees couldn't keep them from attending the Advancement Foundation's first McGread Stewardship Conference Reunion at St. Michael Catholic Parish in Bedford. The reunion brought together 24 past conference participants - priests, parish staff and lay - representing seven parishes in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

Our time together was spent reminiscing about our conference experience. We shared how we brought the new knowledge of Stewardship to our parishes and discussed successes and areas for growth. Ultimately, our focus was on the two primary questions relating to Stewardship. What do I own? What owns me? These hallmark questions guide Stewardship efforts as individuals and parishes who seek to live Stewardship as a way of life.



*Diana Liska, Director of Stewardship, welcomes past McGread Stewardship Conference attendees to the reunion.*



Mr. Bob Allen, parishioner of Most Blessed Sacrament and original collaborator, with Archbishop Thomas J. Murphy, on the USCCB Pastoral Letter *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response* provided the opening reflection and guided discussion. Mr. Allen reminded the group that "Stewardship is change," and that we need to ask, communicate, inform, involve and invite others to be a part of this change. As "change" occurs from embracing a life of Stewardship, the answers to the two primary Stewardship questions change. What I own and what owns me becomes I own nothing, everything I have is a gift from God to be returned to Him for the building of His kingdom.

The reunion was a backdrop to inspire and encourage Stewardship efforts in parish life. For more information about Stewardship as a way of life and the Stewardship services of the Advancement Foundation visit [www.advancementfoundation.org/stewardship](http://www.advancementfoundation.org/stewardship).



*St. Michael Catholic Parish in Bedford warmly welcomed the reunion on March 4.*



*Reunion participants shared how their McGread Conference experience has shaped their idea of Stewardship both personally and for their parish.*

## Upcoming Stewardship Event

The 4th Annual Diocesan Day of Renewal:

**Building His Kingdom Together**

Hosted by: The Advancement Foundation

When: Saturday, March 30, 2019

Where: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish, Keller

Time: Mass at 9:00 a.m. Event is 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10, includes breakfast

**Keynote Speaker: Bishop Michael F. Olson**

Register at <https://fwdioc.org/day-of-renewal> or call 817-945-9444

**All are welcome to attend!**

# Support Catholic Relief Services

Please be generous during this special collection - March 30-31, 2019

*"Behold, I stand at the door and knock." ~ Rev. 3:20*



This Lenten season we have an opportunity to help our brothers and sisters in Christ, to serve Jesus in disguise, by supporting The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) provides for families who face the unimaginable struggles of war, natural disasters, political strife, extreme poverty and human trafficking in the United States and around the world.

Contributions to The Catholic Relief Services Collection provide support for six Catholic agencies that offer food for the hungry, legal assistance for the struggling, comfort for the lonely, a voice for the poor and aid for those affected by natural disaster. When you support this collection, you answer the door for and serve Jesus in disguise among us.

Please be generous by giving in your parish during weekend Masses on Mar. 30-31 or text **CRS** to **91999** to make a donation. Thank you for your generosity!



The 50th anniversary of the Diocese of Fort Worth causes us to celebrate with great joy for the mission entrusted to us in North Texas. The theme, *The Eucharist Makes Us the Church*, reminds us that we are in union with Jesus Christ and with each other as faithful Catholics. There are several upcoming events planned to celebrate this special anniversary:

**Sunday, June 23, 2019 - Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**  
5:00 p.m. Mass  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish  
2016 Willis Lane  
Keller, TX 76248

**Sunday, June 23, 2019 - Begin 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration**  
Following Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish  
**Tuesday, June 25, 2019 - Benediction to close Eucharistic Adoration**  
\*Three more similar events planned, details coming soon.

**Wednesday, August 21, 2019 - Mass**  
7:00 p.m.  
Fort Worth Convention Center  
1201 Houston Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
Reception to follow  
Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the U.S. is expected to attend.

**June 2-10, 2020 - 50th Anniversary Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France**  
Join Bishop Michael F. Olson on this nine-day tour of the Marian shrines of France. For more information about this opportunity visit [www.fwdioc.org/young-adult-ministry-pilgrimage](http://www.fwdioc.org/young-adult-ministry-pilgrimage).

Everyone is invited to celebrate by attending any or all of these events. Please watch for more information about additional celebrations of the Diocese of Fort Worth's 50th anniversary.

# Calendar of Events

## Saturday, March 30, 2019 - Leadership Day of Renewal "Building His Kingdom Together"

9:00 a.m. to noon

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish

2016 Willis Lane

Keller, TX 76248

Bishop Michael Olson, Keynote

Contact Diana Liska for information at

817-945-9444 or

dliska@advancementfoundation.org

## Saturday, April 27, 2019 - Bioethics & End of Life Issues Conference

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mass at 4:30 p.m.

St. Bartholomew Catholic Parish

3601 Altamesa Blvd

Fort Worth, TX 76133

## Monday, May 13, 2019 - Shepherd's Guild Holy Hour for Vocations with St. John Paul II

### Monstrance

7:00 p.m. Mass

Holy Hour to follow Mass

St. Matthew Catholic Parish

2021 New York Avenue

Arlington, TX 76010

Contact Elizabeth Becker for information at

817-945-9443 or

ebecker@advancementfoundation.org

## Thursday, May 16, 2019 - Donor Appreciation Luncheon

By Invitation Only

Contact Elizabeth A. Becker for information at

817-945-9443 or

ebecker@advancementfoundation.org

## Sunday, June 23, 2019 - 50th Anniversary Mass & Eucharistic Adoration

5:00 p.m.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish

2016 Willis Lane

Keller, TX 76248

View these events and more on our website

[www.advancementfoundation.org/calendar](http://www.advancementfoundation.org/calendar)

# Holiday Closings

The Pastoral & Administrative offices of the Diocese of Fort Worth (Catholic Center) will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, April 18, 2019 - Holy Thursday

Friday, April 19, 2019 - Good Friday

Monday, April 22, 2019 - Easter Monday

# Advancement Foundation Team

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Parish Campaigns + Diocesan Travel Program

Parish Operating Grants + Endowment Funds

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Donor Information Updates + Parish Roster

Updates

# Keep Up with the Foundation on Facebook

An easy way to keep up with the ministries supported by the Advancement Foundation is to "like" us on Facebook! Here you will find information about giving opportunities, upcoming events and occasionally some words of wisdom and inspiration.



Follow us on Facebook  
[@advancementfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/advancementfoundation)  
[@sjp2shepherdsguild](https://www.facebook.com/sjp2shepherdsguild)