



# Diocesan Annual Appeal



## CASE STATEMENT 2016-2017

	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
Appeal Disbursements .....	\$5,288,000	\$5,192,331	\$95,669
Appeal Expenses .....	<u>275,760</u>	<u>275,760</u>	<u>                  </u>
Total Appeal Goal .....	\$5,563,760	\$5,468,091	\$95,669

### **VOCATIONS, PRIESTS, & DEACONS ..... \$1,155,000**

#### **Seminary Education & Religious Formation: \$700,000**

##### *32 seminarians*

The responsibility, spiritually and financially, of providing sufficient priests for the Diocese of La Crosse belongs to all of us. There will be thirty-two men engaged in seminary studies for our Diocese at college and theological seminaries for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Holy Cross Seminary House of Formation is a program to help young men in the discernment of their vocational call, with an emphasis on the call to priesthood. Throughout the year, there are discernment retreats offered for middle, high school and college-age men. The Director of Vocations, also the Director of the Holy Cross Seminary House of Formation, is available for retreats and other teaching events throughout the Diocese.

#### **Continuing Education of Clergy: \$85,000**

Our priests need ongoing intellectual formation and regular spiritual enrichment. In order to help priests respond more effectively to the needs of their people, educational programs, retreats and sabbaticals are an absolute necessity. Furthermore, there are a number of priests working on advanced degrees so they can assist the Bishop to continue the teaching mission of our Diocese.

#### **Saint Joseph's Priest Fund: \$100,000 grant**

##### *48 senior priests*

Many of our Diocesan priests serve well into their seventies, and some into their eighties. Many priests who receive the status of senior priest continue to help in parishes, hospitals, nursing homes and other community support services. To help our senior priests live in security, free from financial worry, this fund provides them with medical insurance and a monthly benefit for food, housing and essentials.

#### **Diaconate Formation: \$55,000**

##### *23 men in Deacon Formation*

##### *6 Deacons to be ordained in fall of 2016*

##### *62 Deacons ministering in the Diocese*

These funds are used for the education and formation of future deacons for our Diocese. Permanent deacons assist the Bishop and priests by their ministry of charity to those who are suffering or on the margins of society, as well as through teaching, proclaiming the Gospel, assisting at the altar, and carrying out other various apostolic works.

**Vocations Promotion: \$15,000**

These funds are used to fund literature, technology, and materials that primarily promote vocations to the priesthood. They also fund all vocational, discernment and the vocational portion of confirmation retreats and parish programs for middle school to adults.

**International Priests: \$80,000**

***29 international priests serve in Diocesan parishes***

The training and support of our international priests for service in the parishes of the Diocese of La Crosse is not fully funded. With the shortage of Diocesan priests, the international priests serve a vital role in providing our Catholic communities with the celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments in addition to the administration of many parishes.

**Clergy Healthcare: \$80,000**

The Diocese ensures that our priest’s medical needs are fully funded since insurance does not cover all of their medical needs. The Diocese is in need of more financial support due to rising health care costs and unfunded expenses, including some medications and long-term health care.

**Vicar for Clergy: \$40,000**

The Vicar for Clergy oversees the health and well-being of the 97 Diocesan priests, the 29 international priests, the 48 senior priests, and the 50 permanent deacons.

***MINISTRIES, SERVICES & ADMINISTRATION ..... \$1,650,000***

The Offices of the Diocesan Curia assist the Bishop, parishes, schools, and various apostolates in providing for the essential pastoral needs of our people. Gifts to the Diocesan Annual Appeal for the support of these ministries are vital to the wellbeing of the local Church. The Offices of the Diocesan Curia that are supported by the Diocesan Annual Appeal are:

**Office for Temporalities: \$114,000**

The Office for Temporalities is comprised of three departments: Finance, Office for Buildings and Grounds, and Human Resources (coming soon). The Finance Office, comprised of the Finance Officer and Staff Accountant, assists parishes and answers questions on their financial, payroll and accounting needs. The Office for Buildings and Grounds assists the parishes and schools with regard to keeping in compliance with governmental regulations by providing assistance regarding asbestos and other environmental matters. This office is the primary contact for the processing of construction and remodeling contracts. Human Resources will be a new department in the Diocesan Curia. It is meant to assist all parishes and schools with questions and concerns with personnel issues, and to create standard processes for all Human Resource areas.

**Office for Catechesis and Evangelization**

The Office for Catechesis and Evangelization serves the Bishop, clergy, parish and school staff as well as the laity in our life-long formation as true disciples of Jesus Christ. The Office assists parishes and schools with in-services at the diocesan, deanery, and parish level with methods and content in handing on the Catholic Faith, based upon the Diocesan Religion Curriculum and Virtue Program. This office also offers and oversees opportunities for certification for Catholic school teachers and parish

catechetical leaders and catechists in doctrine, Scripture and methods to ensure their proper formation in order to teach the Faith. Adult resources, such as bulletin inserts and materials that correspond with Bible studies and Adult Faith Formation Study Programs, are developed and provided for ongoing faith enrichment. Hmong Ministry is coordinated through this office.

The Office for Catechesis and Evangelization maintains an audiovisual and resource library for use in the parishes and Catholic schools. This office also collaborates with other Diocesan offices on all matters pertaining to religious education, evangelization, the RCIA process and adult faith formation to serve the needs of the parishes and the Diocese as a whole.

### **Office for Catholic Schools**

The Office for Catholic Schools assists the Bishop in planning, implementing, and evaluating the 66 Catholic-education programs in Diocesan Parish Schools and Unified School Systems. It conducts major workshops and in-service training for teachers, administrators, parents and other groups; informs schools of national and state education policies, standards, and issues; administers a standardized testing program; provides curriculum assistance and on-site administrative services upon request; and assists schools by offering guidance on legal issues and other serious matters. Most importantly, the Office for Catholic Schools helps to assure the Catholic identity of schools and the spiritual formation of administrators and teachers.

### **Chancery and Archives**

The Chancery Office provides consultation in areas of Church (canon) law. The Chancellor is the chief notary for the Diocese and is responsible for safeguarding official Curial documents. Prenuptial files for marriage are processed in this office, which includes granting permissions and dispensations and declarations of nullity due to lack of canonical form. The Chancery Office prepares and edits the data for inclusion in the *Wisconsin Pastoral Handbook* and *Official Catholic Directory*.

The Diocesan Archives maintains a history of the parishes and institutions within the diocese. The Archivist provides research for genealogical searches from the sacramental registers and issues sacramental records from the data kept in the Archives.

### **Office for Communications and Public Relations**

The Office for Communications and Public Relations seeks to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ, according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, to God's people of the Diocese of La Crosse. We present the truth and presence of God daily by promoting the efforts of the Diocese through her parishes, clergy, religious and lay faithful using many forms of media and public relations.

The Office for Communications and Public Relations, responsible for communications to the Diocese's external and internal audiences, acts as the communications liaison with all the parishes of the Diocese and maintains a relationship with similar offices of the other Wisconsin (arch) Dioceses. The communications director, serving as the spokesperson and media contact, is also responsible for public relations, promotion, photography, video production and website communication. This individual also oversees the technical and database requirements necessary to maintain an effective electronic communications network.

### **Office for Consecrated Life**

The director of the Office for Consecrated Life serves as a liaison between the Bishop and the men and women in consecrated life in the Diocese of La Crosse. Specific services include visiting with individual

consecrated persons, consulting with persons seeking canonical status, assisting religious seeking ministry in the Diocese, coordinating the Retirement Fund for Religious, and promoting vocations in collaboration with the Diocesan Office for Vocations and Mater Redemptoris House of Formation to promote vocations to consecrated life.

### **Office for Marriage & Family Life**

The Office for Marriage & Family Life assists parishes establish and maintain the service to marriage through, marriage education to youth, marriage preparation for engaged couples, marriage-enrichment opportunities, and resources to those with troubled marriages.

The office also coordinates the “*Teaching the Way of Love Series*” which equips parents with the skills and confidence they need to talk with their children about topics such as human dignity, friendships, sexuality, chastity, dating, and God’s plan for human love.

The Office oversees several programs, including;

- ✧ Baptism preparation, by offering training to parish ministers in collaboration with the Office for Catechesis and Evangelization.
- ✧ Natural Family Planning education, which assists married couples in following the Church’s teachings on love and life.
- ✧ The Ministry of Consolation, which provides trainings to deaneries and parishes for supporting families and individuals during the time of loss.
- ✧ Men’s Ministry, which provides resource materials and listings of regional men’s conferences.
- ✧ Women’s Ministry, which provides resource materials and listings of regional women’s conferences.
- ✧ Separated and Divorced Catholics, which focuses on providing resources to couples who are separated (e.g. Retrouvaille, Catholic Counselors, Marriage Mentors, etc.) and inviting those who are divorced to stay connected with their church and explore a declaration of nullity.

### **Office for Ministries and Social Concerns**

The Office for Ministries and Social Concerns directs formation for the permanent diaconate as well as programs of formation for the laity, including the Lay Formation Institute and the Leader of Prayer Program. It also coordinates pastoral care of the Hispanic community, implements the directives of the Diocesan Bishop consistent with the social teachings of the Church and collaborates with the U.S. Bishops’ programs for national and international relief and development. A half-time assistant in the Office is focused on developing and supporting parish social ministry throughout the Diocese and highlighting and publicizing the many initiatives of charity being carried out. Finally, the Office administers grant programs for the continuing education of men and women involved in pastoral work.

### **Office for Sacred Worship**

The Office for Sacred Worship serves the Bishop, clergy, and laity of the Diocese. The Office for Sacred Worship seeks to deepen our understanding of the meaning of the rites being celebrated, their manner of celebration, and their implications for daily life. It offers sacramental catechesis for all the members of the Diocese and promotes the liturgical formation of those who serve the liturgical assembly in the parish. The Office for Sacred Worship also directs the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), by supporting the activities of parish RCIA coordinators and hosting diocesan celebrations with the Bishop and the RCIA candidates.

**Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry**

***Over 3,500 youth participate in a Diocesan rally, retreat, or event***

The Office for Youth Ministry and Young Adult Ministry assists parishes and high schools to lead their young people (ages 12-39) to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, ongoing growth in their Catholic faith, and the use of their gifts for the good of the Church and the world. Our first goal is to serve the parishes by assisting them in starting and continuing their youth-ministry programs. Our second goal is to provide opportunities for young people to experience and grow deeper in their faith. Some of the programs funded through the Diocesan Annual Appeal include training conferences for youth ministers and teams; individual parish retreats; local, regional, and national conferences; World Youth Day; Totus Tuus (a Catholic vacation bible school run by young adults); Adventure Camp (3 separate week-long camps for junior and senior high school students); the Immersion Retreat; Leaven2Heaven Youth Rally; Young Adult Retreat; and national and international mission service trips. These opportunities are designed to energize and strengthen the faith of the young people so that when they come back to their parish youth-ministry programs, they can be good examples of living out their faith to their peers and other parishioners.

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**CATHOLIC EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION ..... \$998,000**

**Catholic Schools Development: \$10,000**

***7,121 students in Catholic schools***

Capital, infrastructure and academic development are vital to ensuring that students in our diocese will continue to receive a quality Catholic education. Funds are used to provide training and assistance to improve our 66 Catholic schools.

**Direct Parish Subsidy for Catholic Schools: \$300,000**

**\$200,000 grants to parishes that support schools**

The Diocese of La Crosse takes pride in the strong tradition of quality Catholic education. Parishes that support schools frequently have to forego important projects and purchases to meet the financial needs of their schools.

**\$100,000 tuition assistance to families with children in our schools**

There are annual tuition-assistance grants awarded to families based on financial need. In the 2015-2016 school year, \$100,000.00 was allocated from the Diocesan Annual Appeal to help families keep their children in our Catholic schools.

**Televised Mass: \$55,000**

The televised Mass provides tremendous comfort to those thousands of temporarily or permanently homebound Catholics, whose age or infirmity prevents them from going to their parish church for Mass, by giving them the opportunity to be able to view the Sunday Mass in their home. Although many viewers of the televised Mass contribute regularly to help pay for production and airtime, the costs are much greater than the contributions. The Mass is closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.

**Lay Formation: \$35,000**

43 people completed the Lay Formation Institute in June 2015 and were commissioned (more than 800 commissioned since 1973). Enrollment is underway for a class to begin in the fall of 2015.

34 people are enrolled in the Leader of Prayer program and will be commissioned in August of 2015 (close to 200 commissioned since 1989).

Diocesan workshops toward growth in lay discipleship are ongoing, in collaboration with the Office for Catechesis and Evangelization and the Office for Sacred Worship.

These funds are used for the education and formation of future deacons for our Diocese. Permanent deacons assist the Bishop and priests by their ministry of charity to those who are suffering or on the margins of society, as well as through teaching, proclaiming the Gospel, assisting at the altar, and carrying out other various apostolic works.

**Hmong Ministry: \$75,000**

*3,500 people assisted*

There are a good number of Hmong Catholics who reside in the Diocese of La Crosse. With the assistance of two priest chaplains and two part-time Hmong catechists in Wausau and the Diocesan coordinator in La Crosse, Hmong Catholics are provided instruction in the faith, welcomed to receive ongoing formation and helped to become active members in parishes. Hmong are prepared for reception of the Sacraments and given assistance for the sick and those in need. Young people are encouraged to participate in parish youth ministry in order to grow in their faith. Tuition assistance is also provided to needy Hmong families with children in Catholic schools.

**Hispanic and Migrant Ministry: \$80,000**

*Close to 1,400 people assisted weekly*

Many Spanish-speaking Catholics live and work in our diocese. To meet their spiritual needs, the Church provides Mass and other liturgical and pastoral services in their native language and makes available Spanish catechetical and devotional resources. The Office for Ministries and Social Concerns coordinates these pastoral efforts, complementing the legal and material aid provided to the Hispanic Community through Catholic Charities.

**Natural Family Planning: \$21,000**

*Over 1,000 individuals served by the Natural Family Planning program office annually*

*Over 2,000 parents and youth attend presentations annually*

The Diocese of La Crosse offers Natural Family Planning (NFP) education to assist engaged and married couples plan their families and raise them in accord with God's will. Under the Office for Marriage and Family Life, the NFP ministry provides classes and presentations on natural family planning, fertility awareness, marital chastity, and parenting. For more information about NFP and family life issues related to love and life, visit [www.diolc.org/nfp](http://www.diolc.org/nfp) or call 715.235.6226.

**Marriage Preparation & Marriage Enrichment: \$30,000**

The Office for Marriage and Family Life coordinates with deaneries and parishes to provide marriage preparation, marriage enrichment and marriage mentoring throughout the Diocese. In November 2009 the U.S. Catholic Bishops approved the pastoral letter "*Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan,*" which discusses the Church's key teachings on marriage as both a natural gift and a sacrament.

It explains how marriage is a public commitment between a man and a woman intended for the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of children. The letter discusses several contemporary challenges to marriage including same-sex unions, divorce, contraception and cohabitation, and how the Church addresses those challenges.

**Support of Scout Chaplains: \$5,000**

Boy and Girl Scout Councils provide young people with moral guidance, spiritual support and positive adult role models during their formative years. Summer camps, where chaplains provide spiritual guidance and counseling, are an important part of the Scouting experience.

**High School Faith Formation: \$12,000**

Confirmed young people need high school programs to help them continue their faith journey in the Catholic Church, discern their vocation in life and prepare for adult responsibilities.

**Catholic Communications: \$225,000**

Communicating the mission to the faithful of the Diocese of La Crosse on a regular basis, we strive to provide a meaningful Catholic perspective. Through the help of the Diocesan Annual Appeal, we are able to reach more families through our print and electronic means. The two-part focus of our messaging is to inform and enrich those active in their Catholic faith, and to inspire and awaken those who are not.

**Lay Employee Retirement: \$150,000 grant**

The Diocese of La Crosse Lay Employees' Retirement Plan needs additional support in order to fully fund the modest retirement benefits given to the employees enrolled in this defined-benefit plan. The plan began in 1974 for the purpose of extending greater financial security to those many dedicated lay employees and their families by providing some financial assistance upon their retirement. Even though the plan was frozen December 31, 2006, there are 500 active employees and over 1,700 eligible participants to receive benefits from the plan.

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**CHARITY, MISSIONS & THE WIDER CHURCH..... \$1,285,000**

**Catholic Charities: \$480,000 grant**

Catholic Charities' mission is to proclaim Christ's gospel of life and promote human dignity by alleviating poverty, and strengthening individuals and families. The Diocesan Annual Appeal enables Catholic Charities to work with individuals, families and communities to help them meet their needs, address their issues, eliminate oppression, and build a just and compassionate society. With your support we offer a variety of services on a no-fee or very-low-fee basis to all who come to our door. Your gifts to the Diocesan Annual Appeal support our:

**St. Lawrence Community Services**

4,864 families and individuals received charitable outreach assistance with utility, food, transportation, health related, housing, clothing and other basic human needs with over \$257,541 in direct client aid distributed in 2015.

1,722 families reached through various financial literacy programs; helping to try to make a permanent change in their financial situation.

Catholic Charities' certified and experienced staff provides charitable outreach, including assistance with rent, mortgage, food, and utilities, advocacy, and financial education and enrichment

individually tailored to each client. Struggling families and individuals are able to receive an evaluation of their situation, develop a plan, and participate in financial education and case management.

### **Disaster Response**

Catholic Charities provides disaster relief and recovery services including emergency food, shelter, direct financial assistance and support throughout the Diocese. In 2015, families received nearly \$6,300 in client assistance with local disaster relief. Catholic Charities responded to counties across the Diocese that were affected by natural disasters and other tragedy.

### **Community Homeless Facilities**

23,324 sheltered nights of service were provided to the many poor, hurting, homeless and often “faceless” people in our communities.

3,171 homeless community members or those living on the edge of homelessness sought services through our new Franciscan Hospitality House which opened in July of 2015.

Catholic Charities works to provide overnight shelter facilities for many poor, hurting, homeless and often “faceless” people in our communities. Sojourner House in Eau Claire first opened its doors on November 1, 2011 to provide a year round, safe, clean place where adult men and women, regardless of what their ambitions or hopes are, can sleep overnight, shower, clean their clothing, and have food in the evening, as well as a nutritious breakfast, while ensuring their personal respect and safety. In 2015, the La Crosse and Wausau Warming Centers expanded their dates of service. Both facilities are now open from November 1 through April 30. They offer a warm space, an evening meal, breakfast, laundry and shower facilities to homeless adults 18 and over who may have been turned away from other local programs due to capacity or eligibility issues. The Franciscan Hospitality House, which is a collaborative effort with the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, opened its doors in 2015. The House is a day facility which is open to those who are homeless or living on the edge of homeless to offer legal advice, laundry, shower, foot care, phone access, and other basic needs.

### **Birthparent Support and Adoption Services**

29 children found forever families through our birth parent, relative and international adoption programs.

32 birth parents were supported through pregnancy to live birth.

2,272 families enjoyed family fun events, conferences, trainings, or received information from our Post Adoption Resource Center.

Catholic Charities offers compassionate, free support to expectant birth mothers and fathers in all areas of the Diocese, whether they choose to parent their baby or make an adoption plan. This outreach helps fulfill our mission to proclaim the sanctity of human life; to promote families, and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. For over 140 years Catholic Charities’ Adoption services have been building families throughout west-central Wisconsin. Our Catholic Charities’ Adoption Program is only one of two organizations in the state of Wisconsin that have received a Hague Accreditation allowing us to not only work with local families and children, but to provide assistance with Intercountry Adoption services too.



### **Domestic Violence Prevention**

267 calls were received through our helpline for victims of domestic abuse in Crawford County. 67 victims received assistance and direct services in Crawford County.

In Crawford County, Catholic Charities staffs a domestic violence prevention program, in cooperation with other community leaders, supporting those who are victims of domestic violence and provides the broader community with preventative educational resources. We recognize that peace and violence cannot dwell together, and where there is violence, God cannot be present. Catholic Charities engages in ministry to victims and families of domestic abuse to bring healing and restore lives so that God *can* be present.

### **St. Damien Outreach to Persons with HIV/AIDS**

35 clients received pastoral care and practical support from Catholic Charities staff and volunteers.

The purpose of the St. Damien Outreach is to provide compassionate ongoing support and outreach to people who are affected and living with HIV/AIDS and those who love them. Catholic Charities engages in this program to fulfill our mission to protect human rights and dignity, to proclaim the sanctity of human life, and to stand in solidarity with those who may be marginalized by society.

### **Immigration Assistance**

292 clients, from a variety of countries, received legal services in their quest for US citizenship or permanent residency. Catholic Charities provided a voice for those without a voice.

Catholic Charities provides direct legal assistance to all immigrants for naturalization, adjustment of status, immigration services under the VAWA program (Violence Against Women Act), and other immigration services. In addition, we provide all immigrants general assistance and/or referrals for special needs.

### **Representative Payee Program**

Over 500 clients throughout the southwestern part of the Diocese received assistance.

This program offers case management services to individuals who are living on a fixed income. Assistance with payment of financial obligations and monthly household budgeting are among the services offered in this program. Payments for monthly needs, such as rent, utilities, groceries and other personal necessities were provided.

### **Disabilities Services**

25,739 hours of service were provided to students with behavioral disorders, autism spectrum, and other developmental disabilities to help them stay in their homes and be successful in school.

The Disabilities Services Program focuses on individual dignity and strengthening families for those dealing with developmental and emotional disabilities, particularly those with Autism and Asperger's. The various program services include an Adult Support Program, School Support Services, and After School Support Services. Catholic Charities also collaborates with Bridges of Belonging and provides program supervision/support to The Dwelling Place. The Dwelling Place is a Christian-based home that serves four adult residents living with developmental disabilities.

### **Works of Charity: \$125,000**

Natural disasters and personal tragedies are examples of situations that often require immediate assistance. Through this fund the Diocese assists state and national Catholic apostolates that depend on charitable gifts for their survival. The Diocese of La Crosse has a policy that will not allow the use of parish, general diocesan funds, or funds designated for specific apostolates for payment on clergy sexual misconduct claims. The Works of Charity Fund has occasionally, and appropriately, provided funds for the treatment and care of victims of such sinful misconduct as they seek healing.

### **Special Collections: \$500,000 grant**

By funding eleven special collections the Diocesan Annual Appeal has reduced the number of collections being taken up in our parishes. These eleven collections are:

- Aid for the Church in Eastern Europe
- American Bishops' Overseas Appeal
- Black and Indian Missions
- Catholic Communications
- Catholic Home Missions
- Catholic University of America
- Diocese of La Crosse Home Missions, including Casa Hogar orphanage in Peru and Holy Cross Parish at Santa Cruz, Bolivia
- Diocesan Social Ministries
- Holy Land
- Latin America
- Peter's Pence

### **Support of the Wider Church: \$180,000 grant**

As Catholics, we belong to a Church much larger than our parish or diocese. Catholics in the Diocese of La Crosse are committed to supporting the work of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and the Holy See.

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## **DIOCESAN FACILITY OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE. ...\$200,000**

### **St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral Operations & Maintenance: \$50,000 grant**

Dedicated in 1962, St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral is the Mother Church of the Diocese of La Crosse. Due to the Cathedral's role in diocesan celebrations and liturgies, the Diocese assumes responsibility for a portion of the expenses of the Mother Church of the Diocese.

### **Holy Cross Diocesan Center Building Operations & Maintenance: \$150,000**

The Holy Cross Diocesan Center is a multi-functional facility that houses and maintains the day-to-day operations of the La Crosse Diocesan administration. Besides the Bishop's business offices and conference room, there are 99 offices used by the Diocesan Curia and Catholic Charities. The top floor has 25 apartments and guest rooms for active and retired priests, as well as provisional lodging for the Seminary House of Formation. The development of several libraries is currently under way. The Center houses Christ the King Chapel, St. Martha's Kitchen and Refectory, and a gym. *Mater Redemptoris* (female) *House of Formation* and the Bishop's residence are also housed on the same 23-acre campus. The Center provides a venue for large groups and diocesan-wide conferences and events, like those accommodated in the:

**Refectory (Dining Room):** Daily staff lunch, Priest Unity Days, Fall Clergy Conference, donor receptions for the Diocesan Annual Appeal, Jubilee Wedding Anniversary celebrations, new teacher formation and other in-services, school administrators’ meetings, deacons’ meetings, Casa Hogar Dinner, Lenten Luncheon and seminars for Catholic Charities, Seminarian reunions, plus most other annual conferences sponsored by offices of the Diocesan Curia.

**Bishop's Common Room:** Meetings held by Deacon Community Board, Catholic Hospital Administrators, La Crosse Deanery Special Religious Education, Rural Life Committee, Presbyteral Council, the College of Deans, St. Joseph Priest Fund, Pastoral Planning Committee and Subcommittees, bible studies, and Curia staff in-services.

**Riverview Room and Owl Room:** Meetings held by Catechesis & Evangelization, Consecrated Life, Vocations, Safe Environment, Diocese & Viterbo Collaborative Committee, Catholic Cemeteries, Catholic Charities, Catholic Residential Services, Home Study Course, St. Joseph Priest Fund, Youth Ministry and NET teams.

**Christ the King Chapel:** TV Mass filming, First Friday Masses; Masses for Hmong, Hispanics and MPSN (Ministry for Persons with Special Needs), as well as daily Curia staff Masses.

**Holy Cross Diocesan Center Crypt Chapel:** Daily Masses are celebrated by resident priests, and monthly evenings of adoration for vocations are held.

**Gym and Ball Fields:** The gym is used by Aquinas High School, Western Technical College, a Catholic men’s basketball league, and the Warriors Drum and Bugle Corps. The ball fields are used by Aquinas baseball and football teams for practices and games during respective seasons.

A maintenance engineer’s home is attached to the steam heating plant that is all separate from the central facility.

The Center also supports the local community. Presently it is collaborating with the Western Healthcare Coalition of the State of Wisconsin as part of a mass fatality plan to provide safe harbor for affected families needing assistance.

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**STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT ..... \$275,760**

The expenses incurred by the Diocesan Annual Appeal include salaries, printing, postage, video production, etc. Of lesser expense are the receptions.

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For further information on this case statement or any additional questions regarding the Diocesan Annual Appeal, please feel free to contact:

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Visit our website at [www.dioc.org](http://www.dioc.org).