

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE
2026–2027
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL



**MANY GIFTS,
ONE MISSION**

*As each one has received a gift,
use it to serve one another.*

Peter 4:10

CASE STATEMENT

Updated September 2026

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The Mission We Share

Diocese of La Crosse Mission Statement

Called by Jesus Christ to “Seek first the kingdom of God,” we are the Diocese of La Crosse, a sacramental people who worship God, teach the Catholic faith, and serve the needs of the human person.

Diocese of La Crosse Vision Statement

We, the Catholic Diocese of La Crosse, living Christ’s message “I am the vine, you are the branches,” strive to awaken in each other a deeper connection with Christ through active parish life and authentic discipleship.

Mission Statement of the Diocesan Annual Appeal

The Diocesan Annual Appeal invites the faithful to offer their God-given gifts in service to one another. Through prayerful, sacrificial generosity, it unites resources that no parish or household could provide alone and advances the shared mission of worship, formation, evangelization, pastoral care, and mercy throughout the Diocese of La Crosse.

The Stewardship Principle of the Diocesan Annual Appeal

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

St. Peter’s words reveal the heart of Christian stewardship: every gift comes from God and finds its purpose in loving service. The Annual Appeal offers the diocesan family a practical way to participate together—through prayer, service, and sacrificial financial support—so that ministries serving all our parishes can flourish.

This pattern is woven into the history of the Diocese of La Crosse. Established in 1868 as a mission territory, the young Diocese was served by only eighteen priests for roughly 30,000 Catholics. Support from Catholics in Europe and mission societies helped complete the first cathedral. From the beginning, local faith and gifts from beyond any one community have come together for one mission. Today, across nineteen counties of western and central Wisconsin—rural communities, cities, farms, campuses, schools, and parishes—the same spirit of shared stewardship remains essential.

Many Gifts, One Mission is more than an annual slogan. It names us as the Body of Christ. A seminarian’s vocation, a catechist’s witness, a teacher’s skill, a volunteer’s compassion, a family’s prayer, a professional’s expertise, and a donor’s sacrificial gift are distinct expressions of God’s manifold grace. The Appeal helps Bishop Battersby and diocesan ministries coordinate those gifts in support of his call to pivot from maintenance to mission: from preserving activity to forming disciples, accompanying people, strengthening communion, and serving with apostolic purpose.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Recognizes gifts as grace:** Stewardship formation helps individuals and households receive God’s gifts with gratitude and discern how those gifts can serve others.
- **Forms people for service:** Catechesis, Catholic education, leadership development, vocations, and youth and family ministry equip disciples to use their gifts effectively.
- **Builds communion across parishes:** Shared diocesan resources connect local communities, enabling expertise, formation, and pastoral support to reach places that could not sustain them alone.
- **Carries mercy to neighbors in need:** Catholic Charities, social concerns, safe-environment work, and pastoral care turn generosity into concrete protection, healing, and accompaniment.
- **Strengthens worship and witness:** Sacred worship, communications, campus ministry, and evangelization help the faithful encounter Christ and share Him in their daily lives.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From isolated talents to shared charisms:** Parishes and diocesan offices identify, call forth, and coordinate the gifts Christ has entrusted to His people.

- **From programs to people:** Resources are directed toward encounter, conversion, discipleship, accompaniment, communion, and mission.
- **From scarcity to faithful abundance:** The Appeal does not assume that everyone gives the same gift; it trusts that God provides what the Church needs through the diverse generosity of the whole Body.
- **From upkeep to apostolic purpose:** Sound administration, safe environments, strong formation, and well-maintained facilities become foundations for people to worship, serve, invite, and evangelize.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Clergy, deacons, and consecrated life:** Discernment, formation, accompaniment, and care for those who serve the Church.
- **Parish renewal and evangelization:** Coaching, catechesis, sacramental preparation, youth and family ministry, campus outreach, and leadership development.
- **Catholic education:** Support for schools, educators, parishes, and families committed to forming young disciples.
- **Protection, healing, and mercy:** Safe-environment services, Tribunal ministry, Catholic Charities, social concerns, and works of charity.
- **Diocesan services and infrastructure:** Communications, Archives, Canonical Administration, Stewardship, Finance, Human Resources, Facilities, and Technology that serve every parish.
- **Solidarity with the wider Church:** Shared support for national and global Catholic needs and missionary efforts.

No one gift accomplishes all of this. Together, however, our gifts become a strong and credible witness to the manifold grace of God. This is Many Gifts, One Mission.

How Your Gift Will Be Used

	2025–26 Actual* Distribution (2024–25 Diocesan Annual Appeal)	2027–28 Proforma+ Distribution (2026–27 Diocesan Annual Appeal)
Diocesan Annual Appeal Case Statement Fiscal Year Allocation	2025-2026	2026-2027
<i>Clergy, Diaconate, Religious, and Seminarian Support</i>		
Bishop's Office	\$ -	\$ 40,000
Office of Vocations	\$ 150,180	\$ 250,000
Vicar for Clergy	\$ 517,110	\$ 540,000
Diaconate Formation	\$ 57,040	\$ 57,035
Rebuild My Church and Priest Wellness	\$ 74,520	\$ 95,600
Campus Ministry/FOCUS	\$ 338,940	\$ 414,500
Office for Consecrated Life	\$ 22,620	\$ 22,260
<i>Seminarian, Priests, Deacons, and Religious</i>	\$ 1,160,410.00	\$ 1,419,395.00
<i>Parish Ministries Support</i>		
Office for Catechesis and Evangelization	\$ 185,600	\$ 180,000.00
Hmong Ministry	\$ 69,220	\$ 62,000.00
Office for Marriage and Family Life	\$ 213,450	\$ 210,000.00
Tribunal	\$ 186,180	\$ 186,000.00
Office for Ministries and Social Concerns	\$ 151,100	\$ 151,000.00
Hispanic and Migrant Ministry	\$ 28,380	\$ 28,385.00
Office for Sacred Worship - Televised Mass	\$ 157,250	\$ 157,255.00
<i>Parish Community Ministries Support Subtotal</i>	\$ 991,180.00	\$ 974,640.00
<i>Parish Services Support</i>		
Safe Environment	\$ 304,600	\$ 266,845.00
Chancery	\$ 130,200	\$ 126,000.00
Archives	\$ 69,410	\$ 45,000.00
Office for Communications and Public Relations	\$ 745,000	\$ 745,000.00
Office for Stewardship and Development	\$ 219,500	\$ 174,120.00
Diocesan Annual Appeal Expenses	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000.00
Office for Temporalities	\$ 130,700	
<i>Parish Community Services Support Subtotal</i>	\$ 1,768,710.00	\$ 1,656,965.00
<i>Diocesan Center Facility Operations and Maintenance</i>		
St. Joseph, the Workman, Cathedral Operations & Maintenance	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000.00
<i>Diocesan Facilities: Operations and Maintenance Subtotal</i>	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
<i>Catholic Education</i>		
Office for Catholic Schools	\$ 279,000	\$ 279,000.00
Catholic Schools Development	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000.00
Direct Parish Subsidy for Catholic Schools	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000.00
<i>Catholic Education Subtotal</i>	\$ 589,000.00	\$ 589,000.00
<i>Works of Charity</i>		
Catholic Charities	\$ 480,000	\$ 480,000.00
Works of Charity	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000.00
Special Collections	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000.00
Support of the Wider Church Diocesan Missions	\$ 180,000	\$ 180,000.00
<i>Charity, Missions & The Wider Church Subtotal</i>	\$ 1,260,000.00	\$ 1,260,000.00
Total Appeal Target	\$ 6,000,000.00	\$ 6,000,000.00
* Unaudited. Audited Financials were not available at the time of publication		
+ Estimated budget; actual distribution may differ based on need.		

Each amount in this plan reflects many gifts offered in faith and combined for a purpose no parish or household could achieve alone. Every ministry below turns that shared stewardship outward to serve parishes, families, and neighbors.

Office of the Bishop

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Bishop serves the many gifts of the diocesan family by teaching, sanctifying, governing, and gathering parishes, schools, clergy, religious, and lay faithful around one mission in Christ. Appeal participation helps the Office of the Bishop listen, discern, coordinate, and accompany the local Church so that distinct charisms become a unified witness.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Apostolic teaching that evangelizes:** Pastoral letters, preaching, and the Bishop's diocesan catechetical priorities emphasize our parishes' focus on conversion, discipleship, and mission.
- **Shepherding visits that strengthen mission:** Parish visits, confirmations, and encounters with families, youth, and leaders inspire local communities to live the Gospel and “go forth.”
- **Ordinations and clergy mission:** Episcopal leaders, in their roles of calling, ordaining, assigning, and accompanying clergy, ensure that parishes have pastors and deacons formed to lead missionary renewal.
- **Diocesan liturgies that send:** Chrism Mass, Rite of Election/OCIA rites, and other episcopal celebrations gather the Church in community and commission disciples for service and evangelization.
- **Clear, unified communication:** Teaching and pastoral messages from the Bishop equip the faithful to explain the faith, invite others, and embody the Church's mercy in daily life.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From central office to missionary catalyst:** The Bishop's vision has shepherded direction (e.g., through effective listening, planning, and missionary priorities) so that structures support evangelization — not the other way around. Your support and participation are crucial to this transformative process.
- **From silos to community:** The Bishop unifies chancery offices, parishes, and schools in a shared effort of encounter, accompaniment, and mission.
- **From upkeep to apostolate:** Under the Bishop's oversight, resources, personnel, and policies are aligned to reach the lost, heal the wounded, and form credible witnesses.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Pastoral visits and confirmations:** Travel, scheduling, and coordination that bring the Bishop to parishes—strengthening communion and commissioning the faithful.
- **Diocesan-wide mission planning:** Bishop-led initiatives that listen, discern, and implement mission-first priorities across the Diocese.

- **Ordinations and episcopal liturgies:** Preparation and celebration of the Chrism Mass, ordinations, and diocesan rites that nourish sacramental life and send the Church to serve.
- **Teaching and evangelization resources:** Pastoral letters, formation days, leader gatherings, and communications that translate the Bishop’s vision into parish practice.
- **Leadership accompaniment:** Support for clergy and lay leaders through retreats, mentoring, and council, enabling local shepherds to lead missionary communities effectively.

Your participation—through prayer, service, and a sacrificial gift—helps Bishop Battersby unite and steward the gifts of the whole diocesan family so parishes, schools, and ministries move together from maintenance to mission. Together, this is Many Gifts, One Mission.

Office for Vocations

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Office for Vocations helps the Church recognize and cultivate the gifts God gives to men called to the priesthood. Appeal participation provides human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation and creates welcoming opportunities for young men to discern. This stewardship is directed toward generations of sacramental and missionary parish life.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Comprehensive priestly formation:** Your gift sustains seminarians' tuition and fees, an essential investment that makes priestly formation possible for our Diocese and strengthens the parish mission for decades to come.
- **Beyond the classroom—mission-ready experiences:** Counseling when needed, clinical chaplaincy, mission trips, and summer spiritual studies cultivate the pastoral maturity and evangelizing zeal future priests need.
- **A culture of discernment:** Your support for overnight retreats, seminary visits, and evenings with the bishop and priests is essential to fostering a culture of discernment. These experiences offer welcoming, meaningful spaces where young men can hear the Lord's call and respond. Your contribution makes these opportunities possible.
- **Hospitality and outreach that evangelize:** Travel, meals, and materials aren't incidental; they are bridges to evangelization that help prospective seminarians encounter Christ and His Church..

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From meeting formation costs to forming missionary shepherds:** Appeal support sustains the whole person, preparing future priests not only to administer parish life but also to accompany people, proclaim the Gospel, and lead renewal.
- **From theory to apostolic practice:** Counseling, chaplaincy, mission work, and summer studies form priests who can accompany, preach, and lead renewal—not merely run programs.
- **From recruitment to accompaniment:** Retreats and visits foster lasting relationships and vocational clarity, exemplifying the diocesan shift toward encounter, accompaniment, and sending.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Seventeen seminarians in 2026–27:** Appeal support helps cover tuition, fees, and formation costs of approximately \$55,000 per seminarian per year, enabling these men to devote themselves to prayer, study, and pastoral development.
- **Mission-shaped formation beyond tuition:** Access to counseling, hospital chaplaincy training, cross-cultural mission trips, and summer spiritual studies that foster pastoral maturity and prepare missionaries.

- **High-impact discernment events:** Overnight retreats, seminary visits, and diocesan evenings with the bishop and priests—supported by hospitality, travel, and promotional materials to make them fruitful.

Your participation helps the Diocese call, form, and accompany future priests who will lead people to Christ and serve our parishes for decades. By sharing your gifts, you help ensure that priestly formation is a responsibility embraced by the whole diocesan family.

Vicar for Clergy

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Priests are gifts to the Church, and the Church is called to care for those who spend their lives serving God’s people. In partnership with the Vicar for Senior Clergy, this office provides formation, fraternity, healthcare, and practical support to 91 active diocesan priests, 23 international priests, and 31 senior priests, enabling them to remain present to their people and lead parishes on mission.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Healthy, holy priests on mission:** Appeal support helps address medical needs not fully covered by insurance, such as certain medications and long-term care, enabling priests to remain present at the altar, in the confessional, and among their people.
- **Ongoing formation that evangelizes:** Your support helps priests continue their education, attend retreats, take sabbaticals, and pursue advanced studies, enabling them to preach more effectively, lead evangelizing parishes, and accompany families on the path of discipleship.
- **Welcoming and equipping international priests:** Twenty-three international priests strengthen sacramental and pastoral life throughout the Diocese. Appeal support provides language and cultural formation, housing assistance, healthcare, and ongoing accompaniment.
- **A stronger presbyterate for mission:** Practical care, fraternity, and ongoing formation strengthen unity among priests and enhance their capacity to accompany and form lay leaders.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From maintenance to apostolate:** Investments in priestly well-being and formation enable pastors to lead evangelization rather than merely administer schedules.
- **From scarcity to sentness:** Your support transforms constraints into missionary momentum. Training and supporting international priests expands access to the sacraments and outreach, turning scarcity into abundance and fostering hope and optimism in our mission.
- **From strain to spiritual fatherhood:** Healthcare and ongoing support reduce burnout and renew zeal—enabling priests to form, mentor, and send lay leaders into daily mission.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Care and accompaniment:** for 91 active priests and 31 senior priests (including the Vicar for Senior Clergy), along with training and assistance for 23 international priests serving our parishes.
- **Continuing education:** programs, retreats, sabbaticals, and advanced degrees that directly enhance evangelization and pastoral leadership.

- **Clergy healthcare:** support for needs not fully covered by insurance, including unfunded medications and long-term care, to ensure priests can remain present with their people.

Your participation helps care for the priests who celebrate the sacraments, preach the Gospel, and accompany our communities. Prayer, practical support, and sacrificial giving strengthen them to serve in health, holiness, and missionary zeal.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Rebuild My Church Initiative

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Rebuild My Church helps parishes discern, coordinate, and deploy the gifts God has placed in their people. Inspired by Saint Francis’s call to rebuild the Church, the initiative turns listening into pastoral action, helping parishes become communities of encounter, accompaniment, responsible stewardship, and evangelization. The diocesan process began with 40 Listening Sessions in fall 2025 and continues through parish planning and support.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Diocesan-wide listening and discernment:** Launched and sustained 40 Listening Sessions to identify local needs and co-create mission-focused parish plans.
- **Parishes fully alive on mission:** Support four core principles, including a culture of discipleship and accompaniment; keeping the Lord’s Day holy; stable and healthy leadership; and charisms and responsible stewardship.
- **Foster a culture of accompaniment:** Provide training and mentoring for priests and other parish leaders so they can form others to do the same.
- **Mental health and trauma-informed care:** Build a trusted network of Catholic therapists and formation opportunities to strengthen mission resilience.
- **Healing and protection for survivors:** Enhance diocesan pathways of accompaniment, collaboration, and training to ensure our witness is credible, compassionate, and safe.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From maintenance to mission:** Parish energy shifts from preserving structures to sending out disciples, guided by local discernment and the seven indicators.
- **From programs to people:** Ministries become relational, through encounter, accompaniment, and sending, so every parishioner discovers and shares their gifts.
- **From isolation to collaboration:** Parishes cooperate across regions to multiply their impact and steward resources for evangelization rather than duplicating efforts.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Listening Sessions (Fall 2025):** Venue, facilitation, materials, communications, and follow-up to turn parish insights into mission-driven plans.
- **Parish coaching and toolkits:** Assessments, leader training, and resources to develop the seven indicators in clear, measurable ways.
- **Priest retreats and resources:** Continuous formation and wellness support to help pastors lead evangelizing communities with renewed zeal.
- **Catholic therapist network:** Formation, convenings, and resource development to expand trauma-informed, faith-aligned care for clergy and laity.
- **Survivor accompaniment and safety training:** Enhanced collaboration, education, and healing pathways that protect, restore, and build trust.

Your participation helps transform diocesan listening into parish renewal—forming communities where people encounter Christ, discover their gifts, accompany one another, and are sent forth in service. This is how Many Gifts, One Mission becomes a lived pastoral reality.

Learn more about the Rebuild My Church initiative by scanning the QR code or by going to www.diolc.org/rebuildmychurch



Office for the Diaconate

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Deacons reveal Christ the Servant at the altar and in the places where people live, work, suffer, and hope. Appeal participation supports deacons' formation and continuing education, so their gifts in preaching, teaching, pastoral care, and charity strengthen parish life and invite others to serve.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Servant leadership at the heart of parish life:** Deacons embody diakonia through the Word, the altar, and charity, bridging the parish and the peripheries. Thus, the Church's worship flows into service and evangelization.
- **Accompaniment on the margins:** Through jail, hospital, homebound, and poverty-outreach ministries, deacons transform parish concern into active charitable service and invite others to join them.
- **Ongoing formation for mission:** Appeal support provides candidates and ordained deacons with theological, spiritual, and pastoral formation so their preaching, catechesis, and leadership meet real needs and inspire service.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From programs to people:** Deacons accompany the poor, the homebound, the incarcerated, and the overlooked, turning the parish into a field hospital that serves those in need.
- **From maintenance to mobilization:** Ministries of the Word, altar, and charity inspire parishioners to serve, evangelize, and lead more disciples. They are sent in response to the gifts God has entrusted to His people.
- **From “keep it running” to “go and proclaim”:** By placing trained servant leaders at the center of parish life, the office helps communities transition from maintenance to active mission.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **A growing diaconal mission field:** Sixty-five deacons in active ministry and 18 senior-status deacons serve throughout the Diocese, providing preaching, pastoral care, and works of charity.
- **A healthy pipeline for the future:** Eleven men are in formation; six are expected to be ordained in summer 2028, God willing; and six deacons were ordained in June 2026.
- **Strong initial and continuing formation:** tuition, faculty, retreats, spiritual direction, supervised field experiences, and continuing education that keep preaching, pastoral care, and leadership missions prepared.
- **Mission deployment aligned with parish needs:** Support that connects deacons to local priorities—enabling each parish to form and send more missionary disciples.

Your participation helps form and sustain deacons whose gifts at the altar, in preaching, and in charitable works draw the whole parish into service. Together, we strengthen a Church that worships Christ and meets Him at the margins.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Office for Consecrated Life

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Consecrated women and men dedicate their entire lives to the service of Christ and His Church. Appeal participation helps the Office for Consecrated Life accompany these vocations, align their charisms with parish and diocesan needs, and sustain a public witness to prayer, community, and apostolic service.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Forming missionary disciples:** A consecrated religious life is a total surrender to Christ. The office offers spiritual and pastoral accompaniment to inspire missionary energy in parishes and apostolates through prayer, community life, and apostolic works.
- **Hidden apostolates that sustain the Church:** The Office for Consecrated Life accompanies hidden missions, including cloistered religious who dedicate hours to prayer and infirm and elderly consecrated persons who offer prayer, suffering, and presence. Their witness shows that mission isn't only about visible work; prayer and fidelity strengthen the Church's apostolic efforts in unseen ways.
- **Mobilizing the entire Church:** By providing resources and connecting consecrated communities with pastors, parish leaders, and ministries, the office transforms personal charisms into collective evangelization efforts—shifting us from merely maintaining activities to actively reaching people for Christ.
- **Sending in response to the gifts God has entrusted to His people:** As Jesus was sent, so are we. The office helps consecrated men and women go out—whether to schools, hospitals, those on the margins, or into parish life—so that worship becomes a testimony and service becomes proclamation.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From solitude to shared mission:** The gifts of consecrated life are integrated with parish and diocesan priorities, thereby multiplying evangelization.
- **From programs to people:** Providing accompaniment, mentoring, and collaboration with consecrated religious to form parishioners and help them live as missionary disciples in everyday life.
- **From the status quo to sending:** The public witness and apostolic works of the consecrated inspire vocations and commission the baptized to serve.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Ongoing formation and spiritual accompaniment:** Encouragement and resources to help consecrated women and men deepen their relationship with Christ and to mentor others in discipleship.

- **Witness & vocations:** Support for the public witness of consecrated life, inspiring youth and adults to hear the Lord’s call and to live as missionary disciples in their particular state of life.
- **Communion and collaboration:** Strong ties among religious communities, pastors, and diocesan offices enable distinct charisms to be shared and multiplied for evangelization and works of mercy.
- **Care and sustainability:** Practical and pastoral assistance helps consecrated women and men persevere in mission at every stage of life, so their lifelong “yes” continues to bear fruit.

Your participation sustains the prayer, witness, and apostolic service of consecrated women and men and helps their charisms enrich the entire Diocese. Their lifelong gift to Christ reminds every baptized person that grace is received to be shared.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Office for Catechesis & Evangelization forms those who form others. Appeal participation equips parents, catechists, teachers, OCIA teams, and parish leaders to help people encounter Christ, grow in faith, discover their gifts, and put them to work in homes, parishes, schools, and communities.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Formation that begins in encounter and leads to mission:** Training, resources, and events help parish and school leaders foster a personal relationship with Jesus through the Holy Spirit, deepen prayer, cooperate with sacramental grace, study the faith in small groups, and actively participate in parish life, so that growth in knowing and loving Christ naturally overflows into evangelization.
- **Equipping those who form others:** with curated, faithful resources; in-services at the diocesan, deanery, and parish levels; and certification for teachers, parish directors, and catechists in doctrine, Scripture, spirituality, and methods, so the Faith is taught accurately and evangelically.
- **Parish-ready evangelization tools:** Practical resources—standalone or aligned with trusted Bible and adult study programs—developed for parish leaders and school personnel, plus a free lending library for parishes and schools.
- **On-ramp for busy disciples:** Franciscan at Home—free for everyone in the Diocese—offers one-hour workshops (10-minute videos with a practical application task) to form parents, teachers, parish leaders, OCIA teams, and any adult seeking deeper formation.
- **Collaborative evangelization across ministries:** Formation for diaconate candidates, couples, Lay Formation Institute participants, and OCIA leaders includes discerning spiritual gifts so leaders can serve effectively and accompany those who are distant from the Church.
- **Reaching the margins—Hmong Ministry and Special Needs:** The office coordinates Hmong catechesis and translated prayer resources, supports daily family prayer by phone, provides tuition assistance for Catholic education, and assists with ministry for persons with special needs in schools and parishes.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From programs to people:** Encounter, conversion, discipleship, communion, and mission replace the mindset of merely keeping programs running and refocus formation on accompanying people into a life with Christ.
- **From content to commissioning:** Leaders learn what the Church teaches, are formed in prayer, and then learn to evangelize—so every formation moment concludes with sending, in response to the gifts God has entrusted to His people.

- **From silos to collaboration:** Coordinating work with parishes, schools, and diocesan offices identifies charisms, mobilizes gifts, and makes evangelization the shared work of the whole Church.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Leader formation and certification:** Courses, in-services, and mentoring that develop confident catechists, teachers, parish leaders, and parents.
- **Parish evangelization toolkits:** Ready-to-use studies, small-group guides, and lending-library resources that form and nurture committed followers of Christ who want to share the “Good News” of Jesus Christ and His Church.
- **Franciscan at Home access for everyone:** Flexible, top-notch online training—ideal for busy parents, teachers, and ministry leaders.
- **Cross-ministry training:** Evangelization formation for diaconate, LFI, and OCIA leaders, including discernment of spiritual gifts.
- **Hmong & Special Needs support:** Language-appropriate catechesis, daily prayer outreach, parish-based accompaniment, and tuition assistance that open doors to encountering Christ and living the mission.

Your participation equips those who form others and helps parishes offer faithful, accessible paths from encounter with Christ to mature discipleship and service. When many gifts are called forth and well formed, the Gospel reaches homes, schools, parishes, and communities.

Office for Family Life

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Families are domestic churches where the gifts of faith, love, and service are first received and shared. The Office for Family Life accompanies people through marriage, parenting, youth and young-adult ministry, loss, and the changing stages of life, so that households become schools of discipleship and witnesses to Christ in their parishes and communities.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Marriage preparation that evangelizes:** Deanery retreats, parish FOCCUS inventories, and Natural Family Planning formation prepare couples for a lifelong vocation of holiness and service. More than 450 couples celebrated marriage in the Diocese last year, and more than 500 individuals receive NFP formation each year.
- **Marriage enrichment and accompaniment:** Conferences, retreats, and online resources strengthen spouses in prayer, virtue, and sacramental love. The office also advances ministries addressing troubled marriages, divorce, and bereavement, so families are accompanied with mercy and hope.
- **Natural Family Planning accompaniment:** Beyond courses, the ministry helps individuals and couples understand the Church’s teaching and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Youth and young-adult ministry, encounter, discipleship, and mission:** Training, retreats, camps, conferences, confirmation experiences, and service trips help parish teams move beyond one-time events and accompany young people as they live out the fruits of each encounter.
- **High school and young adult formation:** After Confirmation, teens and young adults are accompanied in discerning their vocation and taking responsibility within the Church today through parish collaboration and diocesan initiatives tailored to different life stages.
- **Men’s and women’s initiatives:** Focused gatherings help adults discover their gifts and lead as missionary disciples in family, workplace, and parish life.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From events to sending:** Every retreat, course, and gathering aims to commission as a response to the gifts God has entrusted to His people, so participants return to parishes, homes, schools, and communities as apostles.
- **From siloed efforts to collaboration:** The Office for Family Life connects pastors, parish teams, and households and collaborates across the Curia so parishes receive unified support rather than disconnected programs.
- **From maintaining pace to fueling missionary momentum:** By forming marriages, empowering parents, and engaging youth and young adults, the office multiplies everyday witnesses who bring Christ to the margins of daily life.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Marriage foundations for mission:** Deanery retreats, FOCCUS preparation, and NFP instruction and accompaniment that ground marriages in sacramental love and an evangelizing purpose. Last year, these programs helped more than 450 couples celebrate their marriage in the Diocese, and more than 500 individuals received NFP formation, transforming their homes into centers of evangelization.
- **Youth & Young Adult Evangelization:** Providing training and support for parish youth ministers and teams, along with diocesan retreats, pilgrimages, camps, conferences, and mission trips that ignite faith and send participants home with a renewed sense of mission to live out their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Pastoral accompaniment for families:** Ongoing marriage enrichment and ministries addressing troubled marriages, divorce, and bereavement, walking with families in mercy and hope.
- **Expanded young adult outreach:** Intentional opportunities throughout the Diocese so every stage of life can find a path to missionary discipleship.

Your participation helps marriages, families, youth, and young adults receive accompaniment at the moments when faith is learned, tested, and shared. Strong domestic churches multiply the gifts of love and service throughout every parish and community.

Office for Ministries & Social Concerns

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Office for Ministries & Social Concerns helps the faithful carry worship into service. Through the formation of deacons and lay leaders, support for parish social ministry, accompaniment of rural and Hispanic communities, and coordination of humanitarian outreach, the office turns diverse gifts into a shared witness of mercy throughout the Diocese and beyond.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Permanent Deacon Formation — missionary servants for the margins:** Men are formed for service through the Word, the altar, and charity. Six were ordained for the Diocese in June 2026, and 11 are currently in formation. The program also serves cohorts funded by the Dioceses of Madison and Superior.
- **Lay Formation Institute — everyday apostles for every parish:** A two-year journey of study, prayer, and fellowship equips Catholics to evangelize in their communities. Graduates return prepared to lead OCIA, teach the faith, accompany seekers, and strengthen councils and ministries—pivoting parish life from “keep it running” to “let’s reach people.” This year’s goal: 30 second-year participants.
- **Leaders of Prayer — advancing the Church’s presence:** We mentor and commission leaders to bring Christ to nursing homes, jails, and the homes of the sick and homebound—demonstrating pastoral charity and multiplying prayer and evangelization efforts. Our trained Leaders of Prayer thus complement the ministry of our priests and deacons. This year’s goal: more than 100 commissioned Leaders of Prayer.
- **Parish Social Ministry — from programs to people:** A diocesan Social Concerns Committee, with one representative from each of our 13 deaneries, fosters a vibrant connection with parish leaders and volunteers engaged in social ministry. We help parishes move from isolated efforts to a broader culture of accompaniment, enabling the baptized to identify needs, organize responses, and personally reach out to those on the margins. Impact: A fruitful model of support, encouragement, and practical collaboration among parishes and deaneries.
- **Rural Life Ministry — reaching those who labor in the fields:** Thanks to our dedicated diocesan Rural Life Liaison and our Rural Life Committee, we work to overcome the isolation and anxiety that can affect our farming communities. They, too, need and deserve encouragement and fellowship in Christ. We are working closely with the national organization, Catholic Rural Life, to achieve just that. One highlight of these efforts is the annual diocesan Rural Life Day, which rotates among deaneries and is hosted by an area farm. Another is Project Milk, which each year provides more than

two tons of dried whole milk to Casa Hogar, our diocesan orphanage in Peru, and shares it with those in need in the surrounding community.

- **Hispanic Ministry — accompaniment in a native language:** We assist with Mass, sacraments, formation, retreats, and pilgrimages in Spanish, complementing the legal and material aid from Catholic Charities. Language-appropriate pastoral care opens doors to evangelization, leadership growth, and parish integration—enabling families to both receive and become missionaries in our communities. Reach each week: 2,000+ people served.
- **Humanitarian Relief – Helping countries torn by war or natural disaster:** Through Catholic Relief Services, the Pontifical Mission Societies, and other organizations, we come to the aid of our international neighbors ravaged by war, earthquakes, or other disasters. We are especially devoted to assisting Chalice of Mercy, a mission to Ukraine founded in 2007 by Valentyna Pavsyukova in our own diocese, which brings medical and other humanitarian supplies – as well as the light of Christ and the Gospel – to that suffering nation, at great risk to those involved on the ground.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From structures to people:** Formation and parish networks equip deacons, lay leaders, and volunteers to carry Christ into prisons, nursing homes, farm fields, factories, homes, and classrooms.
- **From devotion to deployment:** In close collaboration with the Offices for Catechesis & Evangelization, Sacred Worship, Schools, Family Life, and Communication, Eucharistic devotion becomes evangelizing action—parishes that go and make disciples.
- **From duplication to collaboration:** A partnership with Catholic Charities, the Diocesan Mission Office, the Social Concerns Advisory Committee, and national relief efforts coordinates formation and aid while stewarding resources responsibly.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Deacon formation and discernment:** Faculty, retreats, spiritual direction, and supervised field experiences that shape missionary deacons—while stewarding resources that also serve neighboring dioceses.
- **Lay Formation Institute cohorts:** Tuition assistance, faculty stipends, and classes that deepen faith in the mind and heart—so more lay leaders are equipped to be bold yet sensitive missionary disciples, on fire with the love of Christ.
- **Leader of Prayer formation and ministry:** Equipping lay leaders (always subject to their pastors) with resources and ongoing support to expand prayer and pastoral care when clergy are not always available.
- **Diocesan Social Concerns Network:** Deanery representation, training, and network-building that help parishes learn from one another and transition from isolated activities to coordinated acts of support and works of mercy.
- **Rural Life Ministry:** Recognition, through special events and the leadership of a diocesan Rural Life Liaison and Committee, of the great blessing of living in a rural diocese. Focus on fellowship with and support for all those who labor in the fields. And

through Project Milk, nourishment for the orphans of Casa Hogar and the needy in the surrounding communities in Peru.

- **Hispanic & Migrant Ministry:** Mass and the sacraments, catechesis, retreats, pilgrimages, and leadership training in Spanish—supporting evangelization that reaches more than 2,000 people each week.

Your participation forms deacons and lay leaders, strengthens prayer and social ministry, accompanies rural and Hispanic communities, and extends mercy to neighbors near and far. Many gifts become one credible witness when worship leads us into service.

Office for Sacred Worship

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Church’s liturgy is the source and summit of her life. The Office for Sacred Worship helps clergy, parishes, musicians, readers, servers, and other ministers place their gifts at the service of reverent, faithful, and welcoming worship. Appeal support strengthens celebrations in which the faithful encounter Christ, are formed by grace, and are sent to serve.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Sacramental worship that forms:** Guidance and formation help parishes celebrate the Mass and the sacraments faithfully, so that worship deepens communion with Christ and shapes daily discipleship.
- **Liturgical ministers equipped for service:** Training and resources prepare readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, servers, musicians, and hospitality ministers to offer their gifts with competence and humility.
- **Diocesan celebrations that unite and send:** The Chrism Mass, ordinations, the Rite of Election, and other diocesan liturgies gather the local Church around the Bishop, renewing our common mission.
- **Parish consultation and accompaniment:** Practical guidance on liturgical norms, sacred music, worship spaces, and pastoral questions helps parish leaders serve their people with greater confidence.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From routine to encounter:** Faithful preparation helps each celebration become a genuine meeting with Christ rather than merely another item on the calendar.
- **From spectators to full participation:** Formation calls forth the gifts of the baptized and helps the assembly to pray, respond, sing, and serve as one Body in Christ.
- **From isolated practice to diocesan communion:** Shared standards and formation strengthen unity among parishes while continuing the pastoral character of each community.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Formation and resources:** Workshops, consultations, and parish-ready materials for clergy and lay liturgical leaders.
- **Major diocesan liturgies:** Planning and coordination for celebrations that gather, form, and commission the diocesan Church.
- **Responsive parish support:** Timely assistance with liturgical law, sacred music, worship environments, and pastoral practice.

Your participation, through prayer, liturgical service, and a sacrificial gift, helps every parish draw more deeply on the graces of the sacraments and carry them into the

world. When many gifts serve the worshiping Church, the whole Diocese is strengthened for mission.

Tribunal

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Tribunal serves the Church’s mission by seeking the truth with justice and mercy. Through careful canonical discernment and compassionate accompaniment, especially in marriage cases, the Tribunal helps people clarify their status in the Church, heal wounded relationships, and participate more fully in the Church’s sacramental and parish life.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Evangelizing justice and mercy:** Supports expert canonical discernment that seeks truth and healing in light of Sacred Scripture, the Church’s Magisterium, and the Code of Canon Law—thereby opening paths to renewed participation in the sacraments and parish life.
- **Pastoral accompaniment throughout the process:** Provides communication, hospitality, and guidance to help people navigate petitions (including marriage nullity) with confidence, dignity, and hope, so wounded disciples can be restored and re-engaged in mission.
- **Partnership with parishes:** Enhances collaboration with pastors and advocates so that those approaching the Tribunal experience a united, compassionate Church that welcomes them back to worship, formation, and service.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From bureaucracy to accompaniment:** Moving beyond “paperwork” to personal encounter, walking with people toward truth, healing, and a renewed missionary life in the Church.
- **From case resolution to apostolic sending:** Clarifies the status so disciples can return to the sacraments, serve, and share the Gospel—becoming credible witnesses in family, workplace, and community.
- **From a standalone office to a diocesan mission:** Coordinates with clergy and parish leaders to ensure that Tribunal ministry actively fosters a culture of discipleship and mercy throughout the Diocese.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Justice in the truth of the Gospel:** Canonical expertise, research, and formation that ground judgments regarding Scripture, the Magisterium, and Canon Law, ensuring integrity and credibility in the Church’s witness.
- **Accessible, compassionate pathways:** Clear communication, attentive guidance, and a welcoming experience for those seeking a declaration of nullity or other determinations—so no one walks alone.
- **Parish training and collaboration:** Resources and workshops for pastors, deacons, and lay advocates to accompany people locally and help reintegrate them into sacramental and missionary life.

Your participation helps the Tribunal unite truth, justice, and mercy, so people are accompanied on the path to healing and fuller participation in the Church's sacramental life. Shared stewardship makes this careful pastoral and canonical service available throughout the Diocese.

Chancery

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Chancery stewards the canonical and sacramental processes that support the parish mission. By assisting with prenuptial files, permissions, dispensations, lack-of-form cases, and official directories, the office removes obstacles, strengthens diocesan communion, and helps pastors remain focused on people and the proclamation of the Gospel.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Freeing pastors for evangelization:** By navigating complex canonical requirements, the Chancery reduces administrative burdens, allowing pastors to spend more time accompanying people and proclaiming the Gospel.
- **Forming missionary households:** A careful review of prenuptial files, permissions, and dispensations helps couples enter marriage with confidence, grounded in the Church and prepared for a vocation of witness and service.
- **Clearing paths to the sacraments:** Timely assistance with nullity cases for lack of form and other determinations helps the faithful return to full sacramental and parish life.
- **Strengthening diocesan unity:** Accurate clergy and parish directories connect leaders, foster collaboration, and support communion throughout the Diocese.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From bureaucracy to relationships:** Canonical expertise becomes pastoral accompaniment that restores people through the sacraments and sends them on mission.
- **From case management to culture change:** Consistent processes and guidance to form parish teams that serve with clarity, mercy, and a mission-first focus.
- **From fragmentation to communion:** Up-to-date directories and coordinated workflows help parishes collaborate on the mission of evangelization.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Accessible canonical guidance:** Support for pastors, parish staff, and individuals, especially on the sacraments, to ensure pastoral decisions are faithful, prudent, and mission-minded.
- **Prompt processing:** Permissions, dispensations, prenuptial investigations, and assistance with nullity for lack of form, removing obstacles so people can encounter Christ in the sacraments.
- **Accurate diocesan directories:** Ongoing maintenance that supports communication and collaboration among clergy and parishes, fueling coordinated evangelization.

Your participation supports the sacramental and canonical foundations of the parish mission. By sharing the gifts entrusted to you, you help remove obstacles, strengthen

communion, and enable pastors and parish leaders to focus more fully on people and the Gospel.

Archives

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Diocesan Archives safeguards the sacramental records and the living memory entrusted to our local Church. Careful preservation, research, and parish support connect people with their history, provide the documents needed for sacramental life, and ensure that the witness of earlier generations remains available to form and inspire disciples today.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Safeguarding sacramental identity:** Careful stewardship of baptism, confirmation, and marriage records helps individuals obtain the documentation needed to return to the sacraments, complete OCIA, prepare for marriage, or pursue canonical processes—so they can fully live and share the Gospel.
- **Pastoral research that accompanies:** Responsive research for the Diocesan Curia, parishes, and individuals provides clarity, heals family stories, and often serves as an entry point back into parish life and evangelization.
- **Welcoming seekers through genealogy:** Thoughtful responses to genealogical and sacramental record requests foster conversation, prayer, and connection—transforming a search for ancestors into a path of grace today.
- **Enhancing parish record stewardship:** Guidance and shared best practices help parishes manage their registers effectively while safeguarding dignity, privacy, and mission.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From storage to story and sending:** Beyond securing boxes, the Archives bring records to life through careful preservation, organization, and interpretation. This process helps people reconnect with sacramental life and serve as witnesses within their families and communities.
- **From isolated files to diocesan collaboration:** The Archives provide research support to the Curia and parishes, ensuring that archival work directly serves pastoral needs. This collaboration strengthens a culture of discipleship and accompaniment, fostering unity and a shared mission within the Diocese.
- **From barriers to bridges:** The Archives' transparent processes and compassionate communication transform potential barriers, such as complex record requests, into welcoming, healing, and meaningful pastoral encounters. For example, a genealogical record request can become an opportunity for prayer and connection, turning a daunting task into a path of grace today.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Preservation and secure access:** Proper conservation, organization, and improved access (including digitization where appropriate) so that sacramental and historical records continue to support evangelization and pastoral care.

- **Timely research services:** Ability to respond to Curia, parish, and individual inquiries accurately and compassionately—especially for genealogical and sacramental record requests.
- **Parish records support:** Tools, training, and consultation to help parishes steward their registers, safeguard individuals, and advance their mission.

Your participation preserves the records and stories entrusted to our generation, keeping them available for sacramental life, parish service, and future disciples. Stewardship of memory is also stewardship of mission: it helps the Church remember who she is and faithfully hand on what she has received.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Office for Communication and Public Relations

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The Office for Communication and Public Relations places professional gifts in writing, design, photography, video, technology, and public relations at the service of the Gospel. Clear, credible, parish-centered communication advances the Bishop’s pastoral priorities, equips local leaders, extends every diocesan ministry, and protects trust when facts and timing are critical.

A lean team provides the Diocese with a shared capability: a Director who also serves as editor of Catholic Life, a Technical Support & Multimedia Specialist, an Administrative Assistant, and part-time social media support. The Office now manages this broad portfolio with two fewer full-time positions than it had a year ago, reflecting a deliberate emphasis on efficiency, cross-functional capability, and careful stewardship of resources. Production partners and freelance contributors supplement the internal team as needed.

The Office’s strength is not a single platform. Its strength is integration. A single diocesan initiative often begins with a parish visit or interview, becomes a Catholic Life story, is introduced via Flocknote, extended through a podcast and a radio conversation, supported by photography and video, posted on the website and social media, and repackaged for parishes to use as their own. One investment strengthens the reach of every ministry it touches.

51,000	41,000	50%	156
households receive every issue of Catholic Life	email addresses receive the monthly newsletter	newsletter open rate, roughly 20,000 opens per send	parishes served across nineteen counties

Before counting a single website visit, social post, podcast listener, radio audience, or parish repost, this Office delivers more than 200,000 copies of Catholic Life and nearly 500,000 diocesan emails each year.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

A gift to the Appeal is converted into a communications system that reaches the faithful, strengthens parish capacity, and makes the life of the Church visible. Each channel serves a distinct pastoral purpose. Together, they enable the Diocese to reach people through the channels most likely to earn attention, trust, and response.

- **Catholic Life brings formation to the door:** Published four times a year and mailed to roughly 51,000 households across nineteen counties, it remains the Diocese’s broadest print channel. Its refreshed design and original storytelling convey the Church’s “way of beauty.”

- **The diocesan newsletter goes out rather than waiting to be found.** It reaches 41,000 email addresses each month. Recent issues have opened between 46 and 50 percent, most recently 50 percent, compared with a nonprofit average of 20 to 25 percent, putting roughly 20,000 people in front of diocesan formation with each send. Engagement extends to the bottom of the page: one spring edition sent 517 people to a video from our Vicar for Clergy, 472 to the Holy Father’s Lenten message, and 195 to download a family formation resource. Few investments in this Diocese put that much formation in front of that many people for that little money.
- **Connecting the Diocese and Relevant Radio creates space for depth.** The weekly podcast and hour-long radio program create space that print and short announcements cannot. A brief Gospel Primer prepares listeners for Sunday, while longer conversations allow the Bishop, priests, deacons, religious and lay witnesses to explain, testify and accompany. The program is now written, recorded, edited, and produced entirely by our staff in our diocesan “studio” (a recording space adjacent to the director’s office).
- **We visit the parishes rather than asking them to come to us.** During the spring Parish Roundtables, our team spent a week at six host parishes, from Onalaska to Wausau to Kendall, meeting more than sixty parish secretaries and staff. Rural parishes turned out in force; our smallest host drew seventeen attendees. Curia colleagues rotate through these sessions, so a parish secretary can address questions from four offices in a single morning.
- **Formation for current questions:** Timely explainers, parish guides, presentations, and in-person roundtables help local leaders respond faithfully and prudently to emerging cultural and technological questions.
- **Parish capacity without duplicate costs.** We administer and support the diocesan Flocknote and Catholic Social Media partnerships, handle onboarding and troubleshooting, build reusable templates, and coach local leaders. The diocesan Flocknote channel alone now has 68,149 contacts and adds roughly 500 more each month. Shared infrastructure means no parish has to buy the same tools, build the same expertise, or recreate the same materials on its own.
- **Storytelling in the field shows the Church as it is lived.** Photography, videography, and on-site reporting take us beyond the Diocesan Center to parishes, schools, rural communities, liturgies, anniversaries, and works of mercy. Parishes receive professional coverage they could rarely produce themselves, now including FAA-licensed drone photography and video at no charge.
- **Public witness and institutional trust.** This Office serves as the diocesan media contact and spokesperson. We prepare statements, coordinate interviews, verify facts, monitor emerging issues, and support the Bishop and diocesan leadership in sensitive matters. Timely, accurate, and distinctly Catholic communication reduces confusion, protects credibility, and enables the Diocese to speak rather than be spoken for.

From Maintenance to Mission

The Bishop’s call to move from maintenance to mission and to be formational rather than merely informational requires more than accurate publication. It requires presence,

relationship, audience awareness, local capacity, and coordinated action. This Office has organized its work around that direction and is already living out the shift.

MISSION SHIFT	MAINTENANCE POSTURE	MISSION POSTURE
Purpose	Publish accurate information.	Create encounters, invite responses, and move people toward participation.
Presence	Communicate from the Diocesan Center.	Go to parishes, schools, and communities to listen, document, and serve.
Capacity	Produce centrally for local consumption.	Provide parishes with shared tools, training, content, and direct technical support.
Digital	Maintain a repository of departmental information.	Build a clear gateway to worship, formation, service, and belonging.
Stewardship	Preserve legacy structures	Protect what works, reduce avoidable costs, and reinvest in the parish-facing mission.

That posture is not theoretical. It is visible in decisions made this year.

- **Rebuilding the diocesan website on evidence, not preference.** At the Bishop’s direction, we are exploring a rebuild of diolc.org, beginning with a study of how it is used. The site is being approached not as a departmental filing cabinet but as a gateway to worship, formation, service, and belonging.
- **Print discipline in service of something better.** Catholic Life runs to a flexible page ceiling, set with our publisher on press economics rather than habit, because magazines print most efficiently in full signatures and pages beyond one carry real and avoidable cost. Recent issues have run within that ceiling. What we have not economized on is the work itself. Many Catholic magazines are assembled from a shared template. Ours is not. The cover, the typography, and the photography are built here, issue by issue, on the conviction that what is true and good also deserves to be beautiful, and that beauty is itself a form of proclamation.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

Appeal funding sustains a shared diocesan capability that no single parish could afford to replicate and that every parish, school, office, and ministry can access.

Bishop and leadership communications Pastoral messages, public statements, major announcements, video and audio content, and coordinated communication on diocesan priorities.	Catholic Life Four thematic, high-quality issues each year, long-form Catholic storytelling, editorial leadership, and distribution to approximately 51,000 households.
Direct digital engagement The monthly diocesan newsletter, Flocknote administration, and targeted email and text support, aided by analytics, improve reach and timing.	Connecting the Diocese A weekly podcast and an hour-long Relevant Radio program featuring a Gospel Primer and extended conversations with the Bishop, clergy, religious, and lay witnesses.
Parish platforms and training Flocknote and Catholic Social Media onboarding, troubleshooting, reusable resources and templates, coaching, and practical support.	Photography and video Field coverage of liturgies, schools, anniversaries, vocations, rural life, ministries, and works of mercy, including aerial imagery as appropriate.
Website and social media Management and improvement of the diocesan website, social channels, campaign pages, digital resources, and coordinated publishing.	Public relations and readiness Media relations, releases, interviews, research, fact verification, monitoring, crisis communication, and rapid leadership support.
Strategic campaign integration Quarterly planning with Curia offices to ensure each initiative is delivered through the channels most likely to reach its audience.	Preservation of the diocesan record Protecting and opening the written memory of the local Church so that it remains accessible to the parishes and families whose history it preserves.

SIGNIFICANT NEW INITIATIVE: PRESERVING AND OPENING THE DIOCESAN HISTORICAL RECORD

Delay is not neutral. For most projects, inaction delays a benefit. Here, inaction can destroy the asset.

Before there were diocesan websites or parish emails, there was the newspaper. From August 1936 to November 2015, the Catholic press of this Diocese, including The Register, The Register/Times Review, the Times Review, and the Catholic Times, recorded what happened to us. It chronicled nearly eight decades of parish foundations and anniversaries, ordinations and religious professions, Catholic schools, clergy assignments, sacramental life, and rural communities and families. It is the only continuous written record of ordinary Catholic life across our nineteen counties in the twentieth century.

Consider what is in those pages. The cornerstone your great-grandfather helped lay, photographed on the day it was set. The parish that burned after a lightning strike one August night, and the account, two years later, of the people who rebuilt it and filled it again. The names of the young men who left for the war and those who did not come home. First Communion. Golden anniversaries. The Franciscan sisters sent to Guam in the 1940s. A young Sister Thea Bowman. These are not artifacts. They are our people, the communion of saints in newsprint. Today, not one of those stories can be found by anyone who does not already know exactly which closet to open and has the time to search manually.

Those boxes are running out of time. The newspapers are up to eighty years old. Newsprint from that era was manufactured to last a season, not a century. It is acidic by design and is doing what acidic paper does, yellowing, growing brittle, and breaking at the fold. In May 2026, a pipe burst in the diocesan center, sending water through the entire first floor and into the offices bordering ours. The newspapers were spared, but the event turned a theoretical risk into a real one. Insurance can replace shelving. It cannot recreate a vanished issue.

CURRENT CONDITION	COST OF INACTION	WHAT DIGITIZATION CHANGES
Aging, increasingly fragile newsprint	Continued handling accelerates wear. A unique damaged issue has no replacement.	High-resolution digital surrogates eliminate the need for routine handling of the originals.
A collection concentrated in one physical location	Water, fire, or another building-related event could destroy irreplaceable evidence of diocesan life.	A hosted archive creates a durable access copy independent of the paper copy.
Manual, page-by-page research	Parish staff, families, and historians spend hours searching or abandon questions that cannot be answered efficiently.	Optical character recognition makes names, parishes, schools, priests, and events searchable across decades.

We Confirmed No One Has done this before.

THE EAST VIEW SOLUTION, AND THE DILIGENCE BEHIND IT

East View Information Services proposes to scan and post-process the collection, apply optical character recognition, and place the newspapers in a searchable digital archive with a custom diocesan interface. A parish could search for its name across decades. A family could locate a grandparent’s service. A school could recover its founding story. Clergy, diocesan offices, and researchers could retrieve what they need without handling fragile originals.

East View has spent decades converting newspaper collections into searchable digital archives. Its partners include the University of Wisconsin, the Minnesota Historical Society, and St. Olaf

College, as well as the World Bank, Cambridge University Press, the Center for Research Libraries, and the Hoover Institution. This is an established operator with a documented record of complex, large-scale work, not a vendor found in a search result.

The diligence behind this proposal is substantial. As Director, I traveled to East View’s facilities, toured the production workflow, met the team that would handle our materials, and walked through the process end-to-end. We then sent representative issues from across the decades and received a full proof of concept. I reviewed the sample scans and the trial search environment myself. The quality is excellent, the interface is sound, and East View confirmed that none of our issues were classified as fragile, so the quote carries no special-handling surcharges. I can personally attest to the scope, quality, and soundness of this investment. Bishop Battersby, the Vicar General, and our diocesan archivist have been involved as the project has developed.

THE INVESTMENT

East View proposal dated 21 May 2026, valid through 15 December 2026.

COMPONENT	BASIS	QUOTED COST
Digitization and post-processing	56,661 pages at \$1.40 per page	\$79,325.40
Searchable archive platform	One-time development and configuration	\$7,200.00
First-year platform maintenance	Waived by the vendor	\$0.00
Total initial project investment	Digitization plus platform	\$86,525.40
Annual maintenance from year two	Hosting plus one annual upload of new issues	\$6,600.00

Our inventory counts 56,611 pages across the four titles; the vendor’s pricing line reflects 56,661. The Diocese is responsible for transporting materials; we absorb the two-hour drive in-house. Beyond year one, the ongoing obligation is \$6,600 annually, roughly eighteen dollars a day, to keep eighty years of our history safe, searchable, and permanently available to every parish and family in the Diocese. Delaying extends the period of physical risk and may require the project to be repriced or rescoped. The investment is finite and identifiable. The loss of part of the collection would be permanent and impossible to price honestly.

WHY THE APPEAL IS THE RIGHT VEHICLE

No single parish can carry this, and no single parish should. The Register did not cover one parish. It covered all of us. The history is jointly owned; the loss would be shared; and the benefit — a searchable archive any parish, school, family, or historian can access from anywhere — is shared. That is precisely the logic of the Diocesan Annual Appeal: a bill we share because it buys a good we share. Parishes have already begun asking how they will access their local histories through this effort. Once the collection is live, a parish secretary

preparing for a 125th anniversary or a family tracing a grandparent’s baptism will find in seconds what would take a week of searching today, if it can be found at all.

For the people of this Diocese who built parishes, buried children, and kept the faith through depression and war, and who quietly handed down to us, this is our chance to be that bard. Not by writing something new, but by refusing to let what was already written disappear.

NEXT-STEP GROWTH IN THE COMING YEAR

- Launch the newspaper digitization project and make the searchable archive available online for use by the parish and the public.
- Complete and launch the redesigned diocesan website.
- Carry the redesigned Catholic Life through a full-volume year and continue to advance its visual and editorial standards.
- Further the newsletter reach beyond 41,000 households while maintaining engagement above the nonprofit benchmark.
- Expand parish digital coaching so parish staff can sustain their outreach without waiting for us.
- Extend podcast, video, and social outreach to younger audiences and those on the periphery.
- Keep production in-house wherever quality permits, so every dollar saved goes to parish-facing services.

And this year, it does one more thing. It ensures that the story of how we got here, faithfully recorded week by week for eighty years by people who assumed someone would care, remains available to those who come after us.

Your participation turns many professional, creative, and financial gifts into a shared communications mission that forms the faithful, equips parishes, extends diocesan ministries, and protects trust. Continued support sustains a lean, proven, and parish-centered capability, enabling the Diocese to teach clearly, invite broadly, and move outward in mission.

Reach figures reflect 2026 distribution and engagement data. East View pricing is based on its proposal dated 21 May 2026, valid through 15 December 2026.

Office for Safe Environment

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

A safe Church is a trustworthy place to encounter Christ and grow in faith. The Office for Safe Environment coordinates formation, screening, reporting practices, and parish support so that clergy, staff, volunteers, parents, and young people share responsibility for protecting the vulnerable and for building a culture worthy of the Gospel.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Whole-church formation for vigilance and care:** Annual safe-environment education, delivered online and in person, equips clergy, staff, volunteers, and parents to recognize warning signs, respond appropriately, and follow reporting procedures that protect children and vulnerable adults.
- **Every student is formed to speak up:** All students in our Catholic schools and Religious Education programs participate in annual youth training, fostering a culture in which children understand their dignity and know how to seek help.
- **Screening that strengthens witnesses:** Thorough background checks and clear standards for those who serve with youth ensure that ministry settings reflect the Gospel we proclaim.
- **Clergy equipped for pastoral leadership:** Priests and deacons engage in ongoing formation at Priest Unity Days, Fall Ministry Days, and other gatherings, integrating safe environment practices into parish life and mission.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From compliance to culture:** Formation helps every parish foster relationships of accountability and care so that evangelization proceeds from integrity rather than from minimum requirements.
- **From policies to people:** Adults and young people learn to protect, accompany, report concerns, and speak up, making safety a daily Christian responsibility.
- **From isolated efforts to diocesan communion:** Consistent resources, support for parishes and schools, and collaboration with diocesan leadership align safety with our mission-first priorities.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Comprehensive formation and screening:** In 2025-26, 2,912 paid staff and 4,009 volunteers completed Safe Environment training, and 13,618 students (grades 1–12) received youth training, demonstrating a culture in which protection is everyone’s responsibility.
- **Charter compliance and external audits:** Annual audits and triennial on-site reviews verify fidelity to the USCCB Charter; the Diocese has maintained compliance since audits began.

- **Accessible parish and school support:** Year-round assistance, updated educational materials, and a mix of online and in-person delivery to help every community meet standards and foster trust.

Your participation helps build a culture where protection is a shared Christian responsibility. Formation, screening, reporting practices, and responsive parish support protect the vulnerable, strengthen trust, and make the Church's witness more credible.

Office for Stewardship & Development

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Stewardship is the disciple’s grateful response to God’s grace. The Office for Stewardship & Development helps individuals, households, parishes, and diocesan ministries receive, cultivate, and share gifts of prayer, service, leadership, and financial resources, so that generosity becomes a formative practice and the Church has what it needs to carry out its mission.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Forming stewards, not just donors:** Workshops, resources, and parish coaching focus on prayer, Scripture, and Catholic social teaching, helping households grow as missionary disciples who share Christ through generosity.
- **Mission storytelling that inspires witness:** Appeal communications, video production, and parish-ready materials connect gifts to changed lives, transforming “fundraising” into faith-raising.
- **Strategic planning and tools for parishes:** Data analysis, goal setting, and calendar alignment help pastors and leaders steward people and resources toward evangelization priorities.
- **Planned Giving as a long-term mission:** Wills, bequests, and legacy guidance help families make enduring gifts that carry the Gospel to future generations.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From transactions to transformation:** We go beyond simply “meeting a budget” to forming stewards whose generosity fuels evangelization and works of mercy.
- **From scarcity to apostolic boldness:** In the spirit of Matthew 25, we courageously invest God’s gifts, trusting the Lord to multiply them for mission, with your active participation.
- **From siloed efforts to a unified mission:** Stewardship unites parishes, schools, households, and diocesan ministries through encounter, accompaniment, service, and sending.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Diocesan Annual Appeal activities:** Staff, printing, postage, digital tools/CRM, video production, promotion, and donor care that support a clear, compelling invitation to mission.
- **Planned giving services:** Education, consultations, and resources to help families create legacies (including bequests, beneficiary designations, and other options) that support the Church’s mission for decades.

- **Parish and curia support:** Coaching, campaign and event coordination, appeals strategy, and analytics that enable pastors and leaders to focus on disciple formation.
- **Year-round stewardship formation:** Retreats, small-group resources, and parish toolkits that foster a culture of gratitude, service, and sacrificial giving.

Your participation helps form stewards, not merely donors—disciples who receive God’s gifts with gratitude, cultivate them responsibly, and share them generously. Together, prayer, service, planned giving, and sacrificial financial support provide lasting resources for the Church’s mission.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Office for Temporalities

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Mission requires sound stewardship of people, finances, facilities, and systems. Through Finance, Human Resources, Buildings and Grounds, Parish Administrative Support Services, Parish Auditing, and Holy Cross Diocesan Center operations, the Office for Temporalities enables pastors and ministries to devote more time and energy to worship, evangelization, formation, and mercy.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Freeing pastors for people:** PASS, Finance, HR, and Auditing support reduce administrative burdens, allowing clergy and parish leaders to spend more time accompanying families and evangelizing.
- **Spaces that send:** Well-maintained churches, chapels, and gathering spaces (including the Cathedral and the Holy Cross campus) host confirmations, OCIA rites, retreats, training sessions, and events that form and commission disciples.
- **Credible stewardship:** Transparent financial management and audits foster trust—transforming generosity into fuel for mission in every parish.
- **Hospitality for ministry:** Reliable facilities, technology, and shared services enable diocesan offices and Catholic Charities to serve the poor, form leaders, and coordinate outreach throughout the Diocese.
- **Caring for retired priests:** Recent renovations at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center enable the office to coordinate housing and practical care for some retired priests who continue to enrich the community.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From fixing things to supporting people:** Operations strengthen sacramental life, evangelization, and leadership development—not just buildings and systems.
- **From silos to collaboration:** Centralized services foster scale and consistency, enabling parishes to share resources and advance the mission together.
- **From short-term fixes to long-term stewardship:** Proactive planning, campus care, and sustainable practices safeguard the Church’s ability to serve and send for decades.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral—operations and maintenance:** Support for the Mother Church, where diocesan liturgies (Chrism Mass, ordinations, major celebrations) gather the faithful and send them forth.
- **Holy Cross Diocesan Center—operations and maintenance:** Providing daily support for the Curia and Catholic Charities across more than 99 rooms, including offices, conference spaces, Christ the King Chapel, Crypt Chapel, St. Martha’s Kitchen and Refectory, and a gym—supporting training sessions, retreats, leader meetings, formation days, TV Mass productions, and more.

- **Mission and ministry venues:** The Holy Cross campus hosts clergy gatherings, formation days, retreats, donor and family events, councils, Bible studies, Catholic Charities services, and collaborative ministry throughout the Curia.
- **Community service and responsible campus care:** Gym and field use, emergency-response partnerships, and Mississippi-shore grounds support Catholic education, community needs, creation care, prayer, and hospitality.

Your participation helps ensure that every dollar, building, benefit plan, and shared system serves people and the mission. Faithful temporal stewardship provides pastors, parishes, and ministries with dependable foundations for worship, discipleship, and service to their communities.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Office for Catholic Schools

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Catholic schools help young people discover that every ability is a gift to be developed for God and neighbor. Serving 57 parish schools and unified Catholic school systems, the Office for Catholic Schools supports pastors, principals, teachers, students, and families so that academic excellence, Catholic identity, and service remain integral to one mission.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Developing missionary educators:** Workshops and in-service formation help teachers and administrators align academic leadership with the work of guiding students into a living relationship with Christ.
- **Strengthening Catholic identity:** Standardized Religion assessment, curriculum support, and guidance on Catholic identity help schools teach the faith clearly and confidently, so that worship at the altar becomes a witness in the world.
- **Freeing leaders to focus on their mission:** Monitoring state and national policies and advising on legal and operational issues removes obstacles, enabling principals and pastors to devote more time to forming disciples and reaching families.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From compliance to calling:** Operational burdens are lifted, allowing leaders to focus on evangelization, discipleship, and family outreach.
- **From subject mastery to integrated formation:** At our schools, academic rigor and Catholic identity work together to form whole persons who know, love, and follow Jesus.
- **From isolated classrooms to a missionary network:** Best practices and shared resources across 57 schools and systems amplify our impact and foster a culture of encounter, accompaniment, and sending, demonstrating the strength of our Catholic community.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **6,785 students in 2025–26:** Appeal support provides daily formation where faith, learning, and service come together.
- **Catholic Schools Development funds:** Training and direct support strengthen academic growth, school vitality, and evangelization of Catholic identity.
- **Direct Parish Subsidy for Catholic Schools:** Concrete support honors parishes that make significant sacrifices to sustain Catholic education and to form young disciples.
- **Tuition Assistance:** In 2025–26, \$93,924.00 from the Diocesan Annual Appeal helped families keep their children in Catholic schools—ensuring access to formation that unites classroom excellence with the call to missionary discipleship.

Your participation helps Catholic schools form young people who recognize their abilities as gifts and learn to use them in service to God and neighbor. Shared stewardship strengthens schools, supports families, and keeps Catholic education focused on its discipleship and mission.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

FOCUS Campus Ministries

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

FOCUS forms missionary disciples at UW–Stout, UW–Eau Claire, UW–Stevens Point, and UW–La Crosse. Through the Diocesan Annual Appeal, trained missionaries offer their gifts in service to students through friendship, Bible study, mentoring, prayer, and sacramental life—helping young adults encounter Christ and learn to share the Gospel with their peers.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Peer-to-peer evangelization:** Missionaries invest in authentic friendships, lead small-group Scripture studies, and model daily discipleship—so students become evangelizers among their peers.
- **Accompaniment into the heart of the Church:** Students are encouraged to engage in prayer, the sacraments, and parish life, forming habits that extend beyond graduation into families, workplaces, and parishes throughout the diocese.
- **Leaders for mission:** One-on-one mentoring prepares students to lead small groups, share their testimony, and serve—multiplying missionary disciples on campus and in our parishes.
- **Credible witness of mercy:** Pastoral care and healing communities help students trust the Church and the Gospel, making evangelization believable among peers.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From chaplaincy-only to evangelizing movement:** Your Appeal support shifts us from merely maintaining programs to actively sending missionaries to seek out the lost and invite them to conversion on secular campuses.
- **From isolated efforts to diocesan strategy:** Campus outreach is integrated with the broader Church, so local generosity strengthens the Catholic witness and prepares students to renew parish life after graduation.
- **From hesitation to hope:** Communities of prayer, integrity, and mercy give students the confidence to witness to Christ among their peers and in the parishes and workplaces where they will later serve.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Missionary presence across four campuses:** Supports FOCUS teams at UW–Stout, UW–Eau Claire, UW–Stevens Point, and UW–La Crosse, placing intentional disciples at the heart of student life.
- **Discipleship pathways:** Include Bible studies, mentorship, retreats, RCIA accompaniment, and leadership development to prepare students to live out and share their faith.
- **Participation in the broader Church’s mission:** Connects our campus evangelization to diocesan, statewide, national, and universal efforts, enhancing Catholic unity and

outreach. Your support is vital to this larger mission, making you an integral part of the Church's outreach.

Your participation places missionaries alongside young adults at a decisive moment in their lives and helps students become evangelizers among their peers. The gifts shared through the Appeal bear fruit on campus today and in parishes, families, and workplaces for years to come.

Catholic Charities

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Catholic Charities puts the gifts of the diocesan family at the service of neighbors facing poverty, homelessness, disability, family transitions, migration, and recovery. Appeal participation helps keep essential services low- or no-fee and turns Christian compassion into practical accompaniment across the Diocese’s nineteen counties.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Mercy that evangelizes:** Parish-connected outreach (rent, utilities, food, advocacy, and financial education) addresses urgent needs and opens doors to prayer, accompaniment, and community, where healing can grow into discipleship.
- **Stability that restores vocation:** Our housing, case management, and representative payee services are not just about providing a roof over someone's head. They help our neighbors regain stability, so parents, students, and workers can live out their baptismal mission.
- **Families and newcomers are welcomed:** Hague-accredited adoption services, pregnancy support, and immigration legal assistance safeguard life, reunite families, and integrate newcomers into parish and community life.
- **Accompaniment for the vulnerable:** Disability services and sober-living support preserve dignity and empower participants and volunteers to serve others as missionary disciples.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From programs to people:** Case management and mentoring focus on building trusting relationships, not just transactions, so charity becomes a way to connect, support, and empower.
- **From crisis to commissioning:** As lives stabilize, clients, volunteers, and parish partners are encouraged to give back by using their gifts in service and witness.
- **From silos to collaboration:** Catholic Charities partners with parishes, schools, civic agencies, and diocesan offices to extend impact, coordinate care, and prevent duplication.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **St. Lawrence Community Services:** provided \$235,482 in direct aid to 2,876 individuals, covering rent, utilities, food, transportation, and health needs, and offering advocacy, financial literacy, and customized case plans.
- **Representative Payee Program:** 286 clients received budgeting support and payment management for rent, utilities, groceries, and other essentials, restoring order and peace of mind.

- **Community Homeless Facilities:** 27,476 nights of shelter provided; Good Shepherd Shelter in Wausau and the La Crosse Warming Center remain seasonal, with added day services.
- **Residential Housing:** In 2025, sixty-nine individuals and families were housed through the Beyond Shelter and Thriving Families programs, which combine housing with supportive services and resource connections to promote sustainable independence.
- **Family Services Program (Adoption):** 54 adoptions finalized in 2025; the agency is Wisconsin's only Hague-accredited provider for international adoptions; it provides 24/7 confidential support for expectant parents and offers robust post-adoption resources.
- **Immigration Assistance:** Served 361 immigrants in 2025 through DOJ-recognized, accredited staff and access to a contracted immigration attorney (including naturalization, adjustment, VAWA, referrals, and more).
- **Disability Services & Recovery Supports:** 25,272 staffing hours in 2025 across Adult, School, and After-School programs; partnerships (e.g., Bridges of Belonging and The Dwelling Place); and the Live By Program sober-living collaboration with La Crosse County.
- **Volunteers:** 1,067 volunteers dedicated 10,926 hours, an army of hope that keeps doors open and extends Christ's mercy to the margins.

Your participation puts mercy into motion, helping neighbors find safety, stability, dignity, and a path forward while inviting volunteers and parish partners to serve. Across nineteen counties, many gifts become one mission of practical, Christ-centered love.

MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION

Charity, Missions & the Wider Church

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

The gifts entrusted to our Diocese are meant to serve both our neighbors and the wider Church. Through shared support for national and global Catholic needs, humanitarian relief, home missions, and charitable works, the Diocesan Annual Appeal expresses communion and enables parishes to participate together in a mission larger than any one community.

How Your Gift Forms and Sends Disciples

- **Unity with the universal Church:** Support for the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and the Holy See strengthens the Church’s public witness and its global mission.
- **A culture of generosity within the parish:** By consolidating several special collections, the Appeal reduces repeated parish appeals while continuing to support essential national and global outreach.
- **Credible mercy toward the wounded:** Works of charity, including pastoral care for survivors, foster protection, healing, and trust.

From Maintenance to Mission

- **From scattered asks to strategic sending:** The Diocesan Annual Appeal streamlines collections so parishes can focus on preaching, forming, and sending while still supporting urgent needs throughout the broader Church.
- **From local only to Church Universal:** Shared support extends local generosity to the Church’s national and worldwide mission.
- **From hesitation to shared responsibility:** Clear formation and coordinated support help households and parishes recognize wider-Church needs as part of our baptismal mission and respond together with confidence.

What Your Participation Makes Possible

- **Support for the wider Church:** Participation with the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and the Holy See demonstrates communion and shared responsibility for mission.
- Eleven special collections funded by the Diocesan Annual Appeal (reducing second collections in parishes):
 - Collection for Aid for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe (CCEE)
 - Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
 - Black & Indian Missions
 - Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC)
 - Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA)
 - Catholic University of America
 - Diocese of La Crosse Home Missions, including:
 - Fr. Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild (Beatification; Casa Hogar in Peru)

- Diocesan Social Ministries
 - Pontifical Good Friday Collection (Holy Land)
 - Collection for the Church in Latin America (CLA)
 - Peter's Pence Collection
- **Works of Charity:** Your contributions to the Diocesan Annual Appeal fund a range of essential works of charity. Although certain restricted diocesan funds, such as those collected through the Appeal, cannot be used for clergy sexual misconduct claims, the Works of Charity Fund has occasionally provided assistance with treatment and care for survivors as they seek healing—an expression of the Church's pastoral compassion.

Your participation connects the Diocese of La Crosse to the Church's national and worldwide mission and extends mercy to people beyond our immediate reach. By sharing our gifts, parishes serve more effectively while remaining focused on worship, formation, and local mission.

Sources and Contact

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Thank you for prayerfully considering how your gifts can serve the mission of the Diocese of La Crosse. Together, through prayer, service, and sacrificial giving, we help parishes and ministries proclaim Christ, form disciples, and care for our neighbors.

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