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The Eucharist Makes Us the Church

An update on the Annual Diocesan Appeal with a focus on Marriage and Family Life programs in the Diocese.

An Invitation to Join the St. John Paul II Shepherd’s Guild

Learn how to actively participate in the pastoral work of fostering and supporting vocations in our Diocese.

Make a Difference Month after Month

Saint Francis taught us to serve the least among us and to take care of the earth. Joining the St. Francis Circle monthly electronic giving program is an opportunity to support the Annual Diocesan Appeal in an eco-friendly way. Here are a few of the benefits to becoming a member of the St. Francis Circle:
- It’s easy and automatic. You choose the monthly amount.
- It’s flexible and secure. You can increase, decrease, pause or stop your donation at any time.
- It’s convenient. You will receive one giving statement for your donations each January.
- It’s rewarding. You will grow in faith by sharing lovingly with others.

Sign up to make a continuous monthly gift through credit card or automatic bank withdrawal. Your gift repeats for 12 months and continues from year-to-year. That means less money for mailing and processing and more money for ministry to serve the poor, families, clergy and children throughout the Diocese.

To join, simply check the St. Francis Circle option on our Annual Diocesan Appeal commitment envelopes found in your parish or sign up today at bit.ly/StFrancisCircle.
An Invitation to Join

As faithful Catholics, we have an important part in this formation. First, by praying for vocations, for men discerning a priestly vocation and for those in active seminary formation. Our prayers strengthen and sustain them on their discernment journey. Next, it is important that we too are formed and are knowledgeable about the process of priestly formation. With this knowledge we can act as ambassadors for vocations in our parishes and other groups we participate in. Finally, our financial support makes it possible for these men to focus on their discernment without the worry of how to pay for their education and most basic needs.

These men will one day accompany us on our faith journey as our priests. We have the privilege to accompany them on their discernment journey. Please consider this invitation and join hundreds across the Diocese and become a member of the St. John Paul II Shepherd’s Guild.

To learn more about the Shepherd’s Guild visit www.advancementfoundation.org/sjp2-shepherdsguild or contact Elizabeth A. Becker at 817-943-9443 or ebecker@advancementfoundation.org.

Are you attending the North Texas Catholic Men’s Conference on Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019? If so, come by the Shepherd’s Guild booth to learn more about supporting our men in seminary formation.

Celebrate Marriage

National Marriage Week is February 7-14, 2019

“Faith and hope find their fullest expression in love - love of God and love of neighbor. The call to love reaches beyond the home to the extended family, the neighborhood, and the larger community. This marital and familial love finds its complete expression, following the example of Jesus himself, in a willingness to sacrifice oneself in everyday situations for one’s spouse and children. There is no greater love within a marriage and a family than for the spouses and children to lay down their lives for one another. This is the heart of the vocation of marriage, the heart of the call to become holy.”

Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan, USCCB

As we approach National Marriage Week to be observed Feb. 7-14 and World Marriage Day on Sunday, Feb. 10, we have an opportunity to support the vocation of marriage and the gift of family life.

The Secretariat on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provides many resources for pastors and married couples to help in this celebration of love and life. You can locate these resources at http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/national-marriage-week.cfm.

Keep Up with the Foundation on Facebook

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

Follow us on Facebook
@advancementfoundation
@sjp2shepherdsguild
Marriage and family life programs support families in our Diocese

“Love that leads to marriage is a gift from God and a great act of faith toward other human beings.” Saint John Paul II

Marriage is a gift from God to be celebrated and supported. You can be a part of this celebration by making a donation to the 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal. The Office of Marriage and Family Life provides programs to assist couples across the spectrum of married and family life. It begins with programs for engaged couples preparing for marriage to counseling and family life programs for married couples and families as they traverse through the stages of life. When you support the Annual Diocesan Appeal you’re providing valuable resources and scholarships for engaged couples, married couples and families that help to strengthen and support them in their vocation.

Make a gift today to the Annual Diocesan Appeal and be a part of supporting this wonderful gift from God. Together we are the Church, together we can make a difference.

Congratulations!

These parishes have achieved their Annual Diocesan Appeal goal!

St. John Paul II, Denton
St. Mary, Dublin
St. Mary, Graham
Holy Redeemer, Aledo
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Penelope
St. Peter, Lindsay
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fort Worth
Sacred Heart, Comanche
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Abbott
St. William, Montague
Sacred Heart, Seymour
St. Brendan, Stephenville
Korean Martyrs, Fort Worth
Jesus of Nazareth, Albany

Ways to Give

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

Text to Give: Text ADA to 91999

Online: bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal

Thank you to the more than 10,500 families across the Diocese who have given more than $2.7 million for the 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Through January 29 we have reached 64.99% of our $4.2 million goal.

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

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

Monday, March 4, 2019 - McGread Stewardship Reunion
St. Michael, Bedford
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch included
If you have attended a McGread Stewardship Conference you are invited to join us for this working lunch to collaborate with others who are working to increase stewardship as a way of life in our parishes and Diocese.
RSVP required to Diana Liska at 817-945-9444 or dliska@advancementfoundation.org

March 30, 2019 - Leadership Day of Renewal Building His Kingdom Together
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Keller
9:00 a.m. to noon
Bishop Michael Olson, Keynote
Contact Diana Liska for additional information at 817-945-9444 or dliska@advancementfoundation.org

View these events and more on our website www.advancementfoundation.org/calendar

Support the Church in Latin America

Please be generous during this special collection - February 2-3, 2019

The special collection for the Church in Latin America, to be held on Feb. 2-3, 2019, supports the work of pastoral projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. For many living in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, rural terrain and a shortage of priests make it difficult for people to practice their faith. When you support the Church in Latin America you fund catechesis, marriage and family life programs, and seminarian and religious formation. These vital ministry areas are the avenue for people to grow closer to Jesus Christ. Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection and share your faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Please be generous by giving in your parish during weekend Masses on Feb. 2-3 or text CLA to 91999 to make a donation. Thank you for your generosity!