

ADVANCING THE MISSION



HONOR THEIR LIFETIME OF SERVICE

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Priest Care Fund Special Collection, Jan 13-14, supports retired, infirm priests

Together, each year we are able to offset medical expenses for retired and infirm priests in the Diocese of Fort Worth. One hundred percent of this collection remains in the Diocese of Fort Worth to pay for medical and long-term care expenses of retired priests not covered by insurance. Please respond in love for their years of generous service by donating to the Priest Care Fund through the collection taken during Mass, through your parish's online payment system or [online here](#).

Other Special Collections in January and February: Church in Latin America, Jan-27-28; Black and Indian Missions, February 17-18.

HIGHEST RATES IN 16 YEARS

The Amazing Benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity

It's the best time in a long time to consider the gift that pays you: a charitable gift annuity.

Payout rates went up again Jan. 1, 2024, and are higher than they have been in 16 years. Seize the moment by considering this amazing gift that provides you with stable, regular income—regardless of the economy.

After your lifetime, the remaining amount becomes part of your legacy at the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth Advancement Foundation, allowing our mission to thrive far into the future.

How It Works

With a gift annuity, you make a donation using cash, marketable securities or other assets, and we, in turn, pay you a fixed amount for life. You'll receive reliable, predictable payments for your lifetime (and the lifetime of a loved one, if you choose).

For Example

Barbara, 72, transfers \$25,000 in exchange for a charitable gift annuity. She will receive annual payments of \$1,650, a rate of 6.6%.

**Based on a 5.2% charitable midterm federal rate. Deductions and calculations will vary depending on your personal circumstances.*

Additional Benefits

With this gift, you'll also enjoy:

- A partial income tax charitable deduction for your gift when you itemize.
- Part of each payment being income tax-free throughout your estimated life expectancy.

Tip: You Have Funding Options

- Give Appreciated Assets. Funding a gift annuity with appreciated assets, such as securities, will not only provide you with reliable payments for life and allow you to support our work, but it can offer financial benefits. You will receive a federal income tax charitable deduction (when you itemize) in the year the gift is made and eliminate part of the capital gains tax you would have paid if selling the securities. And if you have stocks that produce low-yield dividends, you may be able to increase your income.
 - Give From Your IRA. If you are 70½ or older, you can make a one-time election for a qualified charitable distribution of up to \$53,000 (without being taxed) from your IRA to fund a gift annuity. Special rules apply, so contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at 817-533-7242 or plannedgiving@adv-fdn.org for more details.

Request Your Personalized Example

We would be happy to send you a free, no-obligation calculation showing you the increased benefits you can receive from a gift annuity. Your personalized calculation will include your potential income tax charitable deduction and our annual payments to you for life. Contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at 817-533-7242 or plannedgiving@adv-fdn.org to begin.

Visit our website at <https://advancementfoundation.planmygift.org/2024-cga-rate-increase> for more details, as well as the complete rate charts and a “Build Your Own Gift Annuity” calculator to see how a gift annuity can benefit you and your chosen Catholic entity.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Giving Generously to Your Parish

As we reflect on our family budgets for the coming year, now is an ideal time to focus on gratitude and what we are willing to give back to the Lord in 2024. It can be easy to become distracted by the busyness, planning, spending and indebtedness we occur around the holidays. But when we turn the calendar page we should prayerfully reflect on what priority we will give to God in our spending.

Christian stewards acknowledge with gratitude that even their financial resources and material wealth ultimately come from God. Exercising good stewardship over the money one makes, manages, spends and offers back to God is a tangible measure of their gratitude to God and their spiritual health.

Giving generously to their parish, dioceses and institutions of the Catholic Church is second nature to good stewards. They prayerfully reflect on their ability to give and return the "first fruits" of their financial resources back to God (Leviticus 23:10). The good steward's desire is to put God first among his or her spending priorities. They take seriously the psalmist's question: "What return shall I make to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12).



The best way to respond to God's loving generosity is by reflecting that generosity day by day. What God does in Jesus' human life is a much-magnified version of what happens when we take time to pray, offer our time and talents to our parish family or when family budgets and spending habits are reprioritized to conform more devotedly to the Gospel. The stewardship question is not, "Should I do these things?" but rather, "How much should I do?" Take time during these next couple of weeks to reflect prayerfully on God's generosity toward you, on the quality of your own life of gratitude and what you are doing and can do to further God's kingdom by your own giving patterns in the coming year.

For a tool on how to budget charitable giving to your parish, the Annual Diocesan Appeal, special collections and other worthy purposes, visit <https://www.advancementfoundation.org/my-catholic-giving-guide-english-2024.pdf>

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

United in Faith and Community

National Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States now entering its 50th anniversary year. The event will be celebrated throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth from January 28-February 3 with special Masses, assemblies, open houses and other opportunities to celebrate what makes a Catholic education so vital in our world today. Learn more about our Catholic schools at <https://catholicschoolsfwdioc.org/>. To support our schools through tuition assistance donations, salary support, safety and security enhancements or endowment funds visit www.advancementfoundation.org.



Visit a Catholic School near you!



ARLINGTON

- 1 Saint Joseph
- 2 Saint Maria Goretti

DENTON

- 3 Immaculate Conception

FORT WORTH

- 4 All Saints
- 5 Cassata High School
- 6 Cristo Rey High School
- 7 Holy Family
- 8 Nolan Catholic High School
- 9 Saint Andrew Catholic School
- 10 Saint George
- 11 Saint Peter the Apostle
- 12 Saint Rita

GAINESVILLE

- 13 Saint Mary

GRAPEVINE

- 14 Holy Trinity

KELLER

- 15 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

MUNSTER

- 16 Sacred Heart

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS

- 17 Saint John the Apostle

PROSPER

- 18 Saint Martin de Porres

WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

#iGiveCatholic Surpasses \$1 Million in Funds Donated

Thanks be to God for the outpouring of stewardship by 1,766 Catholics during #iGiveCatholic #GivingTuesday. The \$1,006,313 in contributions raised November 28, 2023 will have an incredible impact on building His Kingdom in the parishes, schools and ministries of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth.

Nationwide, \$20,026,981 was raised from 47,665 donors for 1,646 ministries in 52 participating dioceses. Fort Worth represented 5.02% of all dollars raised during #iGiveCatholic.



#iGIVECATHOLIC
#GIVINGTUESDAY

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL 2023-2024

Parish Results as of December 13

Halfway through the campaign, four parishes have met their commitment goal and eight have reached participation above 30 percent.

If you made a gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal this year, thank you for extending your generosity throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth.

You can help your parish reach its goal by giving online bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal

When all parishes meet their goal we are able to fully fund:

- Seminarian education
- Parish operating grants
- Priest care fund
- Catholic Charities
- and other vital needs

2024
ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL PARISH SUMMARY REPORT

PARISH	GOAL	TOTAL COMMITTED	% GOAL COMMIT	# DONORS	% PARTICIPATION	AVG GIFT
All Saints, Fort Worth	\$ 35,100.00	\$ 16,519.88	47.07%	65	11.19%	\$ 254.15
Assumption BVM, Decatur	\$ 21,800.00	\$ 10,602.14	48.63%	37	6.18%	\$ 286.54
Christ The King, Fort Worth	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 25,730.45	71.47%	92	12.40%	\$ 279.68
Christ the King, Iowa Park	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,236.45	92.47%	15	44.12%	\$ 215.76
Good Shepherd, Colleyville	\$ 299,500.00	\$ 105,438.72	35.20%	187	5.68%	\$ 563.84
Holy Angels, Clifton	\$ 12,100.00	\$ 9,325.00	77.07%	21	11.73%	\$ 444.05
Holy Cross, The Colony	\$ 47,700.00	\$ 45,890.90	96.21%	120	6.18%	\$ 382.42
Holy Family of Nazareth, Vernon	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 10,397.00	83.18%	34	12.88%	\$ 305.79
Holy Family, Fort Worth	\$ 178,000.00	\$ 120,036.93	67.44%	183	8.33%	\$ 655.94
Holy Name of Jesus, Fort Worth	\$ 50,650.00	\$ 10,343.00	20.42%	89	6.77%	\$ 116.21
Holy Redeemer, Aledo	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 24,234.31	41.78%	59	12.80%	\$ 410.75
Holy Rosary, Cisco	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,741.70	49.76%	11	15.71%	\$ 158.34
Holy Trinity, Azle	\$ 23,200.00	\$ 23,920.40	103.11%	44	9.30%	\$ 543.65
Immaculate Conception of Mary, Wichita Falls	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 1,874.85	43.60%	13	14.61%	\$ 144.22
Immaculate Conception, Denton	\$ 107,600.00	\$ 30,458.29	28.31%	100	2.41%	\$ 304.58
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Abbott	\$ 13,750.00	\$ 13,112.90	95.37%	48	25.00%	\$ 273.19
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fort Worth	\$ 67,750.00	\$ 57,689.90	85.15%	334	10.90%	\$ 172.72
Jesus of Nazareth, Albany	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 1,050.00	29.17%	2	8.70%	\$ 525.00
Korean Martyrs, Fort Worth	\$ 12,100.00	\$ 903.95	7.47%	4	6.78%	\$ 225.99
Most Blessed Sacrament, Arlington	\$ 214,000.00	\$ 142,177.72	66.44%	160	11.86%	\$ 888.61
Nativity/Blessed Virgin Mary, Penelope	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 2,280.00	69.09%	11	15.28%	\$ 207.27
Our Lady of Fatima, Fort Worth	\$ 52,400.00	\$ 45,532.23	86.89%	143	27.45%	\$ 318.41
Our Lady of Guadalupe, De Leon	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 4,243.42	57.34%	17	14.91%	\$ 249.61
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fort Worth	\$ 59,900.00	\$ 17,029.08	28.43%	110	11.33%	\$ 154.81
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Morgan	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -	0.00%	0	0.00%	\$ -
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Wichita Falls	\$ 21,200.00	\$ 3,787.25	17.86%	21	1.16%	\$ 180.35
Our Lady of Lourdes, Mineral Wells	\$ 17,600.00	\$ 4,260.88	24.21%	18	4.69%	\$ 236.72
Our Lady of Mercy, Hillsboro	\$ 12,100.00	\$ 18,904.23	156.23%	95	22.35%	\$ 198.99
Our Lady Queen of Peace, Wichita Falls	\$ 49,150.00	\$ 35,364.70	71.95%	131	19.35%	\$ 269.96
Our Mother of Mercy, Fort Worth	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 1,563.55	16.46%	9	4.43%	\$ 173.73
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Breckenridge	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 3,817.23	44.91%	13	5.37%	\$ 293.63
Sacred Heart, Comanche	\$ 12,750.00	\$ 3,050.00	23.92%	10	3.76%	\$ 305.00
Sacred Heart, Muenster	\$ 85,100.00	\$ 44,208.58	51.95%	139	18.31%	\$ 318.05
Sacred Heart, Seymour	\$ 18,900.00	\$ 13,641.00	72.17%	44	28.39%	\$ 310.02
Sacred Heart, Wichita Falls	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 62,444.64	65.05%	181	12.51%	\$ 345.00
Santa Rosa, Knox City	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,238.57	80.96%	11	32.35%	\$ 294.42
St Mark, Denton	\$ 158,200.00	\$ 136,581.41	86.33%	274	10.60%	\$ 498.47
St. Andrew, Fort Worth	\$ 221,000.00	\$ 112,713.01	51.00%	136	3.53%	\$ 828.77
St. Ann, Burleson	\$ 94,300.00	\$ 59,227.32	62.81%	222	14.50%	\$ 266.79
St. Bartholomew, Fort Worth	\$ 71,600.00	\$ 36,253.99	50.63%	80	4.16%	\$ 453.17
St. Benedict, Fort Worth	\$ 39,600.00	\$ 4,147.75	10.47%	12	26.67%	\$ 345.65
St. Boniface, Scotland	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,145.85	98.96%	24	36.36%	\$ 214.41
St. Brendan, Stephenville	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 8,165.00	41.87%	23	4.59%	\$ 355.00
St. Catherine of Siena, Carrollton	\$ 73,000.00	\$ 33,542.90	45.95%	117	8.99%	\$ 286.89
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Keller	\$ 286,000.00	\$ 108,266.18	37.86%	261	6.98%	\$ 414.81
St. Frances Cabrini, Granbury	\$ 53,600.00	\$ 30,787.51	57.44%	125	8.59%	\$ 246.30
St. Francis of Assisi, Graford	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 1,875.00	22.87%	9	25.71%	\$ 208.33
St. Francis of Assisi, Grapevine	\$ 134,500.00	\$ 89,586.63	66.61%	224	9.00%	\$ 399.94
St. Francis Xavier, Eastland	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 400.00	11.11%	2	2.25%	\$ 200.00
St. George, Fort Worth	\$ 17,200.00	\$ 2,770.00	16.10%	20	3.26%	\$ 138.50
St. Jerome, Bowie	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 5,060.00	112.44%	11	26.83%	\$ 460.00
St. John Paul II, Denton	\$ 17,300.00	\$ 8,405.99	48.59%	25	22.73%	\$ 336.24
St. John the Apostle, Fort Worth	\$ 101,900.00	\$ 61,845.21	60.69%	200	6.82%	\$ 309.23
St. John the Baptist, Bridgeport	\$ 15,200.00	\$ 10,676.86	70.24%	34	10.97%	\$ 314.03
St. John, Strawn	\$ 2,675.00	\$ 1,195.00	44.67%	4	6.56%	\$ 298.75
St. Joseph, Arlington	\$ 90,800.00	\$ 37,735.38	41.56%	109	5.76%	\$ 346.20
St. Joseph, Cleburne	\$ 20,300.00	\$ 13,692.59	67.45%	92	12.17%	\$ 148.83
St. Joseph, Crowell	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	0.00%	0	0.00%	\$ -
St. Joseph, Nocona	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 3,191.80	49.10%	15	25.00%	\$ 212.79
St. Joseph, Rhineland	\$ 14,700.00	\$ 9,080.91	61.84%	22	15.49%	\$ 411.86
St. Jude Thaddeus, Burk Burnett	\$ 15,300.00	\$ 12,085.29	78.99%	46	32.62%	\$ 262.72
St. Jude, Mansfield	\$ 85,400.00	\$ 19,907.71	23.31%	64	2.04%	\$ 311.08
St. Maria Goretti, Arlington	\$ 137,000.00	\$ 76,598.97	55.91%	200	11.90%	\$ 382.99
St. Martin de Porres, Prosper	\$ 78,900.00	\$ 24,522.38	31.08%	42	9.95%	\$ 583.87
St. Mary of the Assumption, Fort Worth	\$ 38,100.00	\$ 8,873.95	23.29%	39	2.65%	\$ 227.54
St. Mary of the Assumption, Megargel	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 3,415.00	71.15%	12	75.00%	\$ 284.58
St. Mary, Dublin	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 7,352.40	30.64%	21	5.41%	\$ 350.11
St. Mary, Gainesville	\$ 33,600.00	\$ 11,993.95	35.70%	44	4.13%	\$ 272.59
St. Mary, Graham	\$ 17,700.00	\$ 13,080.90	73.79%	39	16.18%	\$ 334.89
St. Mary, Henretta	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,350.00	30.00%	8	28.57%	\$ 168.75
St. Mary, Jacksboro	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 90.00	6.21%	2	2.90%	\$ 45.00
St. Mary, Quanah	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 252.23	19.40%	4	7.14%	\$ 63.06
St. Mary, Windthorst	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 16,177.91	70.34%	77	32.63%	\$ 210.10
St. Matthew, Arlington	\$ 70,900.00	\$ 63,989.80	90.25%	323	13.62%	\$ 198.11
St. Michael, Bedford	\$ 134,000.00	\$ 83,466.29	62.29%	209	4.54%	\$ 399.36
St. Patrick Cathedral, Fort Worth	\$ 177,900.00	\$ 102,672.50	57.71%	179	7.31%	\$ 573.59
St. Paul the Apostle, Fort Worth	\$ 18,900.00	\$ 6,517.25	34.48%	32	4.56%	\$ 203.66
St. Paul, Electra	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,442.77	97.71%	9	47.37%	\$ 271.42
St. Peter the Apostle, Fort Worth	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 19,724.43	43.83%	63	4.20%	\$ 313.09
St. Peter, Lindsay	\$ 44,250.00	\$ 24,232.11	54.76%	97	22.05%	\$ 249.82
St. Philip the Apostle, Flower Mound	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 129,875.18	72.15%	292	6.51%	\$ 444.78
St. Rita, Fort Worth	\$ 22,400.00	\$ 7,710.00	34.42%	23	1.70%	\$ 335.22
St. Rita, Ranger	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 450.00	16.07%	3	3.66%	\$ 150.00
St. Rose of Lima, Glen Rose	\$ 7,250.00	\$ 4,547.23	62.72%	20	15.04%	\$ 227.36
St. Stephen, Weatherford	\$ 88,800.00	\$ 18,087.70	20.37%	43	2.77%	\$ 420.64
St. Teresa of Calcutta, Roanoke	\$ 1,325.00	\$ 1,859.82	140.35%	11	183.33%	\$ 169.08
St. Theresa, Olney	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 3,310.00	67.55%	10	20.00%	\$ 331.00
St. Thomas Aquinas, Pilot Point	\$ 37,750.00	\$ 11,297.96	29.93%	64	9.12%	\$ 176.53
St. Thomas the Apostle, Fort Worth	\$ 63,250.00	\$ 23,094.98	36.51%	60	5.33%	\$ 384.92
St. Vincent de Paul, Arlington	\$ 130,700.00	\$ 49,940.40	38.21%	167	5.60%	\$ 299.04
St. William, Montague	\$ 8,300.00	\$ 3,922.25	47.26%	12	17.14%	\$ 326.85
Vietnamese Martyrs, Arlington	\$ 59,250.00	\$ 19,283.21	32.55%	86	3.03%	\$ 224.22
Direct Gifts	\$ -	\$ 24,722.91	-	114	-	\$ 189.46
TCU Catholic Student Community	\$ -	\$ 311.35	-	2	-	\$ 155.68
TOTAL	\$ 3,700,000.00	\$ 2,495,514.77	67.45%	7,031	8.42%	\$ 354.93

TWO WAYS TO GET A HEAD START ON NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

1. Declutter.



If you want to declutter in the new year, consider donating an old motor vehicle or boat. The Advancement Foundation accepts donations of working or nonworking cars (RVs, motorcycles, golf carts, heavy equipment, trailers, vans, boats, etc.) to benefit your parish, Catholic school, a ministry, the Annual Diocesan Appeal or any other purpose in the Diocese of Fort Worth. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/catholiccardonate>. When you set up your donation, please contact Dianna Rhoads or call 817-533-3174 to let her know which parish, school or ministry you want to benefit from your donation.

2. Peace of Mind.

Did you put making or updating a will at the top of your list of resolutions? As a thank you for being a friend of Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth Advancement Foundation, FreeWill is delighted to help you create your legal will. It's 100% free to you, and most people finish in 20 minutes or less. FreeWill also offers you the ability to create a free revocable living trust. Start your free will at <https://www.freewill.com/FortWorthDiocese>



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for the gift of a new year.
You have entrusted us with the coming
days,
weeks and months as stewards
of your divine plan;
to live in gratitude,
joy, and an ever-growing confidence
in your Kingdom to come.
We ask for the humility
to reform our lives;
the courage to commit ourselves
to you no matter the cost;
and the wisdom
to shine the light of faith on others.
Open our hearts, give us your Spirit
and show us how to share your love
so that we may bring hope
to a world in need of your
justice and peace.
We pray to be a sign of your
grace in this new year
through your son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever.
Amen.

Information contained herein was accurate at the time of posting. The information in this newsletter is not intended as legal or tax advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor. Figures cited in any examples are for illustrative purposes only. References to tax rates include federal taxes only and are subject to change. State law may further impact your individual results.

ST. JOHN PAUL II SHEPHERDS GUILD

MEMBERS GATHER WITH SEMINARIANS

28 seminarians returned from finals week to a Mass with Bishop Olson and brunch with St. John Paul II Shepherd's Guild members who financially support their education on December 16.



Rev. Brett Metzler introduces 28 of the 29 diocesan seminarians to members of the St. John Paul II Shepherd's Guild.



The brunch was opened with bilingual Christmas Carols from All Saints School students.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Monday, January 15 Office closed in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- Saturday, March 2 Diocesan Day of Stewardship

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

You will find information about giving opportunities, upcoming events and occasionally some words of wisdom and inspiration.



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WHAT WE DO

Support the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth

- Identify Needs
- Raise Funds
- Create Awareness
- Provide Opportunity
- Inspire Generosity

*Good stewards
find their rest in
the Lord.*

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We are here to assist you, please
contact any member of the team for
information.