

Advancing the Mission

Advancement Foundation Newsletter | Diocese of Fort Worth | July 2018



ADVANCEMENT
FOUNDATION
Supporting the Catholic
Diocese of Fort Worth

IN THIS ISSUE

- ✦ Make plans to attend the *Building a Vibrant Parish Seminar*
- ✦ Celebrating Legacy Society Members and Donors
- ✦ Special Collection for the Priest Care Fund
- ✦ Next *Building Your Legacy* event in Wichita Falls

Annual Bishop's Guild summer gathering is Aug. 5



It's summertime and that means it's time to start making plans to attend the *Bishop's Guild* annual gathering. This event brings together our seminarians and members of the *Bishop's Guild* for a time of worship and fellowship.

Early August is the perfect time to celebrate vocations in our diocese and members of the *Bishop's Guild* who so generously support seminarians. For seminarians, this marks the beginning of their fall semester at seminary. And for our *Bishop's Guild* members, this is the ideal time to reconnect with current seminarians, forge relationships with new seminarians and spend time with other like-minded Catholics who cultivate vocations with generosity of prayer and gifts.

We're thrilled to announce that our event keynote address will be given by **Rev. Luke Ballman**, Associate Director for the Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations (CCLV) for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Rev. Ballman will speak on *Ratio Fundamentalibus Institutionis Sacerdotalis* (The Gift of the Priestly Vocation) and the *Program for Priestly Formation 6th Edition*. This is a unique opportunity to hear from the CCLV and learn more about priestly formation directly from USCCB.

The *Bishop's Guild* fosters vocations through prayer, education, and financial support for the education of our seminarians. This event is by invitation to members, but there's room for many at the table!

To learn more about joining the *Bishop's Guild* or to obtain an invitation to this event, contact **Elizabeth A. Becker** at 817.945.9443 or ebecker@advancementfoundation.org

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www.advancementfoundation.org



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Legacy Society members and donors celebrated at appreciation event



Purple irises and yellow tulips provided the backdrop for a lovely appreciation luncheon on May 10 at the **Historic Hilton Hotel** in downtown Fort Worth. Members of the **Legacy Society** and donors to the **Annual Diocesan Appeal** joined with **Bishop Michael Olson** to celebrate their gifts of legacy and generosity.

Father Jack McKone from **St. John the Apostle** in North Richland Hills shared the moving story of **Robert Downtain** and his recent legacy gift to **St. John**. **Mr. Downtain's** quiet generosity is making an impact in that parish and school and serves as an example of an authentic faith for everyone.

Bishop Michael Olson also expressed his deep gratitude to donors during the luncheon. You can view more photos on the **Advancement Foundation** webpages, www.advancementfoundation.org.



*Pictured are members of our **Legacy Society** in attendance at the luncheon. Members of the **Legacy Society** preserve the past, honor the present and secure the future by remembering parishes, schools and other ministries of the **Diocese of Fort Worth** through bequests in their will, beneficiary designations in their life insurance policy or retirement plan, remainder proceeds from their charitable gift annuity or trusts. **Legacy Society** members are ambassadors for giving, leaving their footprint for the future through their generosity and witness of faith.*



Irene McClellan and Long Nguyen enjoy getting to know each other during the luncheon.



Marianne DiLiberto and Sue Shine delight in the meal and presentation at the Donor Appreciation Luncheon.

*"Let us never forget that authentic power is service."
Pope Francis, March 19, 2013*



Building a Vibrant Parish Seminar

Aug. 9 at St. Michael Parish, Bedford

St. Michael Parish in Bedford is offering a *Building a Vibrant Parish* seminar presented by *LPi* on *Thursday, Aug. 9* at 9:00 a.m. This free seminar is designed for parish priests, stewardship committees, pastoral and finance councils, ministry leaders, parish staff members and anyone who wants to engage more people by introducing them to Jesus Christ. The seminar will examine proven best practice techniques and provide parishes with the tools they need to engage and evangelize their community. Participants will walk away with specific action steps to begin effecting incremental, substantial change in their parish. The seminar will cover four key areas for a mission-minded parish: Discipleship, Identity, Formation and Communication.

Seminar details

St. Michael Parish
Thursday, Aug. 9, 2018
3713 E Harwood Road
Bedford, TX 76021
8:30 a.m. Mass (optional)
9:00 a.m. Check in & Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Seminar begins
1:30 p.m. Day concludes

No cost, but advance registration is requested.

For more information or to register, contact *Diana Liska* at 817.945.9444 or dliska@advancementfoundation.org

To view event flyer:

<https://fwdioc.org/building-vibrant-parish.pdf>

Special collection for the Priest Care Fund

During weekend Masses Aug. 4-5

Our priests embody the spirit of generosity, for they give their lives as an offering to God, in service to us. Each year, the faithful of the Diocese of Fort Worth, have an opportunity to return that generosity by making a gift to the *Priest Care Fund*. Your generous gifts to this special collection help pay for medical and long-term care over and above what is covered by our priests' insurance and other resources.

We shouldn't be surprised to learn that the same growing healthcare costs that affect us, also affect our clergy. *Nancy Eder, RN* shares, "The high cost of medication co-pays and other needs mean that the clergy that have faithfully served our Diocesan communities need us now."



Last year, this collection raised \$208,891 to offset medical expenses for our clergy. Please respond in gratitude for their years of generous service by donating to the *Priest Care Fund*. There are several ways to contribute to this special collection. In addition to the Sunday collection during weekend Masses on Aug. 4-5, donations can also be made online at <https://bit.ly/PriestCare> or text **PRIESTS** to **91999**. Thank you for caring for those who care for us.

For more information about Special Collections please contact *Elizabeth A. Becker* at 817.945.9443 or ebecker@advancementfoundation.org

Visit our Special Collections webpage:
<https://fwdioc.org/special-collections>

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Stewardship Corner

In the lives of disciples, however, something else must come before the practice of stewardship. They need a flash of insight - a certain way of seeing - by which they view the world and their relationship to it in a fresh, new light. "The world is charged with the grandeur of God," *Gerard Manley Hopkins* exclaims; more than anything else, it may be this glimpse for the divine grandeur in all that is, that sets people on the path of Christian stewardship.

Stewardship A Disciples Response USCCB

Building Your Legacy goes on the road

Join us in Wichita Falls on Aug. 9

A special opportunity for parishioners of *Our Lady Queen of Peace*, *Our Lady of Guadalupe*, *Immaculate Conception of Mary* and *Sacred Heart* in Wichita Falls and other parishioners in the area to participate in a *Building Your Legacy* event! The Advancement Foundation is coming to you:

Thursday, August 9, 2018

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church – St. Joseph's Room

4040 York Street, Wichita Falls, 76309

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dinner and Presentation



A Building Your Legacy guest participates in the Picture Your Legacy activity at a recent event.

Building Your Legacy presentations offer an opportunity to participate in an exercise that can guide your discernment about your passions and provide you with the tools to consider how you can honor them when you are no longer here. Please join us for this free, informational event to begin *Building Your Legacy*. RSVPs are requested in order to ensure there is enough food and materials for everyone.

To sign up, please contact *Elizabeth A. Becker* with the Advancement Foundation at ebecker@advancementfoundation.org or 817.945.9443 by Monday, Aug. 6.

