



Advancing the Mission

Advancement Foundation Newsletter | Diocese of Fort Worth | May 2018



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Next Building Your Legacy event coming soon



The next ***Building Your Legacy*** presentation is:

Thursday, May 17, 2018
St. Andrew Catholic Church
3312 Dryden Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109
8:00 a.m. Mass
8:45 a.m. Breakfast and Presentation

Building Your Legacy events are informational presentations open to anyone interested in evaluating personal legacy goals for family and others. We hope you'll plan to attend.

RSVP to ***Elizabeth Becker*** by May 11, 2018, at 817.945.9443 or ebecker@advancementfoundation.org so that we can plan for food and meeting materials.

To learn more about ***Planned Giving*** please contact ***Renée Underwood*** at runderwood@advancementfoundation.org 817.945.9441

Happy Mother's Day!

A Prayer for Mothers

All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need. May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us. May they continue to guide in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty or conflict. May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memories and nourish us with their love.

Amen.

From St. James Catholic Church, Pittsburgh, PA

Purposeful Living – A day of renewal

On Saturday, Apr. 28, 2018, lay ministry coordinators, members of parish committees, parish staff and priests gathered at **St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church** in Arlington for the third annual **Diocesan Stewardship Day of Renewal** hosted by the **Advancement Foundation**. Diana Liska, director of Stewardship and Parish Relations stated, “The goal of this retreat is to provide learning opportunities and inspiration to foster the themes of stewardship, prayer, faith, generosity, service, vocations and earth, in our parishes.”

The **Day of Renewal** focused on learning practical ways to guide a ministry or a parish on its stewardship journey. Speakers covered topics such as, hospitality, evangelization, effective communication, leading a ministry and implementing the six stewardship themes.

The keynote address was given by **Sister Mary Michael Fox, O.P.**, from the **Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia** of Nashville, TN. **Sister Mary Michael** presented attendees with ideas on recognizing and responding to the graces of the present moment, discerning God’s will, and listening to the voice of the Father. **Sister Mary Michael** held the room in awe as she shared her thoughts on hope and reminded attendees that “God is always carrying us.” **Sister Mary Michael**’s words encouraged and inspired everyone in the room.



Stewardship Day of Renewal participants are greeted by smiling volunteers as they check-in at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church.



Speaker Angela Wynn, second from left, visits with retreat participants after her talk on leading a prayerful, thriving ministry.



From left to right, Diana Liska, Sister Mary Michael, Toni Kelly, Sister Mary Clare and Amy Felton.



From left to right, Diana Liska, Sister Mary Michael, Sister Mary Clare, Jaclyn Booth and Ale Creso at the conclusion of the Stewardship Day of Renewal.



Sister Mary Michael Fox, O.P. speaks about the importance of family as an early example of stewardship in the lives of children.



Megan McQuaire and Byanka Peffers, from St. John the Apostle in North Richland Hills enjoy the retreat and opportunity to network.



Retreat attendees spent the day listening and learning from speakers from around the Diocese.

For more information about the Stewardship program contact **Diana Liska** at dliska@advancementfoundation.org 817.945.9444, you can also find information on the **Advancement Foundation** webpages at www.advancementfoundation.org/stewardship-about



Need a professional speaker for your group?

The Advancement Foundation Team can help.

Are you a lay leader of a parish group and responsible for scheduling speakers? Are you a priest or deacon interested in providing your parish with vital information about the work of the *Advancement Foundation*? If so, the *Advancement Foundation Team* is here to help!

Each member of the team is available to speak to your parish group. We have presentations on these topics:

- **Building Your Legacy:** A presentation to assist people with discerning their legacy and the importance of end-of-life documents.
- **Stewardship, A Way of Life:** Learn about the six themes of stewardship and practical ways to implement them in your parish and everyday life.
- **Special Collections:** Why does the church take up second collections? Answers to this question and a snapshot of each collection and how it helps locally, nationally and internationally.
- **Fundraising 101:** A presentation about the basics of fundraising.

- **Annual Diocesan Appeal:** Discover how your gift can make a difference for the vital ministries the Appeal supports each year.

- **Seminarian Support:** The education of our seminarians is completely paid for by the Diocese. Discover how you can join our seminarians on their discernment journey by providing financial and spiritual support.

- **Diocesan Travel Program:** For those interested in traveling to exciting destinations and learning about your faith. Hear about upcoming travel opportunities.

For more information or to schedule a speaker please contact any member of the *Advancement Foundation Team*. Our names and email addresses are on the back cover of this newsletter or find us online at advancementfoundation.org.

North Texas Giving Day coming soon!



Mark your calendars now for the next *North Texas Giving Day* set for *Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018*. *North Texas Giving Day* is a one-day online only giving blitz for local nonprofits. The *Advancement Foundation* will be participating again this year and funds raised on this day will go towards the *Annual Diocesan Appeal*.

You can schedule your donation in advance beginning Sept. 10. This is a great feature if you're out of town or otherwise unable to make your one-day, online gift on *North Texas Giving Day*.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

More information will be available soon, but if you have questions or need information contact **Renée Underwood** at 817.945.9441 runderwood@advancementfoundation.org.



ADA Phonathon. Another way to reach out to our constituents.

Nolan students support the Annual Diocesan Appeal

In April, students from *Nolan Catholic High School* assisted in a Phonathon in support of the *Annual Diocesan Appeal*. Student callers made thousands of calls to past appeal supporters to raise funds for vital ministries in our Diocese. The **Advancement Foundation** is grateful for the hours of dedication from these students. This would not have been possible without them!

There's still time to make a one-time gift or sign up for a monthly recurring gift to the *Annual Diocesan Appeal*. Contact **Renée Underwood** runderwood@advancementfoundation.org or 817.945.9441 for more information.



The Phonathon calls were placed from the Catholic Center. The large conference rooms were transformed with a bank of phones to place calls to former Annual Diocesan Appeal supporters.



*Nolan students, you Contributed for the Common Good.
Thank you!*

Student callers took time to write thank you notes to some of the people with whom they spoke.





Students left more than 1,700 messages to previous appeal supporters!



In addition to seeking financial support for the Annual Diocesan Appeal, students also updated contact information from people with whom they spoke.

By the numbers

Number of 3-hour shifts: **6**

Number of community service hours earned: **141**

Number of calls made: **3,691**

Number of financial commitments: **232** (and more coming in!)



Student callers began each Phonathon session with pizza and a brief training before making calls.



Making all of those calls was hard work, but the students kept a positive attitude and had a little fun along the way!

Each Phonathon session lasted three hours. The number of calls made per session ranged between 250 and 950 depending on the number of callers.





T ravel to Oberammergau in June 2020.

Sign up now, space is limited!

The **Diocesan Travel Program** presents Bavarian Highlights, a 9-day tour from Munich to Munich with an opportunity to see the passion play in Oberammergau, Germany in 2020. Reservations are being accepted now with special pricing available until June 5. A non-refundable deposit of \$250 is due immediately upon registration.

The passion play in Oberammergau is only presented every 10 years and is world famous. Don't delay! These trips fill up fast. If you are interested please contact **Paula Parrish** as soon as possible at pparrish@advancementfoundation.org or 817.945.9440.



Breaking news!

Charitable Gift Annuity rates on the rise

Exciting news! Effective July 1, 2018, charitable gift annuity rates will increase.

A charitable gift annuity is a donation of cash, marketable securities or other assets that you donate, and in turn, you are paid a fixed amount for life. This type of gift gives you reliable income for as long as you live. And now, if you make your gift on or after July 1, the gift annuity rates will be higher. In other words, your gift will provide you with a higher amount of income.

In addition to the opportunity to increase your retirement income as you help shape our future, gift annuities offer you numerous tax benefits, including:

- A partial income tax charitable deduction now for your gift when you itemize.
- Part of each payment is income tax-free throughout your estimated life expectancy.
- Capital gains tax savings on appreciated property you donate.

Your gift today benefits not only our future, but yours as well.

Contact **Paula Parrish** or **Renée Underwood** to discuss how a charitable gift annuity allows you to make a gift and provides you with secure, tax-favored payments for life. With your gift, we can continue to make an impact in our Diocese.



Telling the story about the work of the **Advancement Foundation** is best done by those who know firsthand the benefits. Here are some videos that highlight two of the ministries supported by the **Annual Diocesan Appeal**.

Deacon Formation



Steve and Debi Holton share their experience in the **Permanent Deacon Program** for the Diocese.

Find their video at:
www.bit.ly/ADAdacon

Catholic Education



Watch **Rene and Flor Ramirez** express why they feel a Catholic education is important for their family.

Find their video at:
www.bit.ly/ADAschools



There is still time to support the Annual Diocesan Appeal



How can it already be May? The months are passing quickly but there's still time to participate in this year's *Annual Diocesan Appeal* that ends June 30. Your help is needed to meet the goal of raising \$3.3 million to support essential ministries in our Diocese. And we're very close! That's why every gift, no matter the size, will make a difference to these ministries and those they serve.

What will your gift do? Your gift will:

- **Sustain** the priesthood and the permanent diaconate for future generations.
- **Aid** the poor, disabled and many who are most in need of God's grace with support for Catholic Charities, prison ministry programs and outreach to rural and needy parishes and schools.
- **Bind** families closer to Christ through mutual love and respect through marriage and family life programs and the marriage tribunal.
- **Empower** children and young adults to grow in their faith through a Catholic school education or participation in a college campus ministry program.

To learn more about making a gift to the *Annual Diocesan Appeal* contact **Renée Underwood** at 817.945.9441 or runderwood@advancementfoundation.org

As of May 1, 2018, 92.34% of our \$3.3 million goal, or \$3,047,359, has been committed by 10,722 families.

*Thank you for
Contributing for the Common Good!*



**Catholic
Communication
Campaign**
CONNECT WITH CHRIST

Second collection to support the Catholic Communication Campaign

During weekend Masses on May 12 – 13 there will be a second collection to support the *Catholic Communication Campaign* (CCC). The CCC supports communications projects in the United States and around the world that make it possible for people everywhere to hear the good news. Your gift also makes a local impact because half of your donation stays in the Diocese to support local communications projects, such as radio and television programming and the *North Texas Catholic*. Please be generous.

To learn more about second collections in our Diocese contact **Renée Underwood** at 817.945.9441 or runderwood@advancementfoundation.org

*"When we are faithful to God's plan,
communication becomes an effective
expression of our responsible search for truth
and our pursuit of goodness."*
Pope Francis

Thank you renewing members
of the Bishop's Guild!



Butch and Frankie Bercher

Courtney Burns

Tim and Kate Echard

Rosemary Herrera

John and Marry Loehr

Raymond and Rosie Longoria

Lee and Sharron Maxwell

Frances Murray

Long and Tiffany Nguyen

George and Darlene Prochaska

Annick Ratsizaharimanana

Walt and Donna Springer



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Catholic Center closed for Memorial Day

The offices of the Catholic Center will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day. The center will reopen on Tuesday, May 29.

Calendar of events



Sunday, Aug. 5, 2018 – Meet the Seminarians

5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, Fort Worth
6:30 p.m. Meet the Seminarians at Historic Hilton for dinner
RSVP Required

Thursday, Aug. 9, 2018 – Building Your Legacy Presentation

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Wichita Falls
6:00 p.m. Dinner and Presentation
RSVP Required

Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018 – North Texas Giving Day

Get up to support the Advancement Foundation during this one-day giving blitz.
No RSVP Required

Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018 – Building Your Legacy Presentation

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Arlington
8:30 a.m. Mass
9:15 a.m. Breakfast and Presentation
RSVP Required

Oct. 26-28, 2018 – St. Joseph Abbey & Seminary Tour and Gala Trip

Covington, LA
RSVP Required

Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 – Advent Celebration with our Seminarians

More information to come
RSVP Required

Most of these events are free, but they do require registration to know how to plan for food. Please contact **Elizabeth Becker** at 817.945.9443 or ebecker@advancementfoundation.org for information or to RSVP.



Presbyteral Ordination

Please make plans to attend the Presbyteral Ordination of **Rev. Jonathan Demma** and **Rev. Maurice Moon** on:

Saturday, May 19, 2018 at

10:00 a.m. at

St. Patrick Cathedral

1206 Throckmorton, Fort Worth, 76102

There will be a reception following the ordination Mass in the Parish Hall. There will be reserved seating for Bishop's Guild members. Please RSVP when you receive your invitation so that we know how many pews to hold.