

ADVANCING THE MISSION

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

HIT HOME



TO MAKE YOUR GIFT FOR SEMINARIAN EDUCATION, VISIT
<https://bit.ly/FWSeminarian> (case sensitive)
OR TEXT *Seminarian* TO 817-402-3525



Often times the special collections at Mass seem to be for organizations outside of our diocese or country. When Mother Teresa was caring for Indian orphans and the terminally ill, she was asked how to help. Her answer was, "Start in your own backyard."

The Good Shepherd Sunday and Catholic Communication Campaign special collections do just that. These collections directly impact the lives of Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

The Good Shepherd Sunday special collection supports the seminarian fund of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Your donation is not used for the promotion or marketing of this collection. The Advancement Foundation covers the cost of posters and flyers in each parish. Your donation goes directly to the expenses of the 24 men studying in seminary for priesthood in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

The Catholic Communication Campaign supports our diocesan communication department and the national Catholic communication efforts our diocesan team relies on for factual news.

OTHER NEWS INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- How East is it to Establish an Endowment?
- Reaching the Peripheries with the Annual Diocesan Appeal
- We are a Resurrection People
- May Stewardship Prayer
- New Retirement Laws
- Diocesan Day of Stewardship

THANKS TO YOU, WE CAN SAY "YES" TO GRANT REQUESTS

and reach the peripheries of the Diocese of Fort Worth

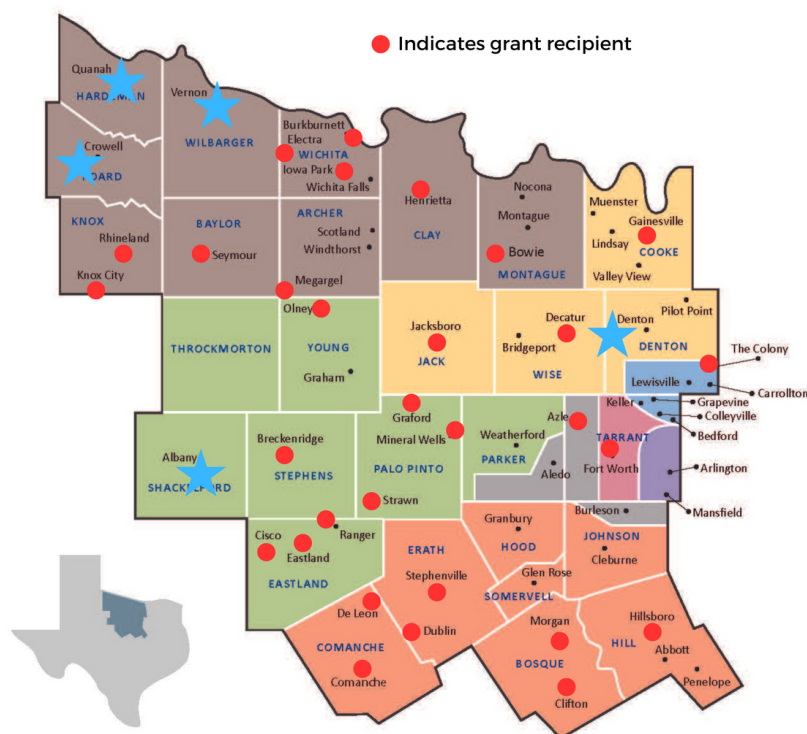
37 parish communities in the Diocese of Fort Worth were awarded \$815,000 in operating grants in 2022-2023. A gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal today will help parishes meet basic needs in rural areas such as:

- St. Mary, Quanah, St. Joseph, Crowell and Holy Family of Nazareth, Vernon: \$25,000 Salary and benefits for youth director/safe environment coordinator for three parishes.
- Jesus of Nazareth, Albany: \$40,000 Full time priest salary and expenses; accounting services.
- St. John Paul II, Denton: \$19,500 to fund seven missionary interns and provide students choral scholarships for parish music ministry.

As well as grants to 32 other parishes in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

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

If you have not yet made a gift towards this year's grant cycle, please give today at bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal



The Annual Diocesan Appeal is coming to a close soon. Be a part of the story of hope and gratitude in the Diocese of Fort Worth. Make your gift before June 30.

HOW EASY IS IT TO ESTABLISH AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

Endowment Education: Third of a 6-part series

The Advancement Foundation holds almost 200 different funds to benefit parishes, schools, cemeteries, retired priests, seminarians, ministries, Catholic organizations and other purposes throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth. Many donors choose to establish endowment funds because of their ability to provide perpetual funding to a Catholic entity. Opening an endowment can be the answer to a question you may have asked yourself, “Who will replace my contributions to my parish offertory after I am gone?” With a well-articulated agreement, planned while you are still living, the answer to that question is now, “You will.”

Donors like endowment funds for the following reasons:

- May be opened with as little as \$10,000.
- May be named for the donor, a favorite saint or a beloved pastor, teacher, parent or grandparent.
- May be designated for the unrestricted use of the Diocese of Fort Worth (the priorities of the Bishop) or one or more Catholic entities.
- Accepts additional contributions, both during and after a donor’s lifetime.
- Provides perpetual income streams to the chosen Catholic entities, typically 5 percent of the portfolio value of the fund for the past 12 calendar quarters.
- Through wise investment management aligned with Catholic teaching, the fund grows over time as it also makes annual distributions.

Each fund is operated through a “Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)” that is typically signed by the donor(s), the beneficiary entitie(s), the President of the Advancement Foundation and the Bishop of Fort Worth. The MOU is a straightforward legal document of less than two pages that ensures the donor’s intent is followed in the management of the fund.



Rose Hall established the William and Rose Hall Tuition Assistance Fund to benefit Saint Andrew Catholic School. To learn more about her story, [click here.](#)

Rose Hall, a long-time parishioner of Saint Andrew Parish and director of development for Saint Andrew Catholic School, funded an endowment to provide tuition assistance funds for families attending the school. Named for Rose and her husband Bill, who passed away in 2012, the fund was initially established with retirement funds from Rose’s pension as an employee of the Diocese of Fort Worth. “I know that Bill is smiling about this fund because it aligns with his Catholic faith and values,” says Rose.

Opening an endowment can be the answer to a question you may have asked yourself

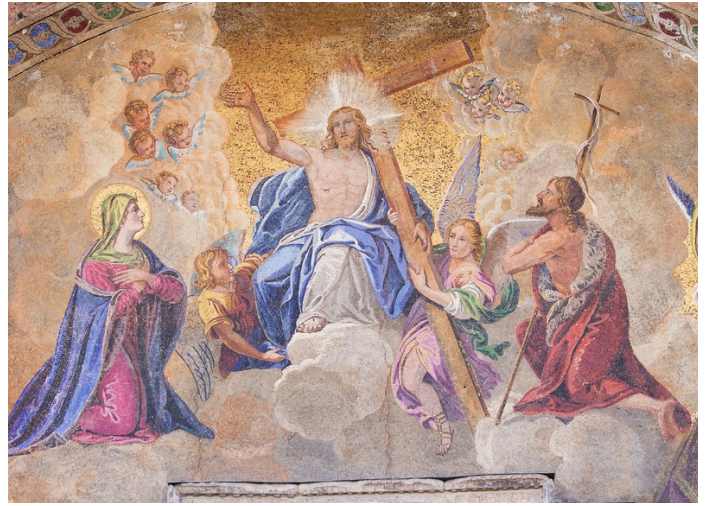
Who will replace my contributions to my parish offertory after I am gone?

To learn about establishing a new fund, visit <https://www.advancementfoundation.org/start-an-endowment-fund> or contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at runderwood@adv-fdn.org or 817-533-7242.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDS: PEOPLE OF THE RESURRECTION

For those immersed in the secular world, Easter is long over. The pastel bunnies, the chocolate eggs, the color-splashed jelly beans which appeared in the marketplace so temptingly just as Christians were beginning the fasting of Lent, have long been swept from the store shelves to be replaced in anticipation of the next marketable holiday. For the Christian steward, how backward this all seems. Yes, we believe that the Paschal mystery and the life-changing events of Easter are not over. They are not an end but a triumphal beginning, and they have altered us in a quite radical way.

The mystery and miracle of Easter challenge us to live as different people, as people of the Resurrection. What does this mean? For those new Catholics who participated in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), a period of mystagogy helps to understand this mystery. Indeed, this ancient Greek word actually means “to lead through the mysteries.” During mystagogia, many parishes introduce their new members to service in a quite practical way. Here are the ministries of the parish; here are the charities we support; here are the needs of our community and our congregation. How do you choose to live out your faith in the Resurrection in a quite tangible and real way? How do your gifts fit into our needs? Essentially, however, this is a question that the Easter season calls forth in all Christian stewards not just our newest members.



We have lived through Lent and the Paschal mysteries, all the while trying to deepen a relationship with the person of Christ. It's as simple, yet as amazing and complex as that. The deeper the relationship grows, the more we become rooted in it, the more this relationship with Christ comes to dominate our lives.

We no longer compartmentalize Jesus, we hold him at our center. And the mysteries lead us to the fundamental question at the heart of all Christian stewardship, the question that Easter compels us to ask: How do I steward my resources – my time, my money, my abilities and gifts, my very life – so that they are in service to the Kingdom of God? It's not a part-time question. It's not a seasonal question that's swept off the shelf periodically. It's the basic question which the Easter season demands of us: Jesus, how do you want me to serve you?

*Reprinted with the permission of
International Catholic Stewardship Council*

DIOCESAN DAY OF STEWARDSHIP

How the Eucharist calls us to stewardship

The Diocesan day of Stewardship on March 18 at St. Andrew Catholic Church began with a beautiful Mass and continued with faith sharing and reflections on our grateful response to the gift of the Eucharist.

Featured speakers Bishop Michael Olson and Fr. Joseph Moreno shared messages on receiving the Body of Christ to become the Body of Christ to over 100 priests and parishioners from 23 parishes that attended.

Read [more from the North Texas Catholic](#).



Stewardship Prayer for May

*Loving Father,
During this Easter season,
we rejoice in your son,
who has renewed us
in freedom and joy
through the mystery of his
resurrection.*

*We have been called
to proclaim his Gospel;
not because we are good enough,
holy enough, or talented enough;
but because you wanted us to have
this gift and this responsibility.*

*Give us the courage to be faithful
to this call;
help us make every day of our lives
an experience of Easter.*

*And keep us ever mindful of our
charge:
to love You and our neighbor;
that as stewards of your world
we are empowered by the Holy Spirit
to transform it, bring it justice and
peace, and offer it, in gratitude, back
to You.*

We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW RETIREMENT LAWS

Recent Changes in the Federal Tax Code May Have Implications on Your Giving

The new tax law for 2023 includes changes to your retirement accounts that may affect your saving and your giving.

1. Increase in required minimum distribution (RMD) age

Retirees must now begin taking taxable withdrawals at age 73 in 2023, up from the previous 72. (That goes up to 75 by 2033.) This change gives you more time to save (or, in a wobbly economy, for your stocks to recover). You will enjoy additional tax-free growth.

2. Adjustment of the annual limit on direct gifts to qualified charities from your IRA

Currently, those 70½ or older can give up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to a qualified charity without paying income taxes on the distribution. Beginning in 2024, this number will be adjusted annually for inflation.



3. New way to fund a life income gift: a distribution from your IRA

If you are 70½ or older, you can fund a charitable gift annuity making a one-time election of up to \$50,000 (without being taxed on the distribution) from your IRA. Note: This opportunity comes with special rules, so contact us to see if this option is right for you.

Let's Talk

We can help answer any additional questions you might have about how the new retirement laws affect your charitable giving. Contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at 817-533-7242 or plannedgiving@adv-fdn.org to have a conversation about your legacy giving to the Diocese of Fort Worth, your parish, a Catholic school or another ministry or organization.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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



[@advancementfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/advancementfoundation)



[@AdvFdn](https://twitter.com/AdvFdn)

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Advancement Foundation will be closed on **Monday, May 29** in observance of Memorial Day and **Monday June 19** in observance of Juneteenth.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Most Rev. Michael F. Olson, STD, MA
Bishop of Fort Worth

CHAIR

Very Rev. Msgr. E. James Hart
Chancellor and Moderator of the Curia

PRESIDENT

Mr. Clinton J. Weber

DIRECTORS

Mr. Ed Gray
Mr. Michael Halloran, APMA
Rev. Stephen Hauck
Mr. Ryan F. Kagay

WHAT WE DO

Support the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth

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

*The whole of my
life has been
God's gift.*

Saint Josephine Bakhita

CONTACT

201 Main Street, Suite 1198
Fort Worth TX 76102-3101
www.advancementfoundation.org

Clint Weber
President and CEO
817-533-3171 cweber@adv-fdn.org

Renée Underwood, CFRE
Chief Development Officer
817-533-7242 runderwood@adv-fdn.org

Chris Chapman
Senior Director of Development
817-310-8368
cchapman@adv-fdn.org

Wendy Collins
Director of Stewardship &
Parish Relations
817-533-3178 wcollins@adv-fdn.org

Rachel Martinez, CFRE
Director of Annual Giving and Grants
817-382-4939 rmartinez@adv-fdn.org

Dianna Rhoads
Gift Processing Supervisor
817-533-3174
drhoads@adv-fdn.org

Graciela Garcia *se habla Español*
Gift Processing
817-533-3175 ggarcia@adv-fdn.org

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