

ADVANCING THE MISSION

ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION EARNS GOLD SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY

Gold
Transparency
2022

Candid.

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Podcast Feature

The Advancement Foundation of the Diocese of Fort Worth has earned a 2022 Gold Seal of Transparency with Candid (formerly GuideStar). No longer a Bronze Seal non-profit, the Advancement Foundation has worked diligently to provide better transparency. For example, you can view the 2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal Report [here](#) or the audits of the Foundation [here](#).

You can support our work with trust and confidence by viewing our #NonprofitProfile:
<https://www.guidestar.org/profile/27-0518360>



ADVANCEMENT PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS TO CLERGY AND STAFF

at the International Catholic Stewardship Conference in October 2022

Multiple parishes received a registration scholarship from the Advancement Foundation to attend the International Catholic Stewardship Conference. Pastors, Deacons and staff from parishes large and small joined hundreds of Catholic stewardship staff and volunteers to network and learn how to best steward the resources provided through generous parishioners.

The Advancement Foundation was also awarded two of the six awards in the Large Diocese category, Total Foundation Effort and Total Stewardship Effort. These awards are testament to the Catholics of North Texas embracing Stewardship as a way of life and entrusting the Foundation with their charitable giving. Thank you for your trust and your participation in our diocesan-wide stewardship efforts.

The International Catholic Stewardship Conference is open to all Catholics. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to provide scholarships for parishes who cannot afford to attend on their own. Learn more at www.catholicstewardship.com



Deacon Deacon Kevin Bagley and Deacon Jim Novak with Advancement Staff



Advancement Staff with Deacon Jim Novak and Rev. Bose Jjuvarapu, HGN



Advancement Staff receives awards from ICSC Episcopal Moderator, Most Rev. Donald Hanchon and Board Chair Margaret Keightley

SO LONG, 2022!

CELEBRATE WITH TAX SAVINGS



As you get ready to toast the new year, consider these smart ways to wrap up 2022 on a financial high note. Not only can you save on your taxes, but you can also make a huge impact at the Diocese of Fort Worth Advancement Foundation.

Contribute appreciated stock instead of cash.

If you have owned a **stock** for more than one year and it has grown in value, you may be in line for two tax benefits: avoid taxes on the appreciated value and qualify for an income tax charitable deduction based on today's market value when you itemize.

You will enjoy the same benefits with a gift of appreciated **cryptocurrency**.

You receive the same tax saving as if you wrote a check, but with the added benefit of eliminating capital gains taxes.

Timing: Complete all transfers by Dec. 31. This includes by mail, electronic transfer or hand-delivery of the assets.

Sell depreciated assets and donate the cash.

Unfortunately, 2022 wasn't good for all portfolios. If you would like to support the Diocese of Fort Worth Advancement Foundation but your stocks or cryptocurrency have fallen in value, it is best to sell them first and then donate the cash. This allows you to record the loss as a tax deduction and qualify for an income tax deduction for the gift.

Timing: Complete all transfers and cash donations by Dec. 31.

Make a qualified charitable distribution of IRA assets.

If you are 70½ or older, you can give any amount up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to the Diocese of Fort Worth Advancement Foundation. You will not pay income taxes on the transfer. If you are required to take minimum distributions, you can use this transfer to satisfy all or part of your obligation.

Timing: We must receive your gift by Dec. 31 for your donation to qualify this year. If you have check-writing features on your IRA, please be aware that your check must clear your account by Dec. 31 to count toward your required minimum distribution for the calendar year.

Help offset the tax liability on a retirement account withdrawal.

If you are 59½ or older, you can take a distribution from your retirement plan account and then make a gift to the Diocese of Fort Worth Advancement Foundation without an early withdrawal penalty. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the amount.

Timing: If your gift is in the form of a check, it must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31 for your donation to qualify this year.

How to Make a Tribute Gift

Any year-end gift can be made in a loved one's name. This can be a heartfelt way to celebrate someone important in your life or to remember a loved one who has passed away.

The Countdown Is On

As we approach the end of the year, we are happy to help ensure that you realize the greatest benefit for your hard-earned assets. Please contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at 817-533-7242 or plannedgiving@adv-fdn.org.

A STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The eleventh month is now upon us, drawing us closer to the end of the calendar year. It is a transition month, a month between autumn and winter, when the leaves get raked, and the crops have been harvested. We “fall back” from Daylight Savings Time and revert to Standard Time. Most of us prepare for rain, snow and winter storms. It is also a month that reminds us to be grateful which is so fundamental to Christian stewardship.

During the month of November we express our gratitude for the saints, witnesses to the Gospel who challenge us to find our own path to holiness. We are grateful for the lives of all who have gone before us to meet the Lord, especially those we know and hold dear. We thank our veterans who have offered their lives on our behalf. And of course, in the United States, there is Thanksgiving Day, a holiday that is all about gratitude.

The month of November is an ideal time of the year to focus our spiritual lives more intently on being grateful for the blessings of the Lord. Sacred scripture is a good place to start because it is filled with the themes of thanksgiving and gratitude. The psalmist sings: “Give thanks to God, bless his name” (Psalm 100:4). We can become more aware, too, of gratitude as it is expressed in the rhythm of the Eucharistic celebration. Other spiritual exercises, too, may help us to grow to be more grateful stewards of God’s love.

The month of November is an ideal time of the year to focus our spiritual lives more intently on being grateful for the blessings of the Lord.

Pray with gratitude. Set aside some time for prayer each day. If you are new to the habit of daily prayer, find 10 minutes in your daily schedule. Pray as a family as well. And begin with a prayer of gratitude.

Put gratitude into action. Do something in your parish or neighborhood to share your material blessings with those who might otherwise go hungry. Contribute to a food bank or help deliver food baskets.

Make gratitude a habit. Find ways to thank others for their generosity and kindness toward you every day. The late Catholic spiritual writer, Thomas Merton, once wrote that to be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything. Let us use the month of November as an opportunity to grow in stewardship which, simply put, means living a life of gratitude. And as the psalmist encourages us to do: “O give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love endures forever” (Psalm 107:1).



SUPPORT 53 PARISHES, SCHOOLS AND CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DURING #IGIVECATHOLIC, NOVEMBER 29



#iGIVECATHOLIC
#GIVINGTUESDAY

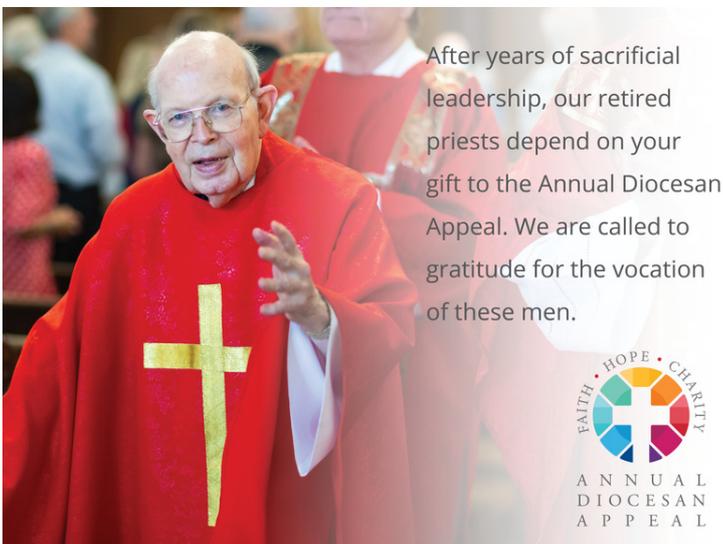
#iGiveCatholic is celebrated annually on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday. It is the U.S. Catholic Church's Giving day that kicks off the charitable season and brings the Catholic Community together to give thanks and give back. As the first ever giving day created to celebrate our unique Catholic heritage, #iGiveCatholic inspires faithful stewards to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday. Celebrate being Catholic by giving Catholic on Giving Tuesday, November 29 (and during Advanced Giving from November 14-28). Visit fortworth.igivecatholic.org to support the 53 participating parishes, schools and ministries in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL REACHES 50 PERCENT OF GOAL IN FIRST MONTH.

Many North Texas Catholics have answered the *Call to Gratitude*. This year's commitment weekend included [ministry videos](#) that shed light on the fruits of the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

Ultimately, every parish benefits from the Annual Diocesan Appeal. When your parish meets goal, you assure Bishop Olson that he can accept more men into diaconate formation, more men into seminary, more parishes can receive generous operating grants and he can approve more parish Capital Campaigns because the staffing support is available for these important initiatives.

Help your parish reach goal by making another donation or increasing your [St. Francis Circle](#) gift today at bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal or text "APPEAL" to 817-241-5160



After years of sacrificial leadership, our retired priests depend on your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. We are called to gratitude for the vocation of these men.



bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal (case sensitive)

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER THIS THANKSGIVING

Whether you're working a soup kitchen or gathered with friends or family, take a moment to give thanks.



Thank you, Lord For all the beautiful and wonderful things we experience in our life;
for the beauty of the earth and its amazing colors;
for crisp autumn mornings and sparkling winter nights;
for mountains and forests, rivers and seashores.

Thank you, Lord For all the beautiful and wonderful things we experience in our life;
for the water that cleanses, the clothes that bring
warmth, the food that nourishes and the home that gives comfort.

Thank you, Lord For all the beautiful and wonderful things we experience in our life;
for those who love us and care for us;
for those who value us for who we are;
for those we call family, friends, neighbors.

Thank you, Lord For all the beautiful and wonderful things we experience in our life;
for the gift of Christ, your son;
for his life, his gospel, his cross, and his Church;
for his Eucharistic meal and the promise to be with us always.

Thank you, Lord For all the beautiful and wonderful things we experience in our life;
for the time you've allotted us, the life you've offered us,
the opportunities you've afforded us, and the miracles you've worked for us.

Thank you, Lord For all the beautiful and wonderful things we experience in our life;
and for your infinite love that meets our daily needs.
May our love, too, be known for its abundance, its readiness to bless and heal,
to offer peace and promote justice, and to serve in Jesus' name.
Amen.

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International Catholic Stewardship Council

Renee Underwood, Chief Development Officer of the Advancement Foundation was invited to speak on the Steier Group's Twelve Wicker Baskets podcast.



Renee Underwood, shares how her role is one of ministry, walking along side parishioners discerning their legacy in their parish and the diocese. She explains she has many Holy Spirit moments with parishioners as God guides their conversations. A planned gift to the Advancement Foundation can be for a specific parish, school, Diocesan ministry, or Catholic organization within the Diocese of Fort Worth. Learn how your gift to the Diocese of Fort Worth makes a lasting impact <https://advancementfoundation.planmygift.org/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November 29** #iGiveCatholic Giving Day on Giving Tuesday
- December 8** Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Offices Closed
- December 11** Special Collection for Retired Religious
- December 31** Charitable giving must be postmarked by this day for 2022 tax purposes.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Advancement Foundation will be closed on **Thursday, December 8** in observance of the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** and **December 26 - 30** for **Christmas**.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

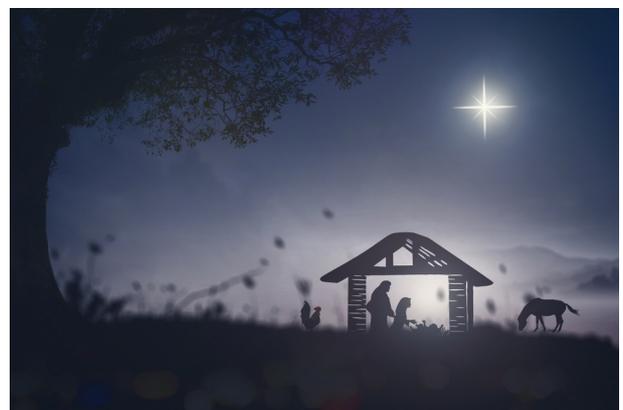
You will find information about giving opportunities, upcoming events and occasionally some words of wisdom and inspiration.



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



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



Offices closed December 26 - 30



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WHAT WE DO

- Support the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth
- Identify Needs
- Raise Funds
- Create Awareness
- Provide Opportunity
- Inspire Generosity

“How shall I make a return
to the Lord for all the good
he has done for me?”

Psalm 116:12

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.