

CROSSROADS

QUARTERLY NEWS FOR PASTORS, BUSINESS MANAGERS AND
FINANCE COUNCILS FROM THE ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION



Turkey Syria Earthquake Special Collection March 4-5

U.S. Bishops' International Justice and Peace Chairman Calls for Prayer in the Wake of Earthquake in Turkey and Syria; Calls for Assistance

The Diocese of Fort Worth will take up a special collection for the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The collection will be held the weekend of March 4-5 in all parishes. Parishes are encouraged to keep all monies for the earthquake separate from any upcoming special collection to ensure this emergency funding reaches the earthquake victims.

See e-bulletin, email or [Box Drive \(click here\)](#) for more information.

March 18: Diocesan Day of Stewardship

The Eucharist and Stewardship as a Way of Life

Join us Saturday, March 18, 2023 at St. Andrew Catholic Church 3312 Dryden Road Fort Worth, TX 76109 for our Diocesan Day of Stewardship. This year's theme is "The Eucharist and Stewardship as a Way of Life."

All priests, deacons, ministry leaders, parish and school staff, leadership committees and councils, and all members of the laity are invited to attend.

The day begins at 8:30 a.m. with Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Olson and priests of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Following Mass, participants will enjoy breakfast and hear from Bishop Olson and Fr. Joseph Moreno how we receive the Body of Christ in order to become the Body of Christ. Through lives of stewardship, we do as St. Augustine taught, "Be what you see and receive what you are." Opportunities for reflection and sharing with other parish participants will be included.

To register and for additional information, please go to: <https://www.advancementfoundation.org/diocesan-day-stewardship>. Questions? Contact Wendy Collins at wcollin@adv-fdn.org or 817-533-3178.

MISSION

To educate, motivate and invigorate Stewardship, to garner resources in a fiscally transparent and responsible manner, and to manage and distribute solicited gifts for the immediate and long term needs of the faith community of the Diocese.

UPCOMING DATES

Special Collections

January 14-15

Priest Care Fund

February 25-26

Black and Indian Missions

February 22 - April 9

CRS Rice Bowl

March 4-5

Turkey Syria Earthquake

March 18-19

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Looking Ahead

March 18

Diocesan Day of Stewardship

April 15

Parish Grant Applications Due

April 15

Light of Christ Award

Nominations Due

June 24

Light of Christ Award

Ceremony



Parish Operating Grants

Why we do what we do

Applications are now open for parish operating grants funded by the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Thanks to the generosity of the donors to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, the Advancement Foundation provides generous operating grants to small, rural parishes or those struggling to meet their operating expenses. Last year, 37 parish communities in the Diocese of Fort Worth were awarded operating grants totaling \$815,000.

Completed grant application forms and support documentation may be submitted via email or postal mail and must be received no later than 5 p.m. April 15. Applications are reviewed by the Grants Committee of the Advancement Foundation and forwarded to its Board of Directors for final approval. All applicants will be notified by letter prior to June 30. Grants will be disbursed in twelve (12) equal payments beginning July 1.

Visit this webpage to find the FY2024 application and important criteria to remember when applying:

<https://www.advancementfoundation.org/parish-operating-grants>

Light of Christ Awards

Due April 15

The Light of Christ Parish Stewardship award is presented annually to lay individuals throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth who exemplify the light of Christ through lives of Christian Stewardship. Each parish recognizes one lay person or couple who live out their baptismal call in an extraordinary way through stewardship and leadership.



Each pastor may determine the nominating process within his parish, for example, he could make the selection, ask the pastoral council for suggestions, etc.

This year's ceremony is Saturday, June 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Location to be announced.

For the nomination form and additional information, please visit <https://www.advancementfoundation.org/stewardship-awards>. Or contact Wendy Collins at wcollins@adv-fdn.org or 817-533-3178.

Changes in the Tax Code Affect Qualified Charitable Distributions

The Secure Act 2.0 signed into law in late December made a few changes for those donors ages 70-1/2 who like to support our parishes, schools and the Diocese of Fort Worth through Qualified Charitable Distributions from their retirement plans. Effective with the 2023 tax year, an individual may donate up to \$100,000 during the year from an IRA, and that amount will be indexed for inflation, meaning it is likely to increase each year thereafter.

Additionally, the new law allows a one-time election of up to \$50,000 to fund either a Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT), Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT) or a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA). No changes were made to the age of donor who may make QCDs and QCDs continue to be eligible for donation to donor-advised fund sponsors, private foundations or supporting organizations. If you have questions about how QCDs can benefit your parish offertory or capital campaign, please visit <https://advancementfoundation.planmygift.org/ira-charitable-rollover> or contact Renée Underwood, CFRE, at 817-533-7242 or runderwood@adv-fdn.org.