

Christian formation has been restructured in the Diocese of Joliet to model seminarian formation, which focuses on forming the whole person, so youth and adults in our parishes as well as students in Catholic schools all truly know Jesus Christ.



# FORMATION

*'We're trying to help young people especially encounter the living Christ and to know that God is alive.'*




"The ultimate goal is that everyone in our diocese will come to a life-changing encounter with Christ. And once they have that encounter, then we can start to form them into the missionary disciple that God has called them to be."

~ Father Burke Masters,  
secretary for Christian formation



*In Bishop Conlon's pastoral letter, "Go," He said, he encourages us all, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to "Go and Make Disciples" as Christ has commissioned.*



*'It's important that all of us, together as a family of Christ, help others in need.'*

Deacon Lupe Villarreal and his wife, Carmen, were raising their five boys when they sought Catholic Charities' help during a challenging period of unemployment and homelessness. Humbled, he vowed to repay the Lord one day. But he could have never foreseen his vocation as a permanent deacon who proclaims the Word of God at Spanish Masses at St. Dennis Parish in Lockport.

"I believe the seed was planted back then to be harvested later. A lot of years elapsed in between, but there was something there. When I was ordained, I completely surrendered myself to the Lord."

~ Deacon Lupe Villarreal



*Permanent deacons minister throughout our diocese as well as assist pastors in parishes by preaching the Gospel and delivering the homily at Mass and celebrating baptisms, marriages and funerals.*



### 2019 CMAA allocations

In 2019, gifts to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal supported the following ministries in the Diocese of Joliet.

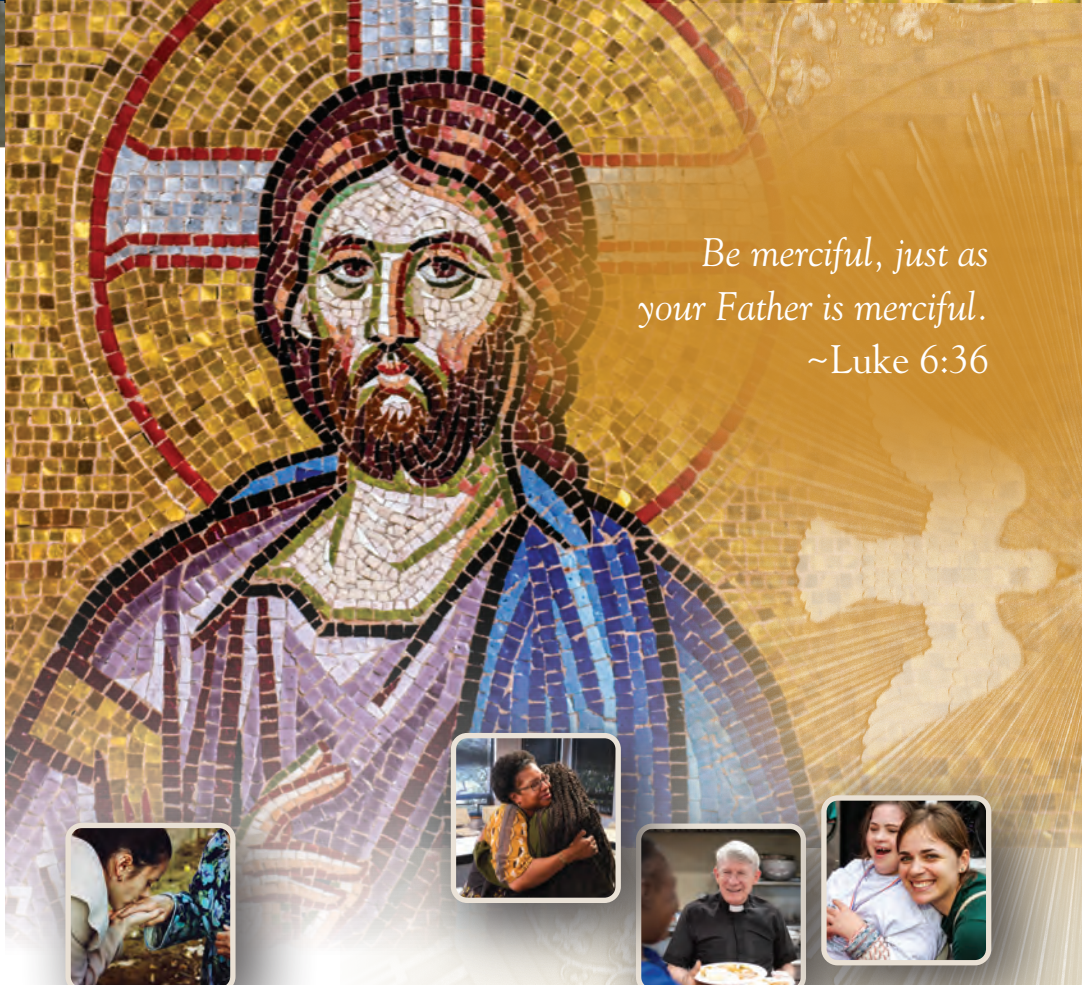
<b>Catholic Charities</b> Aging and Disability Services Community Classes and Groups Community Services Counseling	<b>\$1,200,000   14%</b> Daybreak Shelter and Medical Clinic Early Childhood Services Mobile Food Pantry Veterans' Services
<b>Catholic Schools and Christian Formation</b> Adult Formation Catholic Schools	<b>\$1,167,000   14%</b> Youth Formation
<b>Seminarian Education, Vocations and Priest Care</b> Chaplains Continuing Formation of Clergy Permanent Diaconate Presbyteral Council Seminarians	<b>\$2,143,000   26%</b> St. John Retirement Home Vicar for Clergy Vicar for Religious Vocations
<b>Christian Life</b> Campus Ministry Divine Worship Ecumenism Ethnic Ministries Evangelization	<b>\$914,000   11%</b> Family Ministry Natural Family Planning Pastoral Concerns Pastoral Council Young Adult Ministry
<b>Human Dignity</b> Disability Advocacy Justice and Peace	<b>\$364,000   4%</b> Missions Respect Life
<b>Other Ministries and Agency Services</b> Child and Youth Protection Development and Stewardship	<b>\$1,623,000   20%</b> Parishioner Communication Tribunal
<b>Rebates to Parishes</b>	<b>\$875,000   11%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,286,000   100%</b>

The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal supports the mission and ministries of the Diocese of Joliet. No CMAA gifts are used to settle claims of any nature against the diocese.


**DIOCESE OF JOLIET**  
Development and Stewardship Office

16555 Weber Road | Crest Hill, Illinois 60403  
(815) 838-8515 | [jolietdioceseappeal.org](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org)

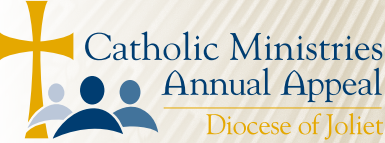
Counties of the diocese | DuPage, Ford, Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, Kendall, Will



*Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*  
~Luke 6:36

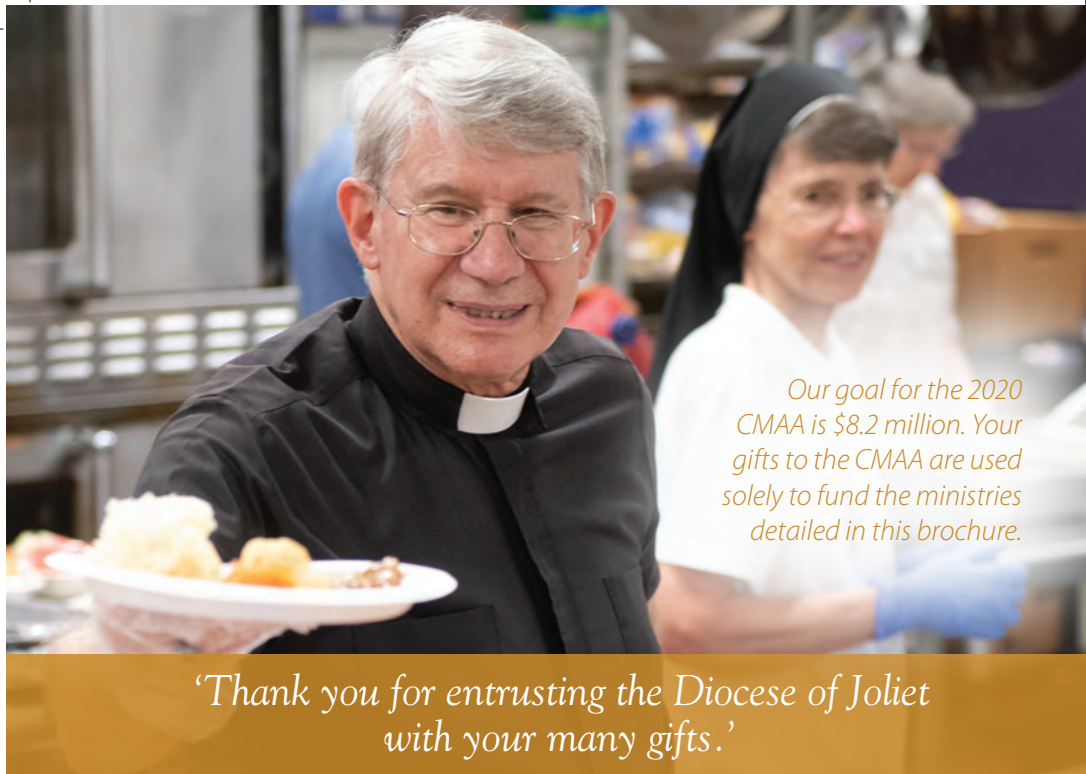


# be KIND and MERCIFUL



2020 CMAA goal: \$8.2 million | [jolietdioceseappeal.org](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org) | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [in](#)





Our goal for the 2020 CMAA is \$8.2 million. Your gifts to the CMAA are used solely to fund the ministries detailed in this brochure.

*‘Thank you for entrusting the Diocese of Joliet with your many gifts.’*

After Shatrece lost her job, she and her three children found themselves with no place to go. She turned to Catholic Charities, which did more than put a roof over her family’s heads — it placed them on a path toward self-sufficiency.



Catholic Charities serves more than 60,000 children, adults and senior citizens in need each year through programs that extend Christ’s mercy to the most vulnerable members of our community.

*‘Catholic Charities empowered me to work toward my goals.’*

“Because of Catholic Charities’ kindness and mercy, my family is in a better place and I’m in a better place mentally, emotionally, financially and spiritually.”

~ Shatrece,  
Catholic Charities client



*‘Kindness and mercy, it’s what we’re all about.’*

More than 16,800 children are enrolled in the Diocese of Joliet’s 52 Catholic schools, where our faith is an important element of the daily curriculum.



“Other school systems are not able to teach moral values to their students. We’re able to form our students into the kind and merciful children we want them to be.”

~ Carrie Mijal,  
principal of Visitation  
School in Elmhurst

The Catholic Schools Office provides resources and guidance to pastors, principals, school staff and families, ensuring Catholic education is strong in our diocese.



The Diocese of Joliet is blessed to have 33 men discerning a vocation to the priesthood as seminarians. They will spend as many as eight years in the seminary before being ordained to the priesthood.

Our seminarians prepare for the priesthood at seminaries in Minnesota and Mundelein, Illinois. Formation for each seminarian can cost as much as \$50,000 a year.



“Seminary formation is where men find the freedom that they need to follow our Lord Jesus Christ in the vocation He’s created them for. We need them to be free so they can be fathers to their congregation, which they’re



called to serve; so they can respond to the Holy Spirit; so they stand confidently in their identity as beloved sons of God, the Father, and live life in a way that is fruitful and joyful.”

~ Father Steven Borello,  
vocations director

*‘Seminarians are entirely dependent upon God’s grace and the prayers of people in the pews.’*



DISCIPLES



When you pledge your gift to the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal, prayerfully consider joining the **Deo Gratias Society**. Members take a leadership role in the work of the Church, pledging to become partners in a shared vision for the future of the Diocese of Joliet.

A gift of \$1,000 or more enrolls you in the *Deo Gratias Society*. In addition to spiritual benefits, membership includes an annual Mass and reception with Bishop R. Daniel Conlon, and recognition in our annual publication for society members.

KIND

GRACE