

BISHOP'S APPEAL

for **MINISTRIES**

*Building up the Church in East Tennessee*

**ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT**



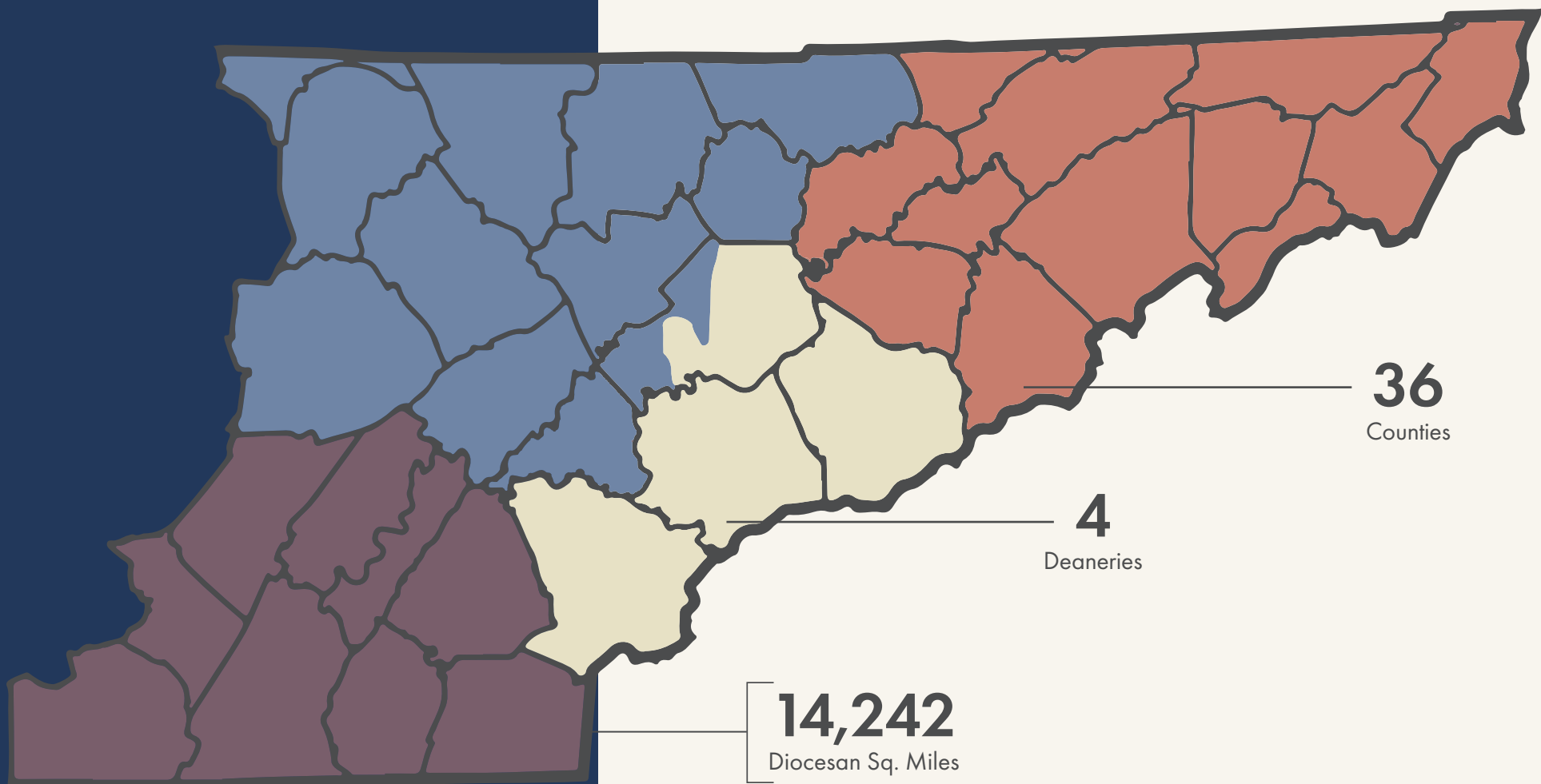
# WE ARE ONE CHURCH IN EAST TENNESSEE.

From all areas of the diocese, we come together to worship the Lord.

27,265 Registered Households



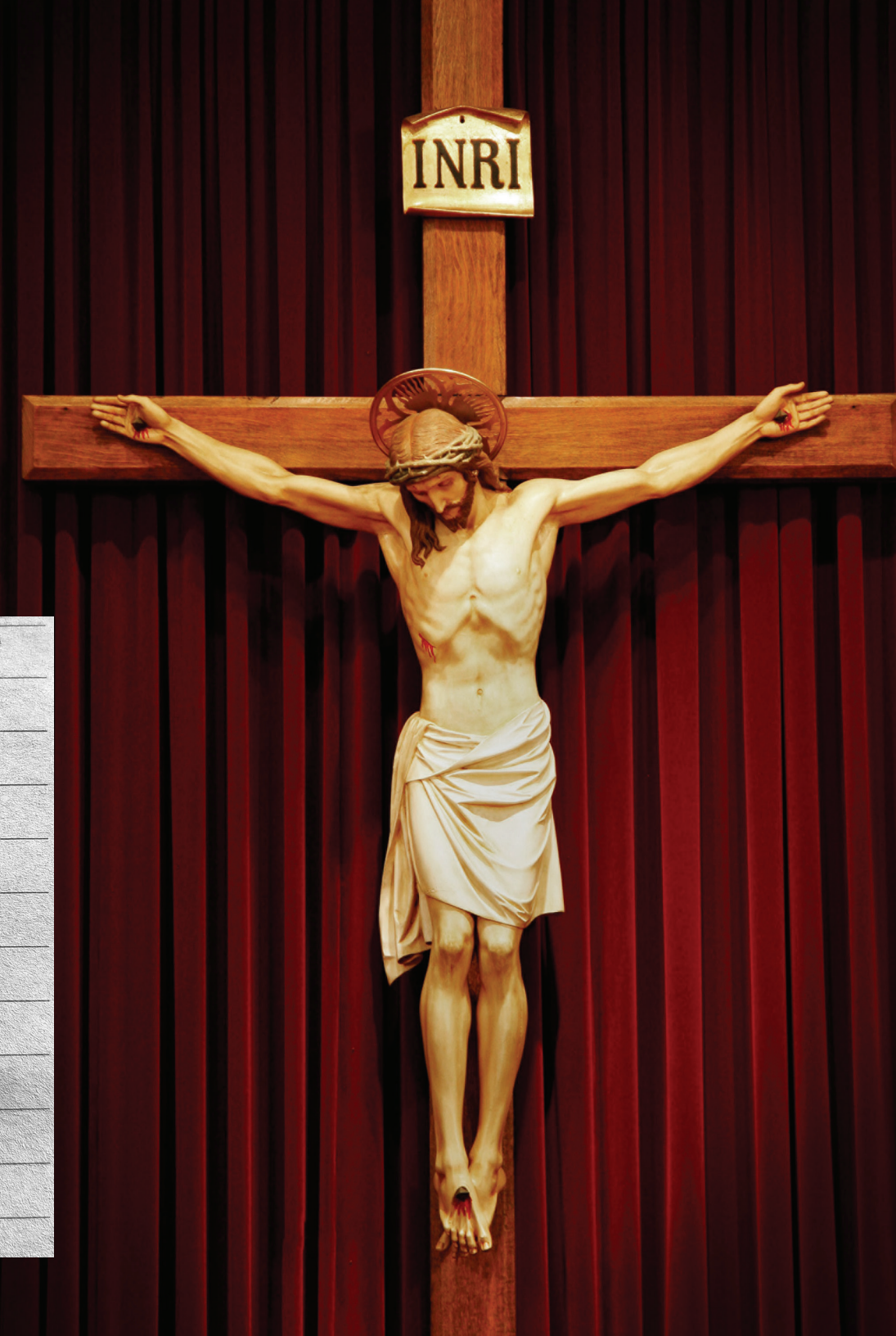
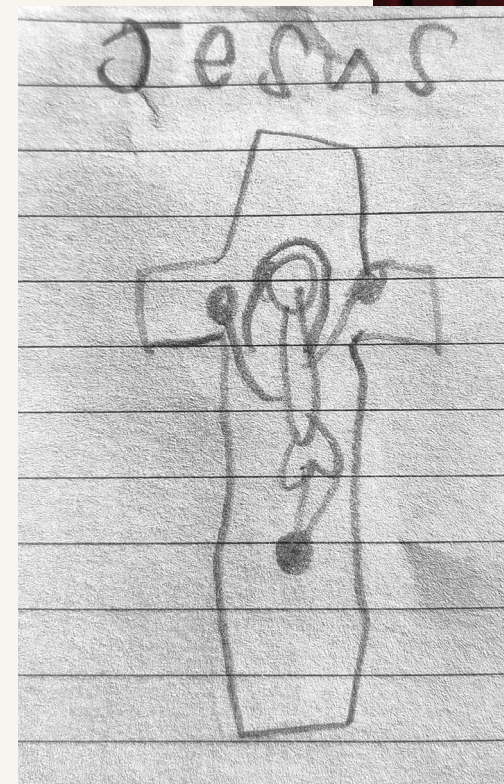
2.8% of Total Population



**Together, we give thanks to the Lord** for all that He has blessed us with and are called to love our neighbor as ourselves. One way we can give thanks is through the *Bishop's Appeal for Ministries*. What is the *Bishop's Appeal*? It is an outpouring of love from all areas of the diocese to fund ministries that are critical to our local Church. It is loving and serving our neighbor, a key commandment from Jesus Christ, and giving back to God in gratitude for all that He has so freely given to us.

**A little child shall lead them...**the need to give comes at an early age. When you ask a child who their neighbor is, their answer is usually very innocent and sincere, "my neighbor is someone who needs my help!" Our neighbor is anyone in need and everyone who longs to know Jesus Christ. The simplicity of the child's response, and the beauty of the Crucifix to the right drawn by a local child, reminds us that sometimes the best way to understand what God has called us to do is to view Jesus Christ, and our neighbors, through the eyes of a child.

**Thank you for loving your neighbors as yourself and for caring for those around you who are in need!** Your commitment helped provide essential ministries, programs, and services our neighbors in need rely on and we are so grateful for you!






# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Thanks to the *Bishop's Appeal for Ministries*, the Christian Formation Ministry is able to produce good fruit and deepen the faith of all who live within our diocese. Together through RCIA, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, the Catechetical Institute of Franciscan University, and other formation programs, we can enliven faith formation for all ages, proclaim the Gospel to others, and teach how to live the life of a Christian disciple – today, tomorrow and in the future.

**“The ministry of Christian Formation is a beautiful gift to all people of the Church. We seek to produce good fruit when we experience growth not only in number, but in the deepening faith of those that live within the boundaries of our diocese.”**

– Deacon Jim Bello, Director of Christian Formation

 **13 Seminarians**  
currently studying for the priesthood

**18 Deacon aspirants** in formation 





 **24 Men** were ordained to the permanent diaconate in 2022

## SEMINARIAN SUPPORT AND CLERGY FORMATION

As Catholics, we give thanks to God for the gift of Vocations and for the men who embody the image of Christ and serve the Church. Thanks to the *Bishop's Appeal for Ministries*, our priests, deacons, and seminarians receive the support needed to give themselves to God through prayer, study and sacrifice, and serve our parishes and Catholic communities throughout East Tennessee.

**“Your support makes it possible for me to study for the priesthood. Your prayers have been a steady anchor of hope to me while I've been away from home. God is good, and so are His people!”**

– Deacon Andrew Crabtree

 <p><b>300 Entered</b> into full Communion with the Catholic Church in East Tennessee at the 2023 Easter Vigil</p>	 <p><b>50 Religious Education</b> directors in the diocese</p>	 <p><b>20 Parishes</b> offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd</p>	 <p><b>100+ Parish Catechists</b> throughout the diocese</p>
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**Being prayed over  
 by my peers was  
 such an amazing  
 experience. It was  
 so powerful! I  
 learned that I need  
 to take the time to  
 be still and quiet and  
 listen to God.**  
 – Retreat Participant ”

## YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT, & COLLEGE CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Youth, Young Adult & College Campus Ministry reaches out to all young people in East Tennessee. Through camp experiences, retreats, leadership development, Pastoral Juvenil, college campus centers, and more, youth of all ages are invited into relationship with Jesus Christ and given the opportunity to share the light and love of Jesus with others, including youth their own age.

Thanks to support provided by the *Bishop’s Appeal for Ministries*, the future of the Catholic Church - our youth - receive the spiritual guidance, Christian formation, and the opportunity to build peer communities rooted in faith.



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF EAST TENNESSEE

Catholic Charities of East Tennessee is a coalition of service-driven, community-centered programs that are empowered by the grace of Jesus Christ to provide social services in East Tennessee. They help foster human dignity of the vulnerable in our region through shelter and food assistance, counseling and adoption services, education, advocacy, and reverence for life.

Thanks to support provided by the Bishop’s Appeal for Ministries, the Ministry is able to serve individuals of all ages, including children and seniors, as well as families with a range of needs regardless of race, income or religion.

“**Providing Help,  
 Creating Hope**”



**70+ Families**  
 supported by Columbus  
 Home Assisting Parents  
 (CHAP)



**4,210  
 Individuals**  
 served last fiscal year



**176 Seniors**  
 in need received safe shelter  
 provided by the Samaritan  
 Place in the 21-22 fiscal year



**11 Programs**  
 serving those  
 in need

## JUSTICE & PEACE

The Office of Justice and Peace is active in defense of life at every stage, from birth to natural death. Thanks to support from the *Bishop's Appeal for Ministries*, the Ministry is able to build a culture of life through the rich treasury of the Church's social teaching through education, evangelization, and advocacy.

**Meeting the challenge  
"to proclaim the  
gift of life, life in  
abundance..."**

– Pope Benedict XVI



## ST. MARY'S LEGACY CLINIC

Without access to consistent medical care, many families and individuals in rural East Tennessee would go without the necessary services they need to live a healthy and active lifestyle. Thanks to the Diocese of Knoxville's St. Mary's Legacy Clinic, which is supported by the annual *Bishop's Appeal for Ministries*, the healing ministry of Jesus can be delivered to the medically underserved in East Tennessee free of charge.

**“ One is a good number. That's how we treat patients, one at a time. It is person to person care, and we could not do it without your support. ”**

– Martin Vargas, Executive Director, St. Mary's Legacy Clinic



**350+ Patients**  
received care in 2022

**1,228**  
**Patient Visits**  
conducted in 2022



**100 Volunteers,  
7 Staff,  
+ Partners**  
help provide essential  
medical care



## EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Jesus invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith: His Real Presence in the Eucharist. Each week we come together from different places, different backgrounds, and different families to receive the Blessed Sacrament, which feeds us to do His work in the world through the ministries of our Church.

The Eucharistic Revival is a movement of Catholics across the United States, united by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and sent out in mission “for the life of the world.” Through the Eucharist and ministries delivered by our community of faith, which are supported by the *Bishop’s Appeal for Ministries*, we’re able to work together using the strength and love provided by the Eucharist to bring hope to the hopeless and peace to our broken world.

We invite you to draw closer to Christ through the Eucharistic Revival in 2023 and share His love with all you encounter.

“ *The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; It signifies love, It produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life.* ”

– St. Thomas Aquinas



Scan here to learn  
more about the *Bishop's  
Appeal for Ministries*



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D I O C E S E   O F   K N O X V I L L E

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**T H A N K   Y O U   *f o r*   Y O U R   S U P P O R T !**