

Bringing Hope & Healing

“We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi

An Opening Message from Bishop Deshotel

Bringing Hope and Healing. This is our challenge in 2021 as we look to a new year and to new beginnings. “God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress” (Psalm 46:2). We long for hope in times of difficulty and struggle, and we seek healing and restoration when burdened and hurting. And so, as caring Catholics, we understand the needs others express, and we welcome God’s call to be His hands and feet, Bringing Hope and Healing to our families, fellow parishioners, neighbors and friends.

Bringing Hope and Healing. This year, at a time of extraordinary challenge brought on by a worldwide pandemic, we perceive that longing in the eyes of those around us. It is the expectant hope expressed by a blind man named Bartimaeus, unable even to see Jesus as the Savior approached and engaged him directly. Responding to the man’s cry, Jesus asked a question filled with meaning for us, “What do you want me to do for you?” The man replied simply, “Master, I want to see” (Mark 10:51).

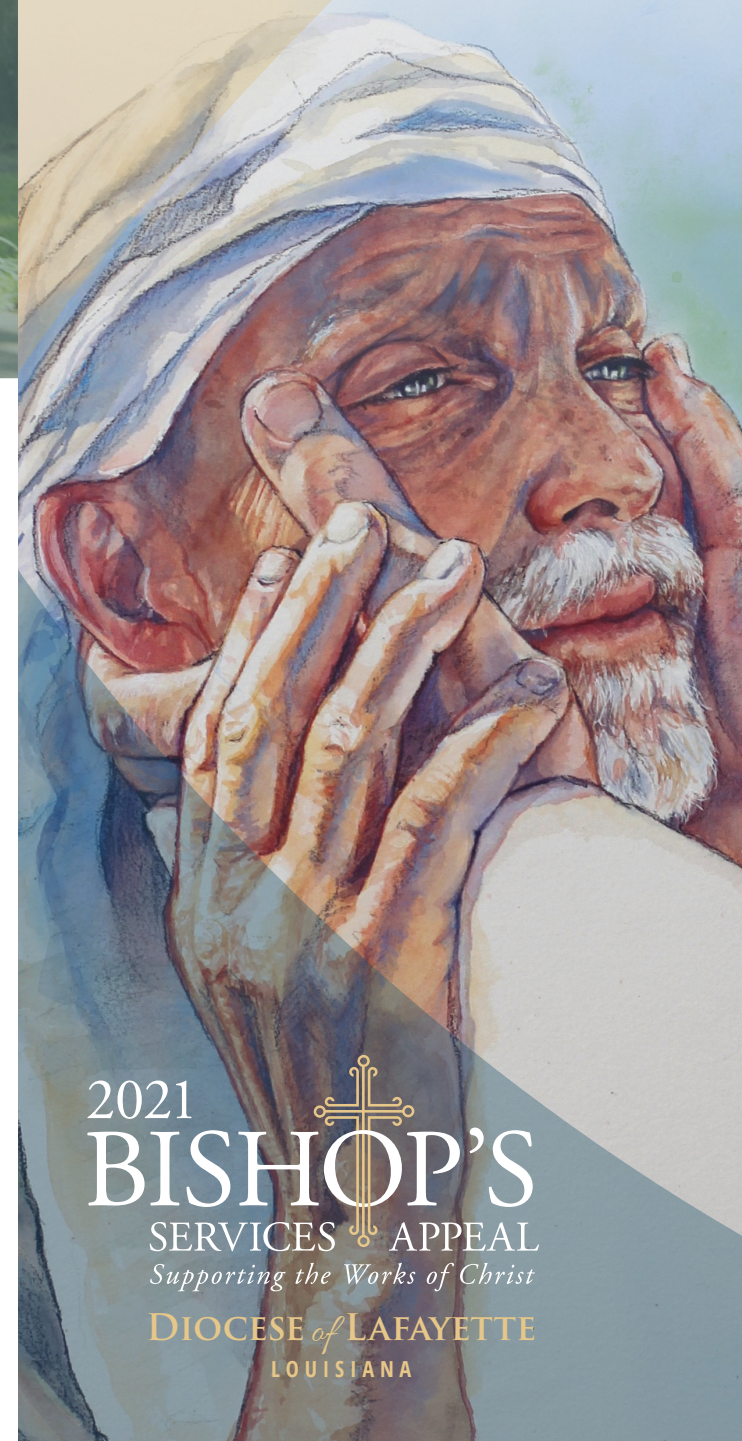
Bringing Hope and Healing. In God’s grace and mercy, He calls His Church to be instruments of blessing to others in the name of Jesus. For more than 40 years, ministries receiving support through the Bishop’s Services Appeal have steadfastly and faithfully extended the blessings of hope for the future through charitable service. I rejoice in gratitude and wonder at your continued generosity, for in your sharing, you too are offering the healing power of love.

Please make this the year that you join me and your fellow Catholics as donors to the Bishop’s Services Appeal. As Bartimaeus looked to Jesus as His provider and the One who offered him lasting hope, those around us look to the Catholic Church, knowing we respond to their needs in Christ’s love, **Bringing Hope and Healing** to them. You are an essential part of the Church, and we can’t do it without you. At a time when hope is so dearly needed, I invite you to give generously in support of the BSA.

Faithfully yours in Christ,



Most Reverend J. Douglas Deshotel, D.D.
Bishop of Lafayette



2021
BISHOP'S
SERVICES APPEAL
Supporting the Works of Christ
DIocese of LAFAYETTE
LOUISIANA

S.O.S: Supporting our Seminarians

The education and formation of 30 seminarians for the next generation of church leadership is the single biggest investment of the Bishop’s Services Appeal. The cost of one year of books and tuition for one individual is \$36,000. When you give to the BSA, you are bringing hope for the future of the Catholic Church in Acadiana.

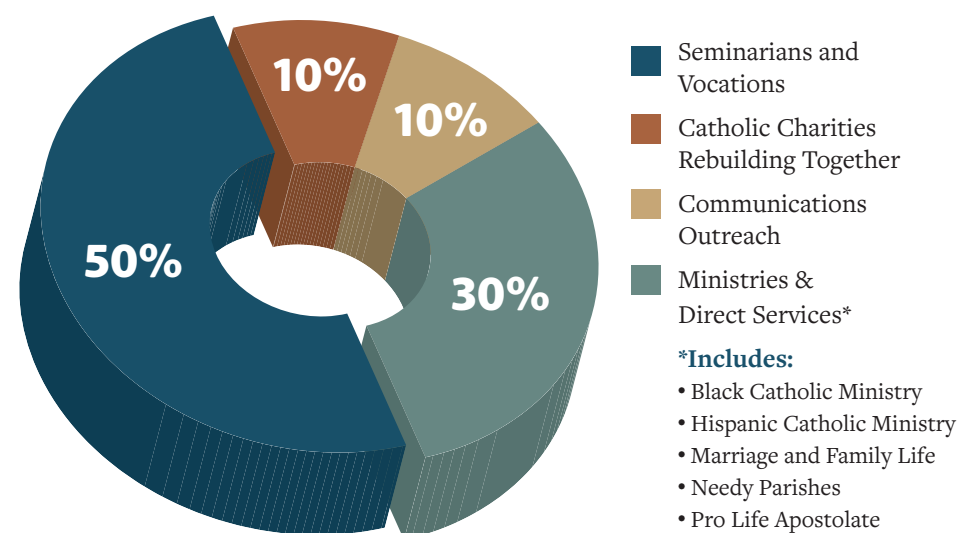
Bringing Hope and Healing through Direct Service Ministries

When you support the Bishop’s Services Appeal, you are blessing others with the healing power that comes from an open heart in harmony with the Great Physician, our Lord and Savior.

“Your love for one another will show the world that you are my disciples.”

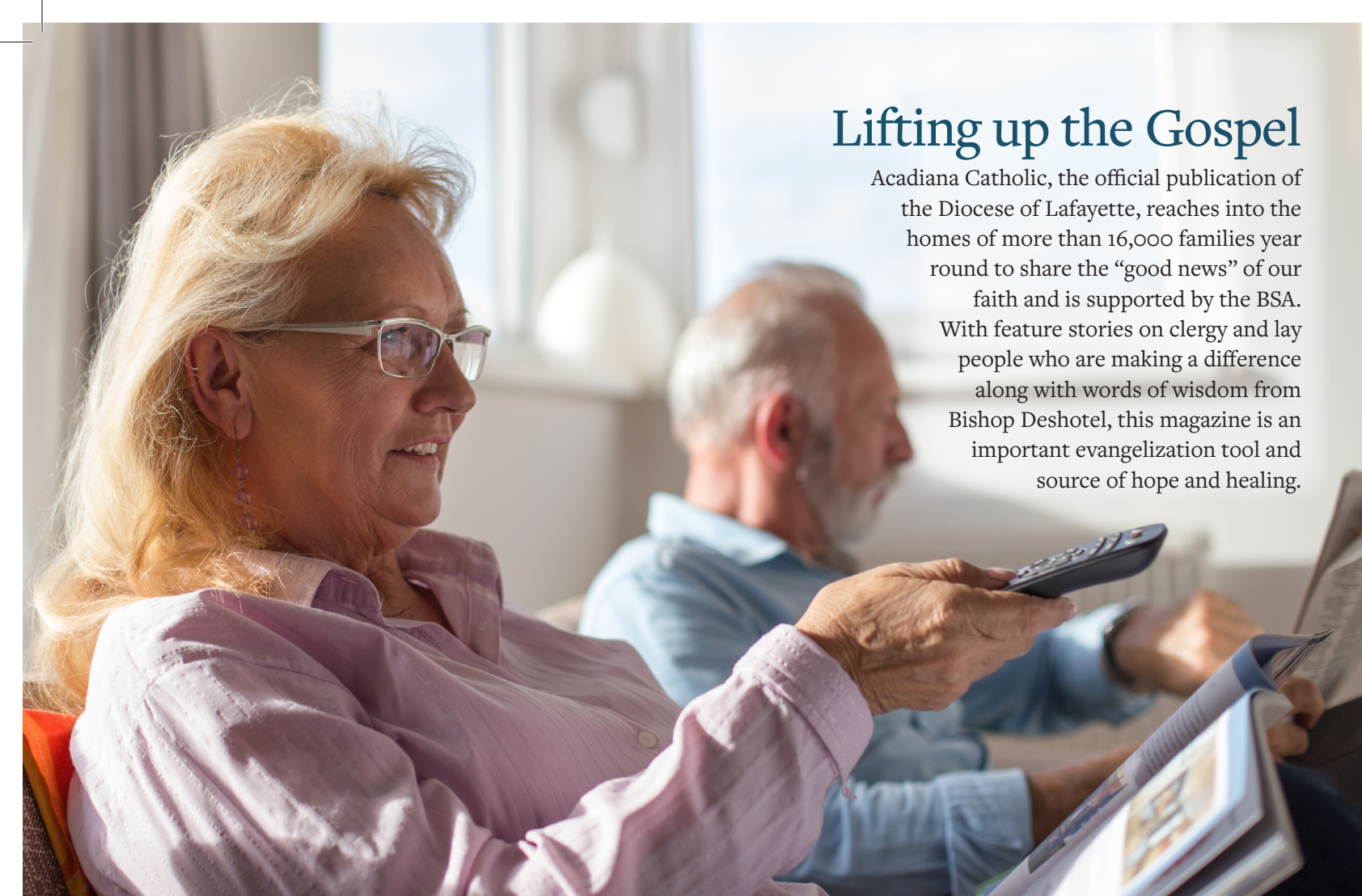
– John 13:35

Make this the year you join the Bishop’s Services Appeal.



Please invest your treasure to preserve our Catholic traditions, share the Gospel, and transform lives through the 2021 Bishop’s Services Appeal.

Pledge by mail, by phone (337-261-5641), online at diolaf.org/BSA or text **DIOCESE** to 41444.



Lifting up the Gospel

Acadiana Catholic, the official publication of the Diocese of Lafayette, reaches into the homes of more than 16,000 families year round to share the “good news” of our faith and is supported by the BSA. With feature stories on clergy and lay people who are making a difference along with words of wisdom from Bishop Deshotel, this magazine is an important evangelization tool and source of hope and healing.



Cherishing the Gift of Life

The right to life from conception to natural death is our most important cause as Catholics. Thanks to donations to the Bishop’s Services Appeal, the Pro-Life Apostolate equipped local church parishes with materials to promote the recent passage of Amendment 1 to the Louisiana constitution to ensure greater protection for precious human life. This apostolate works year-round to build awareness, provide hope and foster a life-giving culture.



Restoring Homes After a Disaster

Rebuilding Together Acadiana (RTA), a program of Catholic Charities of Acadiana, is facing a huge financial challenge in the aftermath of Hurricanes Laura and Delta. Over 1,000 families have asked for assistance with repairs, due to financial hardship, age or disability. RTA brings hope and healing with its family-centered mission that strives to preserve home ownership as the key to stronger communities throughout the Diocese of Lafayette. Your gift to the BSA can make a difference for one of these families.



Comforting the Broken-Hearted

Our God is a God of hope. And while it is difficult to walk in the shoes of the grieving, the Office of Marriage and Family Life opens the door to healing with pastoral counseling, retreats like Come to the Well and Rachel’s Vineyard as well as an annual Mass for families impacted by suicide. Only a phone call away, they stand ready to walk the path to wholeness with anyone who has lost a loved one.