

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

God gives us so many opportunities to know and see Him. Through our participation in the sacraments, our time spent in prayer, and even in the help we give to those in need around us, we can come to more closely know the Father who wants us to be in Heaven with Him. Our theme for the 2023 Diocesan Appeal is, "Know Him. See Him." This is inspired by John 14: 1-12, when Jesus says to Thomas, "If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." When we build our relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer we simultaneously build our relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit – and in knowing the Trinity better, we can better let God love us. When we let that love and grace move into our souls, we are more well equipped to share God's love with others.

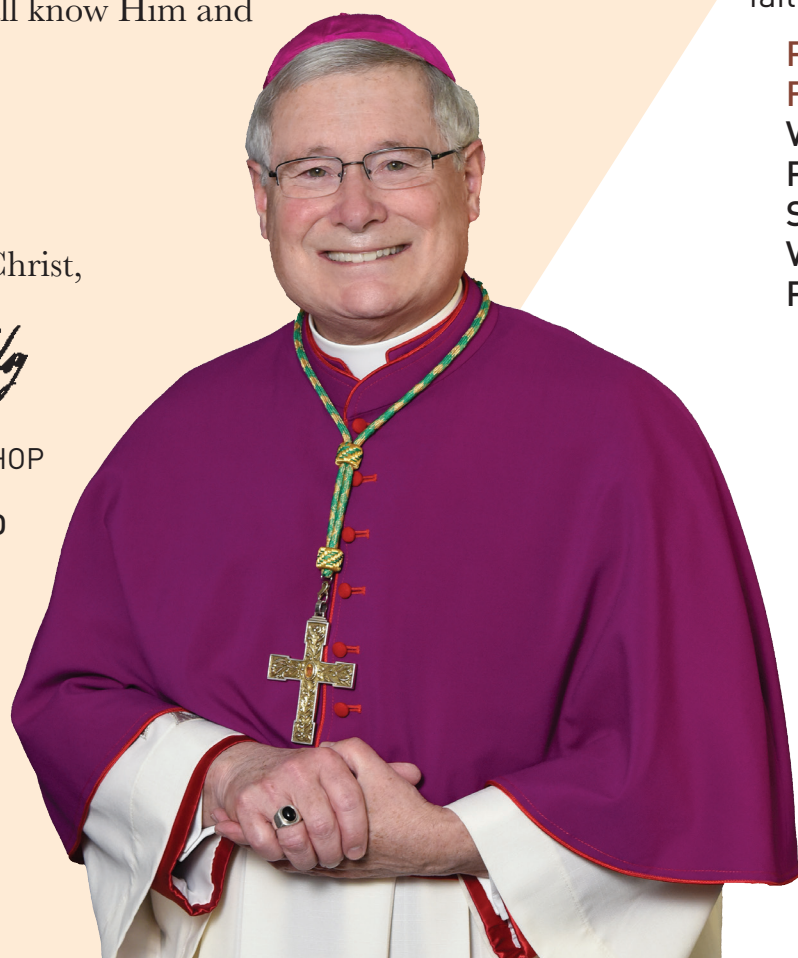
Your donation to our 2023 Diocesan Appeal supports our diocesan ministries and our parishes in carrying out the mission of the Church and sharing God's love with others. Would you please prayerfully consider a contribution to our appeal? Your gift allows our ministries to respond to those in need, build faith among young and old, prepare men well for the priesthood and for the Permanent Diaconate, and do so much more. This year our appeal emphasizes the Eucharist – the greatest example of charity. Let our hearts be inspired by this gift of salvation God has given to us. Let us all know Him and see Him.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ David J. Malloy

MOST REVEREND BISHOP DAVID J MALLOY BISHOP OF ROCKFORD



YOUR gift makes a difference

CARING FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

Your gifts to the Diocesan Appeal support those who need our help the most: the poor, the marginalized, the hungry, the elderly, and the unborn. By contributing to our appeal, you help support local efforts to serve God's people with compassion, dignity, and respect, in solidarity with the Church.

- PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES FUNDED INCLUDE:**
 Catholic Charities
 LIFE Office
 St. Elizabeth Catholic Community Center

FORMING AND SUPPORTING CLERGY

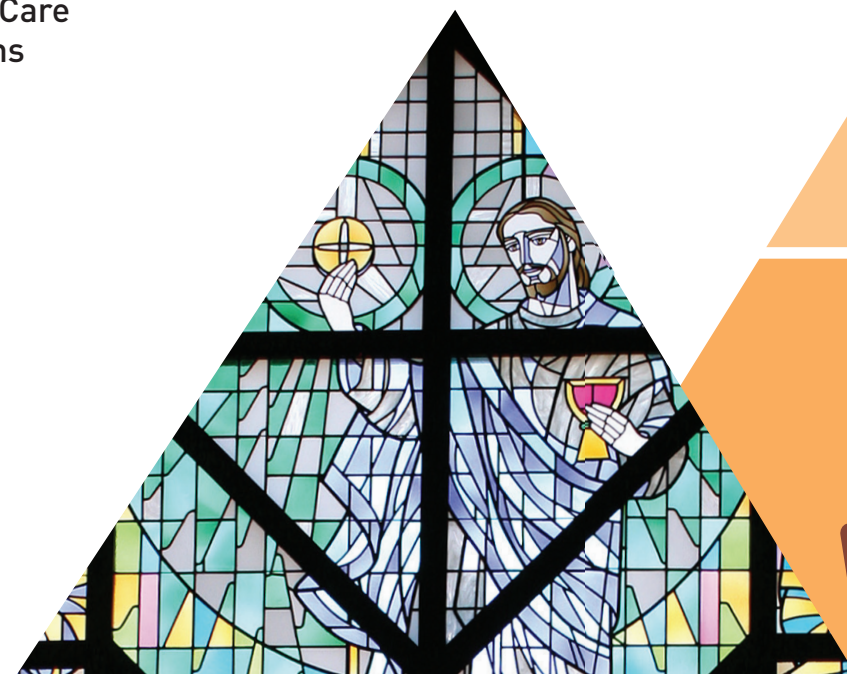
The Diocese of Rockford is blessed to have 10 young men attending seminary and preparing for priestly ministry, and another 18 men who are studying to be ordained to the Permanent Diaconate. In the past year 17 men were ordained to the Permanent Diaconate! Your prayers and generosity help form the next generation of priests and Church leaders. Your gift also provides needed health care and pensions for our 39 retired priests who have faithfully served our diocese.

- PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES FUNDED INCLUDE:**
 Vicar for Clergy Office
 Permanent Diaconate Program
 Seminary Education
 Vocations Office
 Priest Health Care and Pensions

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL AND PASSING ON THE FAITH

Your generous contribution to the Diocesan Appeal funds program, ministries and evangelization efforts that ensure our faith is passed on to future generations. Our diocese helps prepare leaders of religious education programs for more than 20,000 children, programming for adults, and overall resources for our 105 parishes to encourage faith development at all ages. In our Catholic schools, Jesus Christ can be taught daily in every subject and activity, experienced in prayer, celebrated in worship, witnessed by Catholic adults, and lived out in service. This unique education process prepares our students to respond to God's plan so they can live life as a vocation for the glory of God in service to all.

- PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES FUNDED INCLUDE:**
 Youth Ministry Office
 Campus Ministry Office
 Catholic Education Office
 Adult Faith Formation Office
 Hispanic Ministry and Regional Ministries
 Divine Worship Office
 Bishop Lane Retreat Center
 And many more



KNOW HIM SEE HIM

2023 DIOCESAN APPEAL PRAYER

ALMIGHTY GOD, WE THANK YOU.

Every day you show us how much you love us through your creation, the fruits of the land, food and family.

Give us a generous heart to share the gifts you give us every day.

Teach us to be generous to share and help our Holy Mother Church in her needs.

You call us to work in your vineyard. Let us be good stewards of the generosity you offer us.

Bless the hands of men and women who earn their daily bread with the sweat of their brow.

We pray the Holy Spirit gives life to all the ministries of the Diocese of Rockford.

Bless our parishes and priests, and may all we do be for the praise and glory of your name.

St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, PRAY FOR US.

FATHER RUBEN HERRERA, ST. PETER PARISH, AURORA

10



Seminarians Studying for the Priesthood

112



Active Priests in the Diocese of Rockford

18



Men Studying to be Ordained to the Permanent Diaconate

413,926



Catholics Living in the Diocese of Rockford

8,350



Students in Diocesan Catholic Schools

