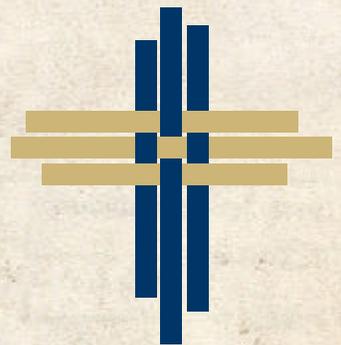


2020
BISHOP'S
ANNUAL REPORT



My
Spirit
Rejoices



Diocese of Jackson



DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

We have seen unprecedented times this year. I sincerely thank you for supporting the many ministries of the Catholic Service Appeal. As you review the annual report, you will see how your generosity supported the many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries in our diocese. We should be proud of how our diocese came together to rally around the many needs and ministries that are important to us and

our Catholic faith.

As we prepare for the 2021 Catholic Service Appeal please know that your support is needed and greatly appreciated. Our theme this year is Embrace – Serve – Inspire with a picture of Sr. Thea Bowman as the inspiration. Our beloved Servant of God is such a model of faith and faithful living to so many in our diocese. As we approach Thanksgiving may Sr. Thea inspire us to embrace all humankind, serve all in need, and inspire others to follow in her footsteps. She once asked of God, “Touch me with your love so that I can help somebody, so that I can serve somebody, so that I can bless somebody.”

We pray for those faithful donors who are accustomed to giving who are now on the receiving end due to financial loss. We are grateful to those who were able to give even more generously to support these ministries. Together we will continue the work of Christ as our country and our Church continue to recover from this pandemic.

Please know that I am praying for you and your family.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Kopacz

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION

\$125,000

Seminarian Education provides our diocese with priests that will minister to our Catholic Community. In June we ordained Fr. Andrew Nguyen and Fr. Cesar Sanchez as priests. Your support of the Catholic Service Appeal helped our six seminarians prepare for the priesthood so that they receive the academic and spiritual formation necessary to serve the people of our diocese.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

\$350,000

The Catholic Service Appeal provides support to Catholic Charities, so they can reach out to the most vulnerable and poor in the community. Catholic Charities, with program locations in Jackson, Natchez, Vardaman, and Biloxi serves over 16,000 men, women and children through direct services, crisis outreach, community education, and advocacy each year.



MISSION PARISHES / SCHOOLS

\$100,000

Our mission parishes and schools are filled with people who are committed to our Catholic faith and committed to building a stronger Catholic community, however, resources are scarce. Your support helped to subsidize many of our mission parishes and schools by providing Catholics in Mississippi a place to worship and children an education based on the gospel teachings.



FORMATIONAL MINISTRIES

\$152,500

Religious Education and Faith Formation Office offers training, retreats, and certification for parish lay ministries and Catholic School teachers who are involved in catechesis, RCIA, Liturgy, Lay Ecclesial Ministry, Pastoral Ministry and more. This training is provided both on-site and online.

Intercultural Office has been tasked with serving the needs of long standing and emerging cultural communities in the Diocese. The Office's constituencies include Black, Hispanic, Vietnamese, and Native American Catholics. Its mission will also include sensitivity to emerging cultural communities.

Family Ministry Office coordinates services and offers programs that support couples, families, and individuals by way of marriage preparation, remarriage preparation, marriage enrichment, grief support, divorce support and Natural Family Planning.

Youth Ministry Office ministers to, with and for young people and guides them to an intimate and dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. Our youth have been given a life-long challenge that includes full involvement in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic Church. Believing that the most effective ministry to youth occurs at the parish level. We assist parish leaders who guide our youth by offering programs, events, and outreach to build and maintain a strong youth presence.



RETIRED PRIESTS / CLERGY ASSISTANCE

\$190,000

Your gift to the Catholic Service Appeal is a way of honoring those retired priests that have faithfully served our parishes and diocese for many years. Even in retirement, many continue to serve by celebrating Mass, visiting hospitals, and ministering to the sick.



CAMPUS MINISTRY

\$50,000

The Office of Campus Ministry works with colleges around the diocese to help meet the spiritual needs of our Catholic college students. Campus Ministry provides a place where college students can grow in their faith through the celebration of Mass, campus and diocesan retreats, social gatherings, and bible study groups. Campus Ministry meets the needs of our Catholic college students by providing a community of believers who share a desire to live a Christian lifestyle.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

\$47,650

Your support not only helped to keep our Catholics up to date on local, national, and worldwide Catholic events through our Mississippi Catholic newspaper and website, but also offered the Church's teachings to the broader community. Our mission is to promote the Catholic Church and the gospel message through media relations, public relations, and multimedia efforts, including broadcast and web-based communications.



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JACKSON, MS 39225

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CATHOLIC
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