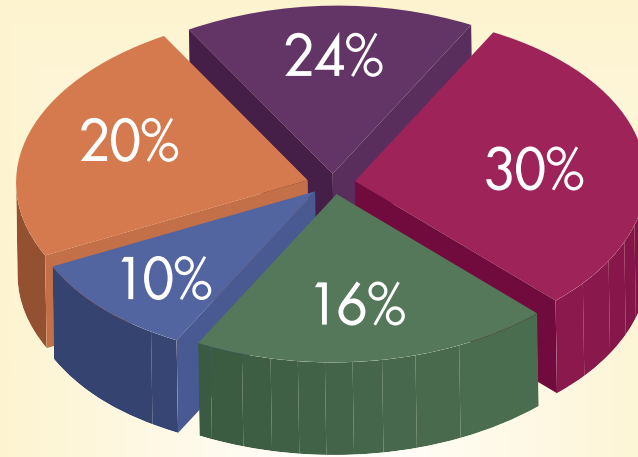


MISSION

Living and Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, Welcoming All!



YOUR GIFT TO THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL SUPPORTS...



30% Vocations

24% Religious Education

20% Catholic Charities

16% General Ministries

Catechumens
10% Youth Ministries

242



Catechumens

726



Confirmation Candidates

4,600



Students in Diocesan Catholic Schools

20+



Seminararian Candidates

229



SEARCH Participants

38



Counties across Middle Tennessee



DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

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Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries 2021

dioceseofnashville.com/appeal

Be a
Light
for
all to
See

-Matthew 5:16





Dear Friends in Christ,

The beauty of Christ can be found in many places – in a morning sunrise, in the eyes of a child, in the hands of the elderly. One of my favorite ways to experience God’s beauty is simply by sitting inside the church, admiring the gentle light of His love that shines through stained-glass windows.

Just as stained-glass windows shine God’s love into the church, **we can shine the same light into the lives of others simply by the love we show, the hope we provide, the gifts we give, and the ministries we deliver.** The *Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Ministries* provides invaluable support for vital ministries; seminarian training, religious education for all ages; youth and children’s ministries; and support for the poor and needy.

As we begin a new year, I ask you to consider how God’s light shines through stained-glass and brings life into the church... and reflect on how you can continue to serve as a source of light and share God’s love with those around you.

I hope you will join me by sharing God’s love and serving as a light for all to see by making a gift to the *Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Ministries*.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend J. Mark Spalding
Bishop of Nashville



“The Lord is my Light and my Salvation.” – Psalm 27

As the global pandemic spread in 2020, the Diocese of Nashville and its ministries adapted and persevered to maintain outreach and serving those in need. Religious education classes went online, catechists attended virtual training, and televised Mass became the norm for many. We’re also proud of the many we’ve served throughout the following ministries:



Vocations

Discerning a religious vocation demands time, prayer and significant self-searching. The Diocese of Nashville is blessed with more than 20 seminarian candidates and funds provided by the Appeal help to train future priests who will nurture us through the Eucharist, teach us through the Word, and serve the spiritual needs of God’s people.



Catholic Schools

Catholic Schools stepped up this past year – even more than ever – with teachers serving as a light of hope to students by bringing virtual classrooms to life, keeping students excited about learning. Nearly 4,600 students are enrolled in Catholic School and funding provided by the *Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Ministries* helps to provide a Catholic education to all and form future leaders and build kind hearts, strong minds and confident leaders in faith.



Youth and Adult Faith Formation

The Office of Faith Formation adapted in so many ways this last year, pressing on during the pandemic and found ways to reach those in our diocese. We continue to pass on the Catholic faith to the next generation, teaching them the power of love, mercy, forgiveness, and sacrifice.

Strong faith formation programs provide lifelong, meaningful faith experiences that enrich our families, Church and communities. They’ve streamed a number of Masses online, conducted Facebook live Bible studies, hosted multiple virtual speaker series, taught a “Be Saints” virtual program for youth, and held weekly Bible studies. They hosted socially-distanced, catechetical leaders retreat at Camp Marymount and worked to stream Bishop Spalding’s Easter Mass on Fox 17.



Serving the Poor

Catholic Charities, the social service arm of the Diocese of Nashville, provides services in 38 counties across Middle Tennessee each year. Providing these critical services is fundamental to who we are as Catholics, modeled on the service of Jesus Christ. In 2020, the *Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Ministries* provided financial resources to Catholic Charities to navigate and help them meet the drastically increased requests for aid following the aftermath of the tornado and amidst the global pandemic.



General Ministries