

FEBRUARY 11, 2024



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope this message finds you well. This year, our Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal (BASA) carries the theme "We are the Hands of Jesus." This theme beautifully captures the essence of our mission and faith.

It serves as a poignant reminder of the Gospel story where Jesus compassionately cured the leper, emphasizing our unwavering commitment to promoting and safeguarding human dignity. This theme aligns well with the ongoing initiatives of our diocese, reminding us of our collective duty as members of the Body of Christ to be missionary disciples, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I am deeply humbled by the remarkable work you do for the Church, embodying the hands of Christ in our community. Your dedication and use of your unique talents and gifts play a vital role in furthering our mission to proclaim the joy of the Gospel.

As we look to the future, I kindly ask you to consider making a gift, regardless of its size, to support this year's appeal. Your contributions will enable us to continue funding our numerous projects, programs, and initiatives. Your generosity will help the Diocese of St. Augustine answer God's call to care for all his beloved people.

In light of our diverse financial situations, I encourage you to contribute what you can comfortably afford. We firmly believe that, collectively, we can achieve our goal if each of us contributes to the best of our ability. As St. Paul wisely wrote, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it" (1 Cor. 12:26).

Know that I hold you and your loved ones in my daily prayers, and I humbly request that you remember me in your prayers as well.

Together, as the hands of Jesus, let us continue to spread his love and grace throughout our community.

With deep gratitude and blessings,

Most Rev. Erik T. Pohlmeier
Bishop of St. Augustine



2024

BISHOP'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

Out of Your unconditional love, You have shown Your grace by creating each one of us in the image and likeness of Your only begotten Son. In doing so, You endowed us with irrevocable and invaluable dignity. And despite our having erred in sin, You lovingly and compassionately healed our wounds through the humanity of Your Incarnate Son.

Knowing our weaknesses, Your Son remains with us in the Most Holy Eucharist, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, to heal the afflictions of our minds, bodies, and souls. May we who consume Your Son, be transfigured more into his image and likeness, so that we, too, may come to serve and love as He does.

May we not become indifferent or callous to the cry of our troubled brothers and sisters; those who may be wounded, poor, hungry, or ill, but see their value as members of God's family.

We pray that we respond, as generous stewards through unselfish giving, to Your many gifts of love, grace, and mercy. May we always confirm, and reaffirm, the dignity of each one of Your children.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord,
Amen.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

11665 Old St. Augustine Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32258



We are the HANDS of JESUS



DIOCESE OF
St Augustine
BISHOP'S ANNUAL
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

FEBRUARY 10-11, 2024

OUR DIOCESE



176,400
REGISTERED CATHOLICS



54 PARISHES
14 MISSIONS & CHAPELS



17
COUNTIES



11,032
SQUARE MILES



1
DIOCESE

OUR CLERGY

141 Priests
94 Deacons
96 Sisters
1 Brother
81 Retired Priests
21 Seminarians

OUR EDUCATION

24 Elementary Schools
5 High Schools
9 Early Learning Centers
1 Special Education School
10,788 Catholic Students
6,437 Religious Education Students

OUR FAITH

1,926 Baptisms
1,744 Confirmations
1,617 First Communions
452 Marriages
1,321 Funerals

2024 BASA Participation Goals

The 2024 diocesan participation goal is 25%.

Each parish has a participation target based on their number of registered families. In 2023, the overall diocesan participation rate was 19%.

Case for Support

The Pastor's Advisory Committee has recommended, and Bishop Pohlmeier has approved the following case for support and estimated allocations:



31% **CLERGY FORMATION**
» \$1.4 MILLION

Seminarians, deacons and retired priests

27% **LIFE, CHARITY & JUSTICE**
» \$1.2 MILLION

Catholic Charities Bureau of Diocese of St. Augustine, pro-life activities, prison ministry, social concerns and missions

15% **CATHOLIC EDUCATION**
» \$675,000

Catholic Schools (Guardian School, St. Francis Academy and St. Joseph Academy), and parish religious education programs.

17% **DISCIPLESHIP & EVANGELIZATION**
» \$765,000

Operational support for the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche, missionary priests and sisters, campus ministry and engaging Catholics throughout the diocese.

10% **PASTORAL MINISTRIES**
» \$450,000

Multicultural ministries, marriage and family life, youth and young adults and Stella Maris Seafarers Ministry.

We are the HANDS of JESUS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Please consider joining the Crozier Society with a gift of \$1,000 or more. You may also give a monthly pledge paid over 6 months or a one-time gift.

Pledge Suggestions:

<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly (Over 6 Months)	<input type="checkbox"/> Total Gift
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	\$450
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	\$900
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	\$1,500

One-time gifts or
6 month pledges can
be made online at:

www.dosafl.com/bishopsappeal

- or -

scan
here
to give
online



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Members of the Crozier Society take a leading role in helping the bishop advance the mission the Diocese of St. Augustine, proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and serving the spiritual, educational, and charitable needs of our entire community.

Members are those who give \$1,000 or more annually to the Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal.

For more information about the Crozier Society, please visit www.dosafl.com/croziersociety.



The Crozier Society
DIOCESE OF ST. AUGUSTINE