

2020/2021 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL



*Christ,
Our Light*



ANNUAL REPORT



My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

With sincere gratitude, I am pleased to share this Annual Report for our 2020-2021 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA). This report provides information about how CMA donations are lighting the path for those in need, for your parish, and for our Diocese.

Following the theme of *Christ, Our Light*, you joined with nearly 22,000 individuals and families in giving \$6.4 million to help our Church, your pastor, your parish community, and people in the most dire need to navigate through these challenging times.

Through the COVID-19 pandemic, when our faith was particularly vital amid unbearable suffering and loss and the unprecedented shuttering of our community, the CMA provided crucial support so that we could continue our community of faith, supporting virtual, online ministry and evangelization in every corner of the Diocese. As you will see in this report, your assistance is so vital, now more than ever, supporting ministries that serve families, youth and young adults, the elderly and infirm, the incarcerated, the poor, and the most vulnerable in our midst. As well, your gifts to the CMA allow Christ to be the light for the education and formation of our priest seminarians, deacon candidates and pastoral leaders, religious education in our parishes and schools, and services provided by the Diocese in support of parish life and ministry.

Through your support of the CMA, you are, indeed, sharing the light of Christ in our Diocese. Thank you!

Assuring you of a continued remembrance in my prayers and humbly asking for a remembrance in your good prayers, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+ *Salvatore R. Matano*

*The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester*

We are extremely grateful to the nearly 22,000 donors who committed \$6,402,582 to the 2020-2021 CMA. The gifts contributed through fundraising covered 95% of the \$6.725 million allocated for the Diocese of Rochester's \$12 million budget. Through your support, you have made it possible for the Diocese and your parish to continue the mission of our Church during unprecedented times. Thank you for making a difference!

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Seminarians And Priests

2 priests were ordained and 5 seminarians are continuing their education

10



Deacons

10 men participated in the Permanent Diaconate program

325



Hands of Christ Awards

High school seniors received the Hands of Christ award over 3 ceremonies acknowledging their ministry and leadership

1,197



Confirmations

Over 18 celebrations in April 2021

10,181



Youth in Formation

Through parish-based religious education programs

2,725



Catholic Schools Students

Educated in diocesan Catholic schools, with another 2,927 enrolled in private (non-diocesan) Catholic schools

250,000



Catholic Charities

People assisted by one of our Catholic Charities agencies throughout the 12 counties of the Diocese

The final accounting for CMA 2020-2021 will be available for review in November at www.dor.org/about/financial-reports.

All monies raised in the CMA are only used for the programs, services and ministries for which they are designated. No gifts to the CMA are used to satisfy legal fees or settlement costs associated with abuse.

CMA 2020-2021 Highlights

Information Technology

- Implemented several new cybersecurity software platforms, including CrowdStrike®, to protect parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities agencies against data breaches
- Installed hundreds of cameras and the necessary wiring across parishes and schools to support virtual ministry
- Extended networks to church buildings to allow for live-streaming of Masses
- Implemented new hardware and software to allow for increased flexibility and disaster recovery for parishes
- Assisted Catholic schools in acquiring and maintaining learning technology

Seminarian, Deacon & Pastoral Leader Education, Ministry and Support

- Educated 7 seminarians at St. John's Seminary, Brighton, MA and in Rome
- Educated 10 men in the Diaconate program at St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry

Pastoral Services

- Advocacy and education through the Office of Life Issues
- Campus Ministry stipends to support important outreach taking place on college campuses throughout the Diocese
- Support to parishes through transitions, including an online parish directory of offerings, weekly Mass data, demographic reports, change-management resources, and pastoral council resources
- Sacramental ministry and outreach to the Migrant Centers – a significant source of spiritual life in our Diocese

Evangelization & Catechesis

- Support and organization of 18 Confirmation celebrations in April 2021 and 17 celebrations in August 2020.
- Diocesan-wide summer family faith journey that connected families in at-home faith experiences
- National speakers who provided information and advice on COVID-19 quarantine and mental well-being, especially among teens
- Weekly video conferencing with catechetical leaders throughout the fiscal year
- Development and publication of *The Family Zone*, a lectionary-based newsletter/playlist for families
- Theology on Tapas (Young Adult Virtual Cooking Series)
- Support and organization of 3 *Hands of Christ* Award ceremonies
- Catholic Scouting Recognition Ceremony
- Facilitated the "Called & Gifted" program of the Catherine of Siena Institute to lead young adults to become more intentional disciples of Christ
- Discounted online Pre-Cana course during pandemic shutdown
- Updated resources and materials for RCIA training
- Virtual workshops and trainings for catechetical leaders, including 3 "Days of Reflection" and 6 presentations around the *Directory of Catechesis* document published by the Vatican

**Thank you for your support,
which makes all this and more possible!**