



# Extending Christ's Mission through the Catholic Ministries Appeal

2024/2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

## Impact Report



My dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

Thank you for your generous financial support of 2024-2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA). You have joined with more than 19,000 individuals and families to contribute more than \$7.4 million to help our Diocese and parish communities in reaching 107% of the \$6,925,000 CMA goal. What an incredible achievement!

Your assistance through the CMA ensures that our ministries remain vibrant, serving families, youth and young adults, the elderly, the sick and infirm, the incarcerated, the poor, and the most vulnerable in our midst. Funds donated to the CMA are critical to the care and education of our seminarians, deacon candidates and pastoral leaders, Catholic education in our parishes and schools, and services provided by the Diocese in support of parish life and ministry formation. The CMA funds more than half of the diocesan operating budget, allowing the Diocese to ensure the strength of our local parishes, supporting our pastors, parochial and pastoral administrators, parish staffs, and vital parish ministries in the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the 12 counties of our Diocese. We simply could not accomplish all of this without your enduring support.

Thanking you once again for your generous participation in the CMA and assuring you of a continued remembrance in my prayers, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

*Salvatore R. Matano*

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

We are tremendously grateful to more than 19,000 donors who committed \$7,442,257 to the 2024-2025 CMA. Gifts contributed through the CMA covered 62% of the Diocese of Rochester's \$11.9 million budget. Through your support, you have made it possible for the Diocese and your parish to continue the mission of our Church. Thank you for making a difference!

8



**Seminarians in Formation**

1 priest was ordained

900+



**Confirmations**

From 67 parishes and faith communities

5



**Deacons in Formation**

2,010



**Catholic School Students**

Educated in diocesan Catholic schools, with another 2,945 enrolled in private (non-diocesan) Catholic schools

240



**Hands of Christ Awards**

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

5,918



**Parish Religious Education - Youth**

Through parish-based programs

250,000+



**Catholic Charities**

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

# CMA 2024-2025 Highlights

## Evangelization & Catechesis

- Supported and equipped parishes in their catechetical ministries to individuals with disabilities with training and resources
- Equipped the domestic church through the biweekly publication of **The Family Zone**
- Worked with parishes to onboard 500 learners from around the diocese who are receiving training for ministry and teaching through the **Catechetical Institute/Franciscan at Home**
- Organized Confirmations for 900+ teens
- Supported and organized 130+ adult Confirmations, including 50 receptions into the Catholic Church and 111 adult Baptisms
- Prepared 250 engaged couples for the Sacrament of Marriage through **Fully Engaged**
- Hosted a Confirmation retreat for teens who could not attend their parish retreat
- Offered a Marriage Recognition Mass with renewal of vows with Bishop Matano
- Organized 3 **Hands of Christ** Award Ceremonies recognizing approximately 240 faith filled graduating high school seniors
- Coordinated **Youth LEAD**, a comprehensive high school youth servant leadership program, for 19 youth from 14 parishes
- Supported a high school young person from the Diocese of Rochester during their service on the National Youth Advisory Council, a group of young people who integrate their voices and gifts into all work and ministry of the **National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM)**
- Supported parishes as they participated in the **Steubenville Youth Conference**
- Equipped parishes with resources to fully immerse themselves in the **Jubilee Year of Hope**
- Engaged in consulting relationships with several parishes undergoing staffing or structural changes
- Created and carried out an accompaniment cohort process for new Catechetical and Youth Ministry leaders

## Pastoral Services

- Led a diocesan-wide effort to open awareness, understanding, advocacy, and action regarding the oppositions on the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment/Proposal 1) and the Physician-Assisted Suicide/Medical Aid in Dying (MAiD) state legislations
- Assisted efforts to re-establish the annual Women's and Men's Conferences in the Diocese, with successful participation of Young Adults at both events
- Provided access to resources, services and emotional/spiritual support to migrants working in our Diocese
- Opened collaborations and conversations with the Dioceses of Buffalo and Syracuse, as well as the national Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network (CMFN), to address the growing needs of migrant communities and the local impact of immigration policies

- Supported the pastoral needs of the communities and faithful of the Diocese of Rochester in areas such as parish/community pastoral planning, interfaith/interreligious relations, and cultural awareness and competencies

## Catholic Schools

- Organized a Fall Conference for teachers and principals with professional development sessions to help them enhance their skills and grow as educators
- Implemented the **iReady** program, a computer-based tool for teachers to monitor student academic progress and provide interactive math and reading lessons
- Provided a New Teacher Coach to work with new teachers in our schools on Catholic identity, classroom management, lesson planning, and instruction
- Provided a New Principal Mentor to work with new school principals on skills to help them successfully lead our schools
- Organized and implemented professional development sessions and educational opportunities to support teachers and principals throughout the school year
- Implemented the FACTS Student Information System to offer a platform for schools to organize student information and communicate with families on a regular basis regarding schoolwide programs and activities, as well as student progress
- Organized Professional Learning Communities to provide teachers with opportunities to collaborate across all diocesan schools
- Coordinated 171 soccer and basketball teams through the CYO Program, providing opportunities for children in schools and parishes to participate in sports throughout the Diocese

## Seminarian, Deacon & Pastoral Leader Education, Ministry and Support

- Educated 8 seminarians:
  - 5 at St. John's Seminary, Brighton, MA
  - 3 at Our Lady of Providence, Providence, RI
  - 1 Transitional Deacon ordained
- Educated 5 men in the Diaconate program at St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry

## Information Technology

- Implemented extensive wiring installations to support ongoing deployment of security camera systems across Catholic Charities, parishes, and schools
- Conducted a cybersecurity tabletop exercise to strengthen incident response readiness and cross-departmental coordination
- Migrated agency file shares to SharePoint Online, improving data accessibility, uptime, and disaster recovery
- Upgraded VPN infrastructure across parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities, enhancing remote access security
- Utilized census data with ParishSOFT using API-driven matching to improve record accuracy and streamline parishioner management