



DIOCESE OF  
KALAMAZOO

God calls each of us as baptized members of the Body of Christ to “live the mission of the Eucharist”\*.

What is this mission we are called to renew each day? It is the same mission Jesus gave to his disciples — to go forth with the graces of the Holy Spirit and transform the world through our love and care for our neighbors and communities.

Your generous gift to the *Bishop’s Annual Appeal* helps facilitate the mission of the entire Diocese through the formation and renewal of our priests; the enrichment of our parishes through faith formation programs; and the support of programs directly serving those most in need of our love through the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

As Bishop Bradley wrote in his 2022 pastoral letter, “May our spiritually renewed and fortified Diocese begin changing the world, finding a way to renew the soul of our country, and restoring God to His rightful place in our lives and in our world.”\*

Please prayerfully consider your participation in this year’s *Bishop’s Annual Appeal*. Every gift has a purpose, no matter the amount, and will serve to help renew our shared sacred mission in the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

<p><b>WAYS TO GIVE</b></p> <p>Visit <a href="https://www.diokzoo.org/bishops-annual-appeal">https://www.diokzoo.org/bishops-annual-appeal</a> or – scan QR code to go directly to online giving</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CASH OR CHECK</li> <li>• MATCHING GIFTS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLEDGE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GIFTS OF STOCK</li> <li>• ONLINE GIVING</li> </ul>
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## BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

My/Our pledge to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal is:

☐      ☐      ☐      ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Initial Payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Balance: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Plan:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Monthly</b><br><i>Over ten months</i><br>July – April   | 2. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Quarterly</b><br>July, October,<br>January & April | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Semi-Annually</b><br><i>Specify two months</i><br>July – April |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Annually</b> <i>Specify month</i> July – April      or 5. <b>Online</b> – Visit <a href="https://www.diokzoo.org">www.diokzoo.org</a> to make your pledge and pay with a credit card or bank account. |   |   |

Please return completed pledge card and any initial payment to your parish.

Please make checks payable to:

(Name of Parish) Bishop’s Annual Appeal

# RENEWING OUR MISSION



## Growing in FAITH

Think of all the many places we can grow in our faith — at home with our families, with our parish community, through participation in religious education or faith formation classes, through our youth groups and Catholic schools, through retreats and days of reflection. Many of these options are funded by the **Bishop's Annual Appeal**. As the Diocese seeks to grow and renew these programs, it is through the graces from the Holy Spirit and the generous gifts to the **Bishop's Annual Appeal** that we are able to explore new ways of engaging the lay faithful.

We also grow our faith by assisting our seminarians with the \$60,000 annual seminary costs, prayerfully and financially supporting them in their journey when they are called to be strong and faithful shepherds.

This Spring, God willing, Bishop Bradley will ordain one man to the priesthood and one to the transitional diaconate. Six additional young men are currently in seminarian formation.



## Increasing our HOPE

As Bishop Bradley wrote, “Imagine the faith alive once this renewal is underway, where everything is made new again: our churches filled to capacity with those yearning for the Eucharist; our youth engaged in the faith; our seminarian class numbering in the dozens; our renewal leading us to better serve those on the margins and living out the Beatitudes — a diocesan family of faith nourished by our renewal and living our lives inspired by the Gifts of the Eucharist and the Holy Spirit.”\*

It is in this spirit of hope we conduct our first Diocesan Synod on Priestly Life and Ministry to in turn ultimately better support our parishes, priests and lay faithful to be the centers of hope and examples of Christian joy so needed in today's world.

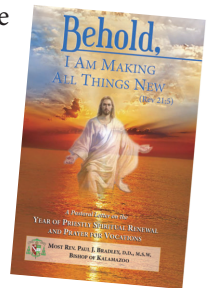


## Serving in CHARITY

Whether it's Bread of Life volunteers offering those in need fresh food and pantry staples or Caring Network volunteers helping young mothers-to-be navigate pregnancy and parenthood, serving others in charity is essential to experiencing a Holy Spirit-centered renewal in our Diocese. When we “live the mission of the Eucharist”, we live for others rather than ourselves, in an intimate communion fueled by Jesus' love and sacrifice for us.

The **Bishop's Annual Appeal** supports these acts of loving service and charity, these works of mercy, through its support of Catholic Charities Diocese of Kalamazoo and its many programs, including mental health counseling, shelter for teenagers facing difficult circumstances, heating assistance and much more.

*\*Behold I Am Making All Things New”, Bishop Paul J. Bradley, 2022*



## Your gift makes possible:



**Seminary Education and Formation:** Currently there are 8 men studying for the Priesthood

**90+ hours of professional development:** Our Office of Schools provides professional development opportunities and support to our more than 200 Catholic school educators



**19,000 Magazines:** Southwest Michigan Catholic is distributed free of charge to all registered parishioners in the Diocese

**Did you know:**

**\$3,326,943**

**Bishop's Annual Appeal  
2023 – Total Goal**

**\$310,880**

amount raised over the total goal in 2021 and returned to the Parishes

**98%** finance diocesan programs, services and ministries in the Diocese of Kalamazoo; **2%** supports the national and international Church