

Sharing the Gospel with Others

"I am a regular guy with a job and family and the same struggles as others, but as a Deacon I am called to be a witness of the love of Christ. It gives me the opportunity to show this love to the world through a combination of words, actions, and character in everything I do."

– Deacon Manuel Arias



Catholic Ministries Appeal

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CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



*“Together, as one people,
as brothers and sisters,
let us walk towards God
and love one another.”*

- Pope Leo XIV

SHARING THE GOSPEL
WITH OTHERS

CMA Prayer 2026

O loving God, as Faith-filled Catholics
We are called to walk the way of the Gospel.

We are called to walk towards you in faith
and walk towards our brothers and sisters in love.

We cannot do this without you.
We can only do this with the light of the Holy Spirit.

We pray that you can help us to recognize
the face of Jesus in others.

Help us to understand that we have a duty
to grow the Church in our community.

Help us to grow in the virtue of charity.

We pray, Lord, for all of those who benefit from
the ministries of the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

We pray for all our neighbors that they continue
to receive the support they need.

We pray for our seminarians and those
in the Diaconate program,

That they receive all the teaching and preparation they need.

We pray that our gifts work according to Your plan and
That we spread Your love and hope to all we encounter.

Help us Lord to share the Gospel with others.

Amen.



Dear Friends:

This year's CMA theme: *Sharing the Gospel with Others* asks us to share the good news of Jesus Christ and the promise of salvation, forgiveness, and eternal life with others. It is about offering a message of hope and encouragement, particularly to those who may be struggling in our community.

As our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV reminds us, *"this is the hour for love! The heart of the Gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters."* Supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal gives us a way to demonstrate that love, kindness, and compassion in our daily lives.

The ministries supported by your generosity to the Catholic Ministries Appeal sustain the gift of the priesthood through Vocations; form our permanent deacons; lead our young people to know and serve God; and offer mercy and sustenance to those in need. These ministries bear fruit throughout our diocese, within each parish, school, and program.

Please join me in making a gift to the 2026 CMA so that we can fulfill our Gospel mission to share hope and serve others across Long Island, building a brighter future for all.

Sincerely in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bishop John O. Barres



Sharing the Gospel through Word and Action

Ordained on June 8, 2024, Father Dennis Gannon currently serves as an Associate Pastor at Sts. Philip and James Parish, St. James, NY.

Father Gannon hails from St. Aidan's in Williston Park and is a graduate of Chaminade High School. After high school, he answered the call and entered the seminary, attending St. John's University and then St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers.

Priestly formation is an extensive, multi-year process that includes a rigorous academic curriculum. The costs for tuition, room, board, and other living expenses are substantial.

Fr. Gannon shared why the Catholic Ministries Appeal is so important to him and to our entire Faith community, "Not having to worry about all the financial burdens during my nine years of study was a massive burden off my shoulders. I was able to focus on prayer and my studies. It was a gift that goes beyond words. The way it helped me and my fellow brothers is immeasurable."



Sharing the Gospel Message by Helping Others

After being diagnosed with cancer and struggling to feed her family, Lori turned to the Parish Social Ministry program at her parish, St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa, for help and spiritual support.

"St Rose of Lima has helped me so much emotionally and with food and other support. I don't know where my family would be without them. When I needed them most, they were there for me."

– Lori

"Through our work at Parish Social Ministry we are living the Gospel message by loving God and loving our neighbors. Whatever their need may be, we try to be there for them."

– Sister Carol Radosti, Co-Director PSM St. Rose of Lima



Living the Gospel by Providing Affordable Housing for Our Seniors

Catholic Charities' housing department provides seniors who meet income guidelines with the opportunity for safe and affordable housing and access to a supportive network of services.

Karen was in need of affordable housing when a Senior Advocate recommended she apply to Catholic Charities Housing program. Temporarily living with her sister, an apartment came available at Bishop Ryan Village on the grounds of St Rosalie Parish in Hampton Bays. Having Karen in a safe place to live is a comfort for her family and the fellowship amongst the community is a joy for Karen. *"I love living here, I feel safe, I have friends, and I am able to get involved with the Parish activities,"* shared Karen.

"We are doing what Christ called us to do: to care for our neighbor, to care for that person who is in need. That's what Catholic Charities is all about. Our motto is Care with Dignity, Life with Hope — and we really do stand by that motto."

– Michael E. Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities



Young Adults Share the Gospel on Their Campuses

The Catholic Faith is alive on secular campuses across Long Island. Students who have a deep yearning for the Lord are having their Faith awakened thanks to support from our campus ministers. Campus Ministry provides spiritual resources to students and invites them to come closer to the Lord. Success stories from this ministry include more and more students coming to Mass and Adoration, while growing in their faith.

"Our biggest success right now is also our biggest challenge. We have more and more students attending — financially we have tripled our pizza budget! It's a good problem to have."

– Father Christopher Sullivan, Hofstra Chaplain

Kendall Troy, Campus Minister at Hofstra University shared her goals for the program. *"We are here to serve all students , to educate them in the Catholic Faith and invite them to Mass, invite them to pray, and invite them to be formed in the Faith no matter where they are from."*



Council of Stewards



Founder \$50,000+ Society of St. Agnes

This society level represents the work of St. Agnes, patroness of our Diocese. St. Agnes was a courageous young girl who, despite constant threats of death and torture, refused to give up her faith and was martyred at the age of 12. As a Founder, your generosity to the Catholic Ministries Appeal strengthens the celebration of the Catholic faith throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties. A gift of this magnitude will allow the Diocese of Rockville Centre to plan for the future and empower the next generation to grow in the love of Jesus, a love St. Agnes was willing to lay down her life for.



Herald Angel \$25,000-\$49,999 Society of St. Dominic

In Scripture, angels announce good tidings and deliver messages of God's plan for salvation. In a similar way, St. Dominic valued preaching the Gospel and educating others on the teachings of the Church. He eventually founded the Dominican Order, which was comprised of men and women who devoted their lives to preaching and teaching the Gospel for the salvation of souls. As a Herald Angel Steward, our diocese celebrates your commitment to supporting the Church in delivering God's plan for salvation and your investment in the various charities and ministries that tend to the spiritual, educational, and physical needs of the communities in our diocese.



Guardian \$10,000-\$24,999 Society of St. Vincent DePaul

Throughout Scripture we read of God promising to guard us and calling us to emulate Him in guarding ourselves and others from evil: *"The Lord will guard you from all evil; He will guard your soul"* (Psalm 121:7). St. Vincent DePaul, Patron Saint of charitable societies, was dedicated to guarding and protecting the poor. In time, he founded the orders of the Vincentians and the Daughters of Charity. As a Guardian, you too can embrace St. Vincent's spirit of charitable giving and support the Diocese of Rockville Centre in guarding all people from hardship and ministering to the needs of the Body of Christ.



Steward \$5,000-\$9,999 Society of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Stewardship, and the importance of responsible stewardship, is a repetitive theme throughout Scripture. As St. Peter writes, *"each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace"* (1 Peter 4:10). St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was particularly mindful of the responsibility to be a good steward of all that God had entrusted to her and encouraged others to do same. In 1809, Elizabeth founded the Sisters of Charity, the first American congregation of religious Sisters. The order focuses on education and tending to the needs of children and the poor. As a Steward, you follow St. Elizabeth's example of responsible stewardship as you partner with us in responding to the needs of the poor and spreading the joy of the Gospel.

Leadership Patrons



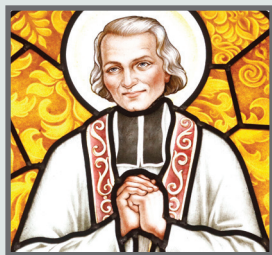
Advocate \$2,500-\$4,999 Society of St. Catherine Laboure

The Church uses the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress when speaking of Mary, Mother of God. These titles, particularly Advocate, help us to understand Mary's special relationship to us, her children. She longs to advocate on our behalf and lead us closer to her Son. St. Catherine Laboure, who was a member of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent DePaul, had a deep devotion to Mary. In a vision, Mary appeared to St. Catherine and gave her instructions for the Miraculous Medal, a medal many Catholics wear today as a sign of their devotion to our Holy Mother. As an Advocate, you, like St. Catherine Laboure, lead all people closer to the heart of Mary's beloved Son, Jesus, by funding important ministries that advocate for others' spiritual and physical well-being.



Witness \$1,500-\$2,499 Society of St. John Neumann

As disciples of Christ, we are called to bear witness to His life and the joy of the Gospel. Indeed, we are called to "be His witness to all the world of what you have seen and heard" (Acts 22:15). The Saints are our greatest cloud of witnesses; they inspire us and urge us on to heaven. St. John Neumann, the first male canonized saint from the United States, was known for his witness to the Gospel, his pastoral work, and his care of immigrant communities. As a Witness, you, like St. John Neumann, understand the importance of sustaining and growing vibrant, life-giving communities of faith within the diocese.



Evangelizer \$750-\$1,499 Society of St. John Vianney

Jesus commands His disciples, and in turn each of us, to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them... and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." This is the task of the evangelist, to lead others to encounter Jesus, His Church, and His teachings. St. John Vianney, Patron Saint of Parish Priests, was an incredible evangelist and is remembered especially for his devotion to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He would spend 12-16 hours a day in the confessional listening to the confessions of his parishioners. As an Evangelist, you, like St. John Vianney, evangelize others by generously supporting the daily functioning of our 133 parishes so that our parishioners can always receive the grace of the sacraments and hear the Gospel message.

Ways to Give

Gifts of Cash – Checks should be made payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**, and you can pledge your gift over ten months.

Credit Card – We accept American Express, Discover, Mastercard and Visa. Simply provide your credit card information on your pledge card/envelope or give online at www.drvc.org/donate/cma/.

Matching Gifts – Go to <https://www.drvc.org/matching-gifts/> to see if your employer will match the charitable contributions of employees.

IRA Charitable Rollover – If you are at least 70½ years old on the date you make your gift and your IRA is a traditional or Roth, you can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA to charity – without incurring income taxes today or estate tax in the future.

Gift of Securities – Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of securities on the date of your gift.

Donor Advised Funds – You can recommend a gift to the CMA through your Donor Advised Fund (DAF).

For more information on any of the **Ways to Give**, please call the CMA office at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

100% of every dollar raised is restricted to fund the objectives, programs, and mission supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal. No donations are used to fund the bankruptcy settlement.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal is conducted on a calendar-year basis. Amounts received under the Appeal are time-restricted for the next fiscal year.

