



2024

**CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
APPEAL**

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Revitalizing our Faith –
Renewed by the Eucharist*

CMA PRAYER 2024

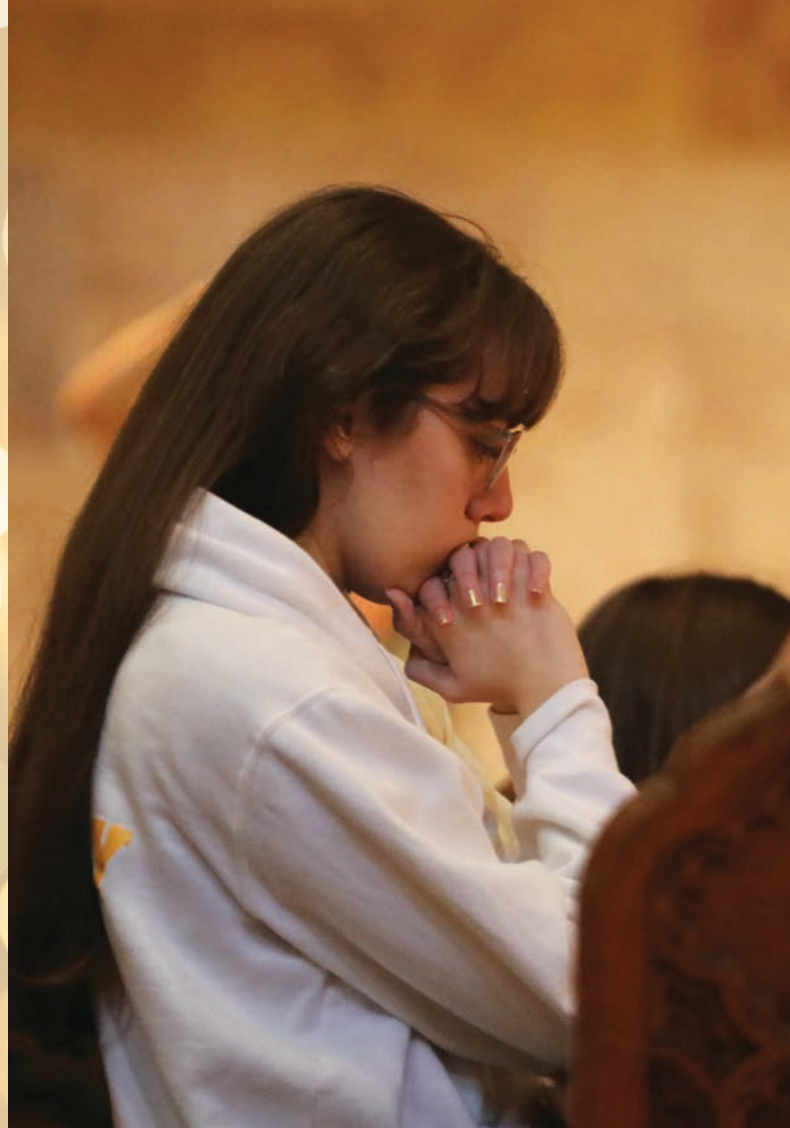
O God, our refuge and our strength,
in Your bountiful goodness,
we ask that You bless us as we begin this year's
Catholic Ministries Appeal,
that it may allow Your Son to be more widely known
in the Most Blessed Sacrament and
in the good works of Your Church on Long Island.

We give You thanks, for the many ways in which you
have blessed us, and always provide for the needs
of Your Church and those she serves,
in the generosity of those who contribute to this appeal
and serve in its ministries on Long Island.

May our sacrificial gifts and support of the
Catholic Ministries Appeal, renew appreciation
for the sacraments and teachings of Your Church,
rekindle in each of us our Eucharistic amazement, and
revitalize our faith and the faith of those we serve.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.






Dear Friends,

This year's CMA theme, *Revitalizing Our Faith – Renewed by the Eucharist*, is inspired by The National Eucharistic Revival which continues to be an important mission the Church is undertaking. Through this renewal of faith, we are restoring an understanding and fidelity to the great mystery of Jesus Christ **really and truly present** in the Eucharist. Jesus selflessly gives himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment. *“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.”* (John 6:56) This cherished encounter with Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist directs us and strengthens us to continue His mission of evangelizing the faith and caring for those in need.

We can accomplish this important mission here on Long Island by supporting the vital works of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal assist thousands of individuals on Long Island each year by supporting seminarians through their discernment and formation, evangelization programs to adults and our youth, and through Catholic Charities and parish outreach programs that provide food and shelter to seniors, veterans and people with disabilities. Your gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal truly brings the true presence of Jesus to more than 600,000 people each year.

I personally invite you to continue on this mission by joining me in making a gift to the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. We have much to look forward to because we are a people of hope. I pray for God's blessings for you and your family.

Sincerely in Christ,


Bishop John O. Barres

At Camp Quo Vadis, young people are growing closer to Christ through Adoration and Communion.

“A friend invited me to attend Camp Quo Vadis and I wanted to learn more about God with my peers and to strengthen my connection with Him.

My faith is important to me. I am part of a peer ministry at my high school so I thought that I could learn more about our faith and bring what I’ve learned back to our school. The young people here are all going through similar things, like looking for a college, thinking about a major, and what we want to do after college. I hope to gain a better understanding of God and to learn His plan for me. God has a plan for me and I don’t know it yet but He will guide me and show me, but I have to listen to His call.”

- Maeve

“The camp revitalizes the faith by helping young people understand who God is and develops their relationship with Him. It keeps young people close to God by learning more through the sacraments by offering Mass and time for Eucharistic Adoration. Seeing their faith grow and seeing faith through the eyes of our youth strengthens my faith.”

- Fr. Sean Magaldi





Jesus Christ is the one who calls men and women to give up everything to follow Him as Priests or Religious.

Ordained in June of 2023, Fr. Steven McClernon is the Associate Pastor of Beach Catholic (St. Mary of the Isle and St. Ignatius Martyr, Long Beach and Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Point Lookout)

“This year’s CMA theme, Revitalizing our Faith – Renewed by the Eucharist, relates to my vocation as it was fostered through Eucharistic Adoration. I see the people of God revitalized and renewed in their faith when I celebrate Mass. I see how people really love receiving the Eucharist. During Covid when we were separated from receiving the Eucharist, it was a difficult time for many. Now seeing the people back to church, and receiving the Eucharist, I am renewed in my faith and I know God’s people are revitalized by the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.”

The CMA has been greatly influential in my life. One of the ministries it supports is the Holy Hours for Vocations at the Seminary. We gather a lot of people across the island to hold Eucharistic Adoration. During my college years, this experience was a big part of my faith and my decision to become a priest. The Catholic Ministries Appeal has helped foster my vocation to the priesthood.”

Eucharistic devotion and service to others go hand in hand.

Project Independence, a permanent housing program for people who are experiencing homelessness, provides rental subsidies, helps with locating appropriate housing, while also providing services to help people learn self-sufficiency and independence.

“I am proud to be a part of Project Independence. I now feel that I can stand on my own without relying on family. I feel like I am part of society, able to have a life to call my own. It’s tough out there, especially on Long Island, but with their support, I do not feel ashamed. I wouldn’t be where I am without Catholic Charities and Project Independence.”

- Client of Project Independence

“We revitalize the faith of those we serve by sharing the loving and caring we do with them. We are fortunate that we can live out the gospel by the way we serve others. The love we share with individuals is the love Jesus brings to one another.”

- Christine Lai - Director of Mental Health Services for CC LI





Parish Social Ministry (PSM) is the action that the faith community takes to live out the Gospel.

When Amanda's mom passed away in 2019, her mom's ex-husband left, leaving her three stepsisters alone with the threat that they would be put in foster care. Without any hesitation she took the children in to care for them.

"It's been a hard battle. We were homeless and in bad situations, but I know that God will not give you something you can't handle. You must keep the faith and push forward. With the help of the Parish Social Ministry program at St John the Evangelist, Center Moriches, I was able to get through this hardship.

In addition to food, the PSM has helped me to renew my lapsed insurance license and assisted in paying bills. If I need to talk to anyone, I can call or email to make an appointment. They have been there for me through everything. I really appreciate all they do for me and for everyone else. It is a blessing. They are angels on earth."

The Director of the Parish Outreach, Katie Spellman, shared how her work allows her to grow in her faith.

"Working in Parish Social Ministry has taken my faith outside of the Church. It's an opportunity for me to dig deeper into faith and think of the humble servant. It's a gift for me to work here – it feeds my soul."

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-\$9,499 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 obey everything that I have commanded." 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.

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

Deacon Mike O'Brien, St. Hugh of Lincoln

Ordained in May of 2023, Deacon O'Brien brings God's message of love, mercy, and hope to others.

"As a Deacon, it is my hope to revitalize the faith of others. I go to nursing homes and the residents hear the Word of God and receive the Eucharist. At wake services, when people have lost a loved one, I hope to revitalize their faith so that people know that they can call on and rely on God to help them through the difficult times. In happy times such as a baptism or a wedding, God is there for them for the rest of their life."



Catholic Ministries Appeal

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