



The DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

News of the Diocese of Baker

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Pilgrims of Faith



2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal • *Frequently Asked Questions* **Supporting Diocesan Ministries**

What is the Bishop's Annual Appeal?

The Bishop's Appeal is an annual campaign that supports the ministries of the Diocese. While parishes handle much of the Church's work, the Diocese provides essential specialized services and programs that individual parishes cannot manage alone. The Bishop's Annual Appeal serves as the Diocese's main fundraising effort for these vital ministries. By contributing to the Appeal, parishioners actively support the Bishop's outreach and the broader mission of the Church.

Who is being asked to support the Annual Diocesan Appeal?

Every Catholic household in the Diocese of Baker is being asked for their prayerful consideration of a gift to the Annual Appeal. Each parish is assigned a goal for the annual campaign. Faithful support from every family in the parish each year – regardless of the amount – helps the parish reach its goal.

What is the average gift and how much should I give?

The average gift to last year's Bishop's Annual Appeal was \$392. We encourage you to consider a donation of 1% or more of your annual income to support this yearly effort. Remember that even modest contributions have a significant impact when everyone participates.

Are Parish goals mandatory?

The 2025 Appeal parish goals are not mandatory. However, all parishes are expected to participate in the Appeal and secure significant in-pew pledges. While not required, each parish should aim to reach its assigned goal.

Is my pledge legally binding?

A pledge represents a commitment based on current circumstances. Should those circumstances change, adjustments to pledge payments and/or the outstanding balance can be made.

Is my contribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal part of my tithe to the Church?

Yes, it definitely is. A helpful guideline is to consider donating 1% of your yearly income to the Appeal.

How is the Bishop's Annual Appeal goal determined?

The 2025 diocesan goal of \$710,000 for the annual appeal was calculated based on prior appeal involvement and the financial needs of the diocese. This target is determined similarly to previous years, considering the total annual Offertory from the preceding year, the diocese's ministry requirements, and the outcomes of the previous year's appeal.

What is the difference between a pledge and one-time gift?

A one time gift is exactly that, you give one donation for the whole year. A pledge on the other hand is an opportunity to give through installments throughout the year. It is generally a pre-determined amount per month and you set the duration or make it indefinite. Since you are giving over time it's an opportunity to increase your gift. When you decide to support the BAA we ask

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PILGRIMS OF HOPE



JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMS OF HOPE DIOCESE OF BAKER

Follow the Jubilee Pilgrimage as our Lord unites us with this shared experience. See the photos of where it has been and pray for the current host parish.

dioceseofbaker.org/jubilee-pilgrimage



Please share your stories and/or photos from the Jubilee Pilgrimage to be published on the Diocesan website.

dioceseofbaker.org/share-a-story



dioceseofbaker.org

Appeal FAQ, *continued*

that you pray and think about how much your finances allow you to give and consider a sacrificial gift to help the diocese.

How can I donate?

There are many ways to donate to the BAA. Check this list out for your best option:

- If you are a registered parishioner you will receive a letter in the mail from Bishop Cary this week with a donor card and a return envelope to donate. This is also a good way to update your Family Record.
- The easiest way to donate is online with a debit or credit card which you can access through the diocesan website >>
www.dioceseofbaker.org/consider-a-pledge.
- You may also use the In-Pew envelope provided at your parish throughout the Appeal
- Send a check anytime to:
The Diocese of Baker Annual Appeal Office
641 SW Umatilla Avenue
Redmond, OR 97756



Priestly Ordination Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries in June.

Very Rev. Charles Nnabuike, <i>St. Francis, Milton-Freewater</i>	June 3, 2005
Rev. Stanislaw Strzyz, <i>St. Helen, Pilot Rock</i>	June 8, 1968
Rev. Noel Hickie, <i>Retired</i>	June 11, 1967
Rev. Richard Fischer, <i>Retired</i>	June 15, 1976
Rev. Mr. Caleb Cunningham, <i>St. Thomas, Redmond</i>	June 15, 2023
Rev. Joseph Reeves, <i>Retired</i>	June 16, 1976
Rev. Luis Flores-Alva, <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe, Boardman</i>	June 17, 2006
Rev. Julian Cassar, <i>Retired</i>	June 19, 1977
Very Rev. Robert Greiner, <i>St. John, Condon</i>	June 24, 1993
Rev. Steve Garza, <i>Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls</i>	June 27, 2019
Very Rev. Todd Unger, <i>Retired</i>	June 29, 1982
Rev. Ildefonce Mapara, <i>In Residence, Klamath Falls</i>	June 29, 2000
Rev. Victor Mena, <i>St. Patrick, Madras</i>	June 29, 2017

We are most grateful for the years of service of all our priests and the bishop. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

New Parish Assignments

Bishop Cary announces the following assignments:

Reverend Jose Thomas Mudakodiyal is assigned as Pastor of St. Mary Church, Pendleton, effective July 5, 2025.

Reverend Victor Mena-Martinez is assigned as Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Bend, effective July 5, 2025.

Reverend Rogatian Urassa is assigned as Pastor of St. Patrick Church, Madras, St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church, Warm Springs, effective July 5, 2025.

Effective May 20, 2025, **Reverend Steve Garza** will be on leave of absence pending a future assignment elsewhere.

Reverend Richard Fischer is assigned as Administrator of Sacred Heart Church, Klamath Falls, effective May 20, 2025 through July 4, 2025.

Reverend Thomas Chirayil is assigned as Administrator of Sacred Heart Church, Klamath Falls, effective July 5, 2025.

Reverend Franco Mathew is assigned as Administrator of St. Katherine Church, Enterprise, St. Pius X Church, Wallowa, effective July 5, 2025.

The priest to be appointed parochial vicar at St. Francis of Assisi in Bend is yet to be determined.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

Sunday, May 25

Ione 8:45 a.m. Mass

Heppner 11:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass

Wednesday, May 28

Madras 7:00 p.m.

Confirmation Mass - Bilingual

Friday, May 30

Merrill 7:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass

Saturday, May 31

Klamath Falls, Sacred Heart 4:30 p.m.

Confirmation Mass

Sunday, June 1

Klamath Falls, St Pius X 9:00 a.m.

Confirmation Mass

Saturday, June 7

Enterprise 5:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, June 8

Wallowa 8:00 a.m. Mass

Enterprise 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Mass



We are Hiring!

Employment opportunities are currently available throughout the Diocese of Baker. Please share these open positions with anyone you know who may be qualified.

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
& St. Francis of Assisi School, Bend**

Full-Time Church Custodian

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is seeking a dedicated and dependable individual to join our team as a full-time Church Custodian. This role is essential to maintaining a clean, safe, and welcoming environment. As the custodian, you will be responsible for routine cleaning, minor maintenance tasks.

Please submit your resume and a brief cover letter to maintenance@stfrancisbend.org or drop them off in person at the St. Francis Parish office.

www.stfrancisbend.org



St. Mary's Academy, The Dalles

Upper Elementary Teachers

We are seeking passionate and dedicated educators to join our team for the 2025-2026 School Year! St. Mary's Academy is a welcoming, non-profit Catholic school that embraces students and families of all faiths, serving preschool through 8th grade.

Upper Elementary Certified Teaching Positions – Full-time or part-time options available for the right candidate. Full-time employees are eligible for benefits.

If you're enthusiastic about inspiring young minds and fostering a love for learning in a supportive and faith-filled environment, we'd love to hear from you!

Call us today: **541-296-6004**

Email us: hr@smatd.org

Learn more: www.smatd.org

Positions will remain open until filled – apply today! Come make a difference with us at St. Mary's Academy!



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We are Hiring! Job postings, continued

The Pastoral Center for the Diocese of Baker, Redmond

Internal Auditor - Department of Finance

Are you looking to serve God and the Church in an intentional way while fueling your spirituality and growth? Then join us in this unique opportunity with the Diocese of Baker in Central/Eastern Oregon. This tight-knit group is looking for a dynamic team player who can bring the necessary skill set to provide creativity, organization, and confidential data management and compliance assistance.

Applicants must have a degree in accounting, business, or equivalent and have a minimum of five years accounting/bookkeeping experience including payroll.

This is the perfect position for a meticulous, experienced person who is a team player, visionary and can work independently. Applicants must have the heart of a teacher and be comfortable with working in environments with others possessing a variety of skill levels. This is a Full-Time, Non-Exempt position.

All interested applicants for this position are asked to send a completed Diocese of Baker Employment Application (found on DioceseofBaker.org website), your resume and cover letter to Mark French, Chief Operating Officer by email:

mark@dioceseofbaker.org

or mail a hard copy to:

Diocese of Baker
641 SW Umatilla Ave
Redmond, OR 97756



St. Francis of Assisi School, Bend

Full-Time Early Education Teacher

As an early education teacher you will guide young children, create and implement engaging, developmentally appropriate activities to foster cognitive, social, and emotional growth, all while ensuring a safe and supportive learning environment.



To apply, please send your letter of interest, resume, and references to jlee@saintfrancisschool.net or visit www.saintfrancisschool.net



St. Peter Catholic School, Ontario



2 Licensed Elementary School Teachers

This position is responsible for the effective operation of a program to support the academic, social, emotional and spiritual growth of students in a Catholic school setting.

St. Peter Catholic School teachers must deliver classroom instruction that help students thrive in all academic and social areas. To accomplish this, teachers must prepare effective lessons, grade student work and offer feedback, manage classroom materials, productively navigate the curriculum, and collaborate with other staff. And, to consistently do the above effectively, teachers must have a strong knowledge of the subjects they are teaching and be willing to pursue relevant opportunities for professional growth.

If you are ready to join our team, please complete an employment application together with your resume, a letter of interest, and a copy of your teaching license.

Employment Application form may be found on our website:

www.stpetercatholicsschool.com/newsite/employment



St. Thomas Academy, Redmond

Full-Time Elementary & Middle School Teachers Part-time Music Teacher

St. Thomas Academy is seeking qualified applicants for Elementary (K-5th Grades) and Middle School Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. Teachers must hold or obtain a current teaching license.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a community of students and educators, dedicated to the emotional, social, academic, and spiritual growth of all.

We are also seeking a Part-time Music Teacher. This position requires in-classroom teaching of grade-appropriate music to K-5th grade classes on a schedule twice weekly. The program can also be expanded to 6-8th grades, Preschool/Pre-K classes, and lead music during Mass.

If you are interested in applying for this or future positions, please submit your resume through our website: www.indeed.com/job/elementary-teacher-k-8-ba8ec464d27aac7d

Or call Patty Schulte, Principal, at 541-548-3785 or email schulte@redmondacademy.com.

