



# Diocese of Biloxi

## State of the Diocese Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 2021

*When he looked up he saw some wealthy people putting their offerings into the treasury and he noticed a poor widow putting in two small coins. He said, "I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood." (Lk 21:1-4).*

### My Dear Friends in Christ,

The poor widow in Luke's Gospel account who gave two small coins -- essentially everything she had -- to the treasury is a powerful example of what it means to be a Christian steward.

The U.S. Bishops have authored a Pastoral Letter on Christian Stewardship, *To Be a Christian Steward*, which states, "As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord." As I read those words, I am reminded not only of the poor widow in Luke's Gospel but also of the tremendous generosity of time, talent and treasure that I have continuously witnessed from the faithful in the Diocese of Biloxi, even in the midst of a pandemic where resources have been stretched thin.

Discipleship calls us to be good stewards of all that God has given to us, and stewardship is necessary to foster evangelization. As the bishops write:

- Mature disciples make a conscious decision to follow Jesus, no matter what the cost.
- Christian disciples experience conversion -- life-shaping changes of mind and heart -- and commit their very selves to the Lord.
- Christian stewards respond in a particular way to the call to be a disciple. Stewardship has the power to shape and mold our understanding of our lives and the way in which we live.

Furthermore, the letter states, "Jesus' disciples and Christian stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom, and source of all things. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. We look to the life and teaching of Jesus for guidance in living as Christian stewards."

This eagerness of sharing our God-given gifts is reflected in the current State of the Diocese Report. For example, Catholic Charities of South Mississippi, with the help of your contributions to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and other donors, distributed 2,201,569 pounds of food through Twelve Baskets Food Bank, \$747,179 provided for housing and utility assistance in the past fiscal year. Catholic Charities also assisted families who had their homes seriously damaged in tornadoes and floods, providing \$65,641 in recovery assistance. Additionally, 343 infants were provided basic care items. Twenty-six individuals continued to live independently through assistance from Catholic Charities' Representative Payee Program.

Also, 411 legal immigrants and refugees received services from Catholic Charities on their journey to citizenship.

As Stewards of Vocation, we are called by name because each one -- clergy, religious, lay person; married, single; adult, child -- has a personal vocation. Christian vocation entails the practice of stewardship. In addition, Christ calls each of us to be stewards of our personal vocations, which we receive from God. In the Diocese of Biloxi, we currently have eleven seminarians studying for priesthood and six men preparing for the permanent diaconate.

We are also obliged to be stewards of the Church -- collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, which is the Church's essential mission. This mission -- proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying -- is our task. It is the personal responsibility of each one of us as stewards of the Church. All members of the Church have their own roles to play in carrying out its mission:

- Parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith;
- Parishioners, who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community;
- All Catholics, who give generous support -- time, money, prayers, and personal service according to their circumstances -- to parish and diocesan programs and to the universal Church.

In our parishes, 807 were baptized, 183 were received into the Church, 450 youth received the Sacrament of Confirmation, 812 received First Holy Communion, 174 shared the Sacrament of Marriage, and 627 were laid to rest through Christian Burials.

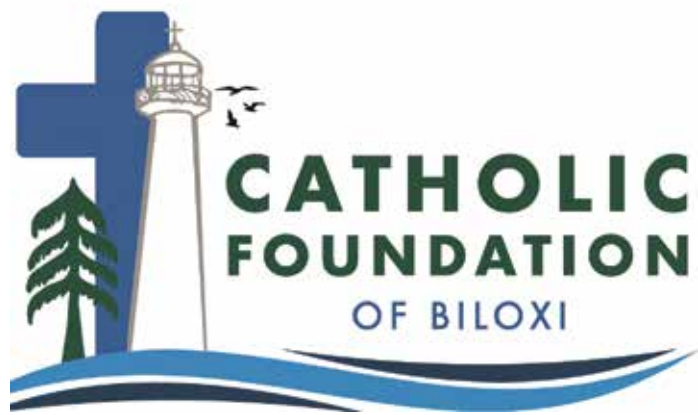
This State of the Diocese is a snapshot of the work in our Diocese over the past year accomplished through God's grace and your faithfulness and generosity to Him, and I am most grateful. Your gifts of prayer and financial support have been a tremendous blessing to enable our ministries which benefit so many people.

Once again these ministries are not possible without your loving support. As we continue in the Diocese of Biloxi to make disciples of all nations, baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teach all Jesus commanded, and trust that He is with us always, may we continue and grow the good works that bring ourselves and others closer to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ Louis Kuhneman*

# Catholic Foundation Report of Assets



## 2020-2021 Fiscal Year

Perpetual (Endowed) Funds \$23,385,930.77  
Rate of Return 24.3610%  
Non-Perpetual Funds \$5,025,481.03  
Rate of Return 1.7211%  
Total Trusts in Force 220

### PARISH LIFE

53,666  
Registered Parishioners  
  
20,669  
Families

### SACRAMENTAL LIFE



Baptisms  
807



First Communions  
812



Confirmations  
653



Marriages  
174



Christian Burials  
627



## DEANERIES OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BILOXI

### NORTHERN DEANERY

<b>Bassfield</b> St. Peter Parish	<b>Hattiesburg</b> Sacred Heart Parish	<b>Laurel</b> Immaculate Conception Parish	<b>Lucedale</b> St. Lucy Mission	<b>Monticello</b> St. Lawrence Mission	<b>Waynesboro</b> St. Bernadette Parish
<b>Columbia</b> Holy Trinity Parish	St. Fabian Parish	<b>Leakesville</b> Holy Trinity Mission	<b>Lumberton</b> Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish	<b>Poplarville</b> St. Joseph Mission	<b>Wiggins</b> St. Francis Xavier Parish
<b>Hattiesburg</b> Holy Rosary Parish	St. Thomas Aquinas Parish			<b>Tylertown</b> St. Paul the Apostle Mission	

### WEST COAST DEANERY

<b>Bay St. Louis</b> Our Lady of the Gulf Parish	<b>Pass Christian</b> Our Mother of Mercy Parish
St. Rose de Lima Parish	Holy Family Parish
<b>Clermont Harbor</b> St. Ann Parish	<b>Pearlington</b> St. Joseph Chapel
<b>Dedeaux</b> Sacred Heart Parish	<b>Picayune</b> St. Charles Borromeo Parish
<b>Kiln</b> Annunciation Parish	<b>Waveland</b> St. Clare Parish
<b>Pass Christian</b> Most Holy Trinity Parish	<b>White Cypress</b> St. Matthew the Apostle Parish

### CENTRAL COAST DEANERY

<b>Delmas</b> Our Lady of Chatres Mission
<b>Gulfport</b> St. James Parish
St. John the Evangelist Parish
St. Joseph Parish
St. Therese Parish
<b>Lizana</b> St. Ann Parish
<b>Long Beach</b> St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

### EAST CENTRAL COAST DEANERY

<b>Biloxi</b> Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral Parish
Our Lady of Fatima Parish
Our Mother of Sorrows Parish
Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos Parish
St. Mary Parish
St. Michael Parish
Vietnamese Martyrs Parish
<b>D'Iberville</b> Sacred Heart Parish

### EAST COAST DEANERY

<b>Gautier</b> St. Mary Parish
<b>Hurley</b> St. Ann Mission
<b>Latimer</b> Christ the King Mission
<b>Moss Point</b> St. Joseph the Worker Parish
<b>Ocean Springs</b> St. Alphonsus Parish
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish
<b>Pascagoula</b> Our Lady of Victories Parish
Sacred Heart Parish
St. Peter the Apostle Parish
<b>Vancleave</b> Holy Spirit Parish

Revenues Actual 2020-2021

Cathedraticum	\$1,582,011	30%
Catholic Sharing Appeal	\$1,526,374	27%
Investment Income	*\$919,240	17%
Reimbursement for Services	\$374,495	7%
Donations	\$342,738	6%
Purchasing for other locations	\$257,363	5%
Grants	\$168,063	3%
Foundation Trusts Support	\$120,830	3%
Registration income for events	\$68,502	1%
Other Income	\$52,229	1%

**Total Revenues** **\$5,411,845**

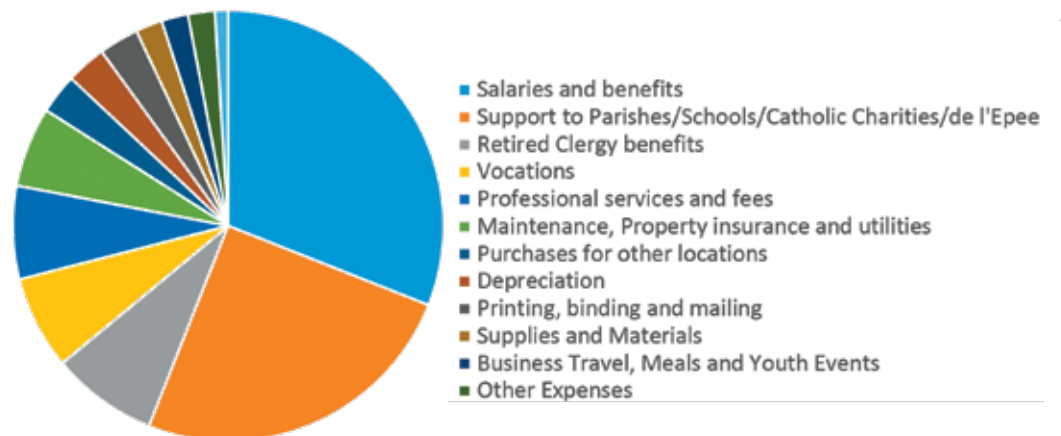
\* includes decrease in unfunded liability for Association of Priests of \$489,456

Total Assets of the Administrative Offices \$11,170,082

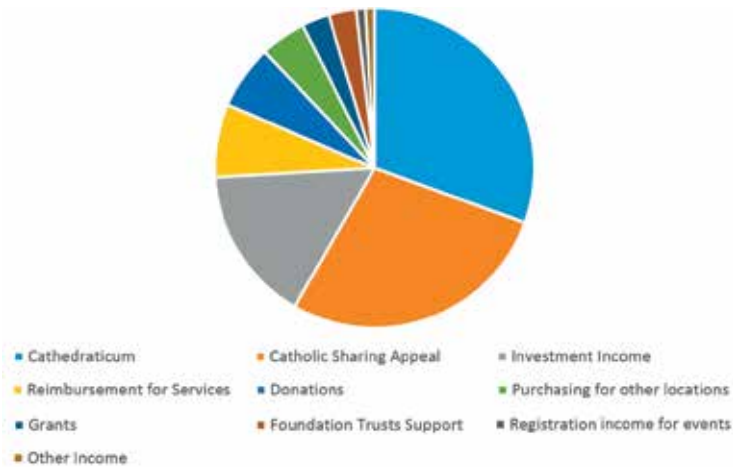
Expenses Actual 2020-2021

Salaries and benefits	\$1,416,925	31%	Depreciation	\$115,878	3%
Support to Parishes/Schools/Catholic Charities/de l'Epee	\$1,159,436	25%	Printing, binding and mailing	\$114,200	3%
Retired Clergy benefits	\$350,591	8%	Supplies and Materials	\$111,812	2%
Vocations	\$333,781	7%	Business Travel, Meals and Youth Events	\$98,152	2%
Professional services and fees	\$303,374	7%	Other Expenses	\$90,243	2%
Maintenance, property insurance and utilities	\$268,729	6%	Interest Expense	\$34,910	1%
Purchases for other locations	\$132,586	3%	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,530,617</b>	

EXPENSES ACTUAL 2020 - 2021



REVENUES ACTUAL 2020 - 2021



43 Parishes

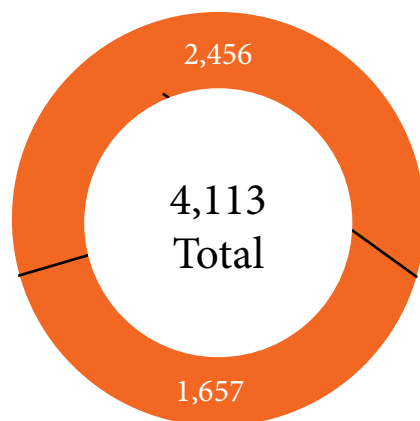
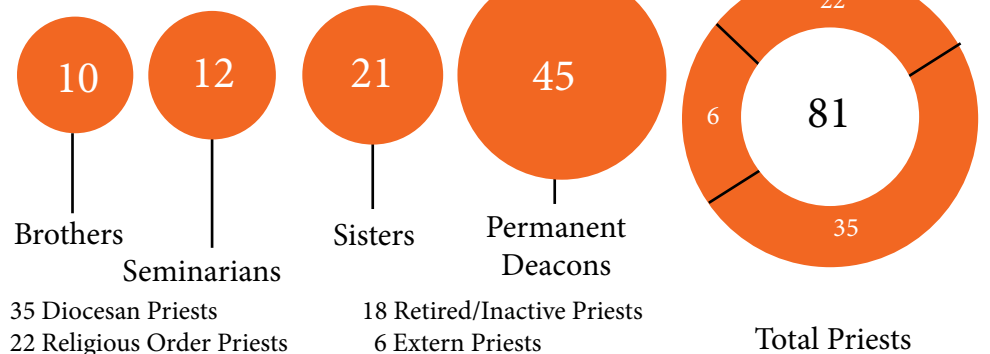


8 Missions



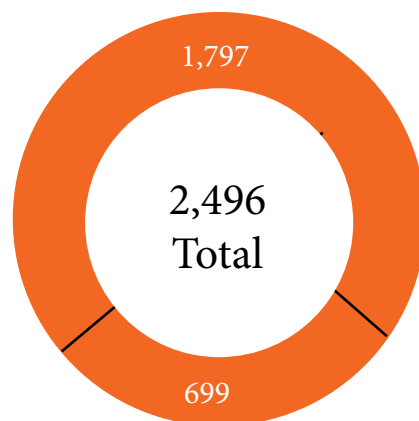
2 Chapels

15 Schools (14 Diocesan Schools & 1 Private School)



Catholic School Enrollment

Elementary 2,456  
Middle/High School 1,657



Parish Religious Education

Elementary School Age 1,797  
High School Age 699

OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION

It's been a wonderful year for the Office of Evangelization. Lets take a peek at what has happened: we have introduced Bishop Kihneman's guide *Missio Nostra (Our Mission)*.

- ♦ Back to school prayer retreat for Resurrection Catholic Elementary School
- ♦ Back to school prayer retreat for St. Charles Borromeo Elementary School
- ♦ *Ananias and Called & Gifted* formational workshops @ St. Thomas Aquinas, Hattiesburg
- ♦ Diocesan Staff Day on Discipleship @ St. Mary Parish, Gautier
- ♦ October Priest and Deacon Convocations
- ♦ Upcoming Leadership training February 4-5, 2022, @ Holy Family Parish, Pass Christian. Priests and their leadership teams are encouraged to attend.

The office will continue our awareness sessions on the guide *Missio Nostra* for all parishes that are interested as well as *Ananias and Called & Gifted* formation workshops.



# Ministries of the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

In the Gospel of Matthew, as the Lord Jesus was about to ascend to the Father, He gave the Great Commission to the Apostles, commanding them to **“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt. 28:19).** We, as the Church in Southern Mississippi, are called to this commission in our daily lives today. In light of this call we move more intentionally toward discipleship in Jesus, as we start to view our daily work in light of this call.



Motivated by the teachings of Christ, **Catholic Charities of South Mississippi** works to help our brothers and sisters in Christ, by providing the basic necessities of life and creating hope. By feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and serving those imprisoned by poverty, isolation, disaster or educational challenges, we serve according to the Gospel values of justice, mercy, and charity. We are called to offer kindness, respect, and dignity to all that we serve.



**de l'Epée** provides spiritual well-being, promotion of independence and inclusion in the community for the deaf, hard of hearing

and disabled. Through communication and understanding we promote the Gospel teachings to follow in our Lord's footsteps. Only through accurate communication and understanding of culture can people with disabilities be included in all aspects of life and further their desire to become Intentional Disciples.



The Lord's call to follow Him and become His disciples also calls us to be good stewards of the gifts that He bestows on each of us, as

individuals, as well as the community of believers that is the Church. **The Office of Stewardship and Development** works to teach, and to put into practice the Spirituality of Stewardship that helps us in our journey towards being Intentional Disciple of the Lord Jesus.

**The Office of the Chancellor** has as its primary mission the preservation of the history and artifacts of the Diocese of Biloxi. This mission, a mission of service, is at the core of intentional discipleship as it helps to preserve the teachings of the Church for future generations of disciples.

## Gulf Pine CATHOLIC



**The Office of Communications** is the voice of the Diocese of Biloxi and its shepherd, Bishop Louis F. Kihneman III. Through the diocesan newspaper, *The Gulf Pine Catholic*, we promote the good works of the Church being accomplished by our parishes, schools, entities, and organizations. **The Office of Social Media** was established in 2021 and administers the diocese's and Bishop Kihneman's social media accounts, including *Facebook*, *Twitter* and *Instagram*.

**The Office of Finance**, being mindful of God's blessings and gifts to His Church, is called to demonstrate discipleship by practicing of good stewardship of the financial assets of God's Church in the Diocese of Biloxi. It is our goal to always be faithful to the teachings of Christ and to be faithful in the stewardship of the gifts of His people in the ministry of the Church.



**Our Catholic schools** strive daily to create awareness to our call to be disciples of Jesus by immersing faculty, staff, and students, in the teachings and practice of our Catholic Faith. Faith-formation is at the core of the mission of all our schools and activities. Led by the **Office of Catholic Schools** offering workshops on forming Intentional Disciples, all members of the Catholic school leadership at each campus are consciously choosing to pray, learn, and show their faith through actions and to teach our students to “be not afraid” to be a witness to our Lord Jesus.



youth, young adults, and lay faithful in the ongoing exercise of having a well-formed conscience in our communities and in society as a whole.

**The Office of Religious Education** provides ongoing discipleship training for Catholic school religion teachers and parish catechetical leaders. We partner with our Catholic schools and parish leadership to help form our

The family is the domestic Church and the primary place of formation of values, consciences and discipleship in the Lord Jesus. **The Office of Marriage & Family Life Ministries** works to affirm, support, and strengthen all facets of family life by providing programs for spiritual enrichment, healing, and renewal so that each person in the family can draw closer to Christ and move deeper into discipleship with Him.



**The Office of Youth Ministry**, along with the nuclear family, is at the heart of forming discipleship in our youth and young adults. In our ministry we work to help all understand what a disciple is, and what living as a disciple looks like in our society today.



**The Office of Evangelization** promotes the Church's call to Evangelization by providing vision and formation for leaders; coordinating diocesan evangelization initiatives, and helping parishes explore creative new ways for deepening, re-awakening, and sharing of our Catholic Faith.



**The Office of the Diaconate** has teamed with the Office of Evangelization and the Core Team of Forming Intentional Disciples in presenting Intentional Discipleship workshops to the Deacons of the Diocese of Biloxi. The Intentional Discipleship Ministry is being integrated into our Diaconal Ministry through homilies at parish Masses and parish programs. The formation of Intentional Discipleship is being included in the Academic Syllabus of all future Diaconate formation Classes.