

Diocese of Biloxi



State of the Diocese Report *for Fiscal Year Ending June 2023*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in our Lord,

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever” (Psalm 106).

As we celebrate this Thanksgiving, let us take a moment to reflect on the blessings in our lives -- the gift of faith, the love of family and friends, the warmth of shelter, and the nourishment of both body and soul.

There is so much to be thankful for in our diocese, and I am especially grateful for you, the faithful! Your generous spirit, service and ministry, and your prayerful support have enabled us to extend our hands and hearts to those in need within our community and beyond. Through feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, offering solace to the brokenhearted, accompanying those in need and in faith, and supporting and serving many, many other ministries -- your love in action is a testament to the compassion of Christ alive and active in our midst.

In the Eucharist, we are reminded that Jesus Christ made the ultimate sacrifice of love by giving us His body and blood for our redemption. As we partake in this sacred meal, let us do so with hearts overflowing with gratitude, recognizing the profound mystery of God’s love and the depth of His mercy.

May we, in turn, continue to let our light shine forth as we extend that love and mercy to everyone we meet. Indeed, we have much to be thankful for as we come to the end of another calendar year and look ahead to 2024.

May God bless you abundantly for your continued generosity, and may the Holy Spirit remain with us to guide and inspire us in our mission of love and service.

+ Louis Kihneman

Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman, III
Bishop of Biloxi





DEANERIES OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BILOXI

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

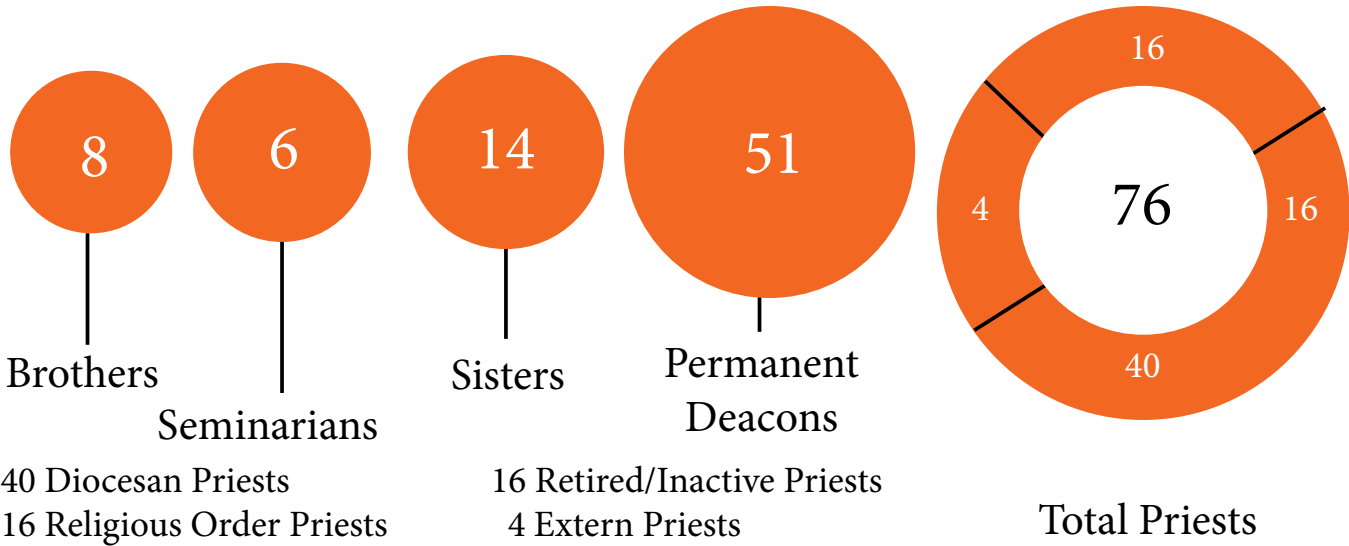
WEST COAST DEANERY		CENTRAL COAST DEANERY	EAST CENTRAL COAST DEANERY	EAST COAST DEANERY
Bay St. Louis Our Lady of the Gulf Parish	Pass Christian Our Mother of Mercy Parish	Delmas Our Lady of Chartres Mission	Biloxi Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral Parish	Gautier St. Mary Parish
St. Rose de Lima Parish	Holy Family Parish	Gulfport St. James Parish	Our Lady of Fatima Parish	Hurley St. Ann Mission
Clermont Harbor St. Ann Parish	Pearlington St. Joseph Chapel	St. John the Evangelist Parish	Our Mother of Sorrows Parish	Latimer Christ the King Mission
Dedeaux Sacred Heart Parish	Picayune St. Charles Borromeo Parish	St. Joseph Parish	Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos Parish	Moss Point St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Kiln Annunciation Parish	Waveland St. Clare Parish	St. Therese Parish	St. Mary Parish	Ocean Springs St. Alphonsus Parish
Pass Christian Most Holy Trinity Parish	White Cypress St. Matthew the Apostle Parish	Lizana St. Ann Parish	St. Michael Parish	St. Elizabeth Seton Parish
		Long Beach St. Thomas the Apostle Parish	Vietnamese Martyrs Parish	Pascagoula Our Lady of Victories Parish
			D'Iberville Sacred Heart Parish	Sacred Heart Parish
				St. Peter the Apostle Parish
				Vancleave Holy Spirit Parish

PARISH LIFE

56,638
Registered Parishioners

20,547
Families

SACRAMENTAL LIFE



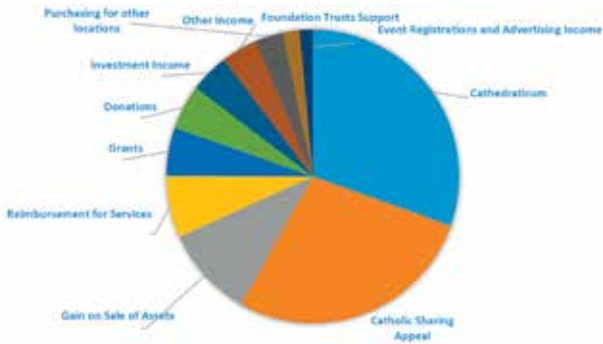


The Administrative Offices of the Diocese of Biloxi

Total Assets of the Administrative Offices \$10,139,122

REVENUES 2022 - 2023

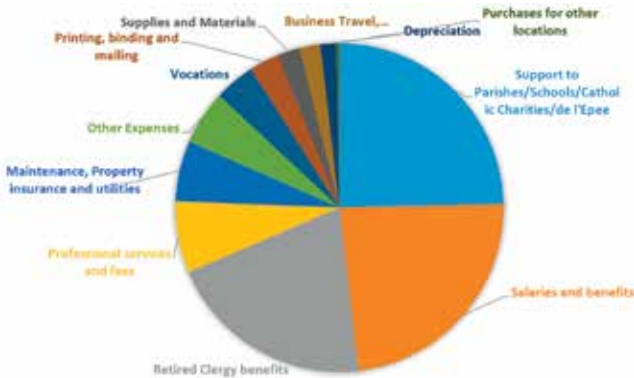
Cathedraticum	\$1,669,541	31%
Catholic Sharing Appeal	\$1,519,088	27%
Gain on Sale of Assets	\$550,000	10%
Reimbursement for Services	\$375,117	7%
Grants	\$290,305	5%
Donations	\$270,821	6%
Investment Income	\$236,011	4%
Other Income	\$217,773	3%
Purchasing for other locations	\$169,912	3%
Foundation Trusts Support	\$101,816	3%
Event Registrations and Advertising Income	\$79,210	1%
Total Revenues	\$5,479,594	100%



EXPENSES 2022 - 2023

Support to Parishes/Schools/Catholic Charities/de l'Epee	\$1,629,455	25%	Printing, binding and mailing	\$193,458	3%
Salaries and benefits	\$1,551,127	22%	Supplies and Materials	\$147,134	2%
Retired Clergy benefits*	\$1,349,464	20%	Business Travel, Meals and Youth Events	\$134,446	2%
Professional services and fees	\$466,500	8%	Depreciation	\$101,065	2%
Maintenance, property insurance and utilities	\$393,318	6%	Purchases for Other Locations	\$23,354	1%
Other Expenses	\$353,799	5%			
Vocations	\$264,244	4%	Total Expenses	\$6,607,364	100%

*includes an increase of \$927,300 in the unfunded liability for the Association of Retired Priests



Finance is helping our parishes and schools in observing best practices for faithful stewardship of the temporal goods in their care.

43 Parishes



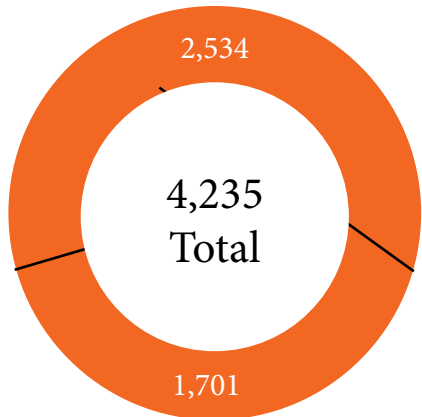
8 Missions



2 Chapels

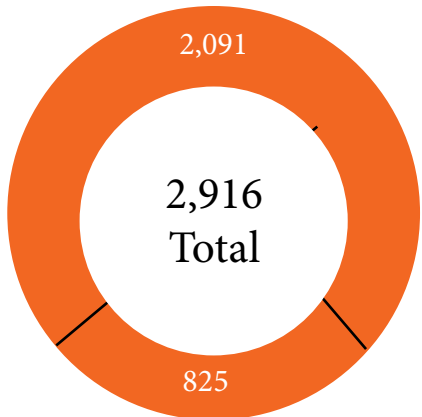


14 Schools (13 Diocesan Schools & 1 Private School)



Catholic School Enrollment

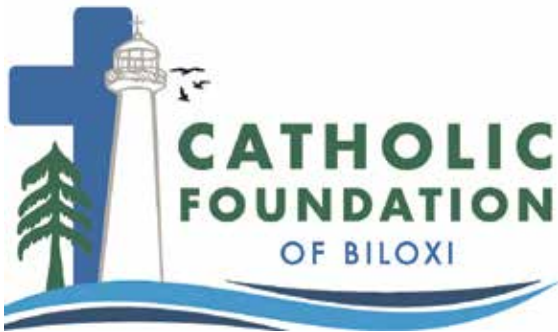
Elementary	2,534
Middle/High School	1,701



Parish Religious Education

Elementary School Age	2,091
High School Age	825

Catholic Foundation Report of Assets



2022-2023 Fiscal Year

Current Investments

Endowed Funds	\$22.6 Million
Non-Endowed Funds	\$6.2 Million
Funds Under Management	\$28.8 Million

Return on Investments

Perpetual Funds	14.04%
Non- Perpetual Funds	1.28%

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 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.* And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Mt. 28:19-20).** Jesus established the Catholic Church to evangelize, and He gives us His Great Commission in Matthew’s gospel to make disciples of all nations, to baptize them, to teach all He commands us, and to trust that He is with us always. The reason we exist as a Church is to evangelize. To evangelize is to welcome people into a personal relationship with God that will transform them completely inside and out. Living out the Great Commission of Jesus is both personal and communal. Each of us is called personally not only to witness to our faith but also to accompany others in faith. Each of our parishes, schools, and ministries have the same mission, and it should be fostered each time the community comes together.

Catholic Charities of South Mississippi provides a multitude of life-affirming services to those in our community experiencing stress and hardship. Services include:

- **Food Bank** -- distributes food and other goods to local food pantries and soup kitchens
- **Community Outreach Offices** located in Hattiesburg, Gulfport, Pascagoula and Waveland. Provides many services to assist individuals in need, including:
 - o Pregnancy testing and options counseling
 - o Case management
 - o Financial assistance
 - o Budgeting education and goal setting
 - o Food distribution
 - o Infant care items such as carseats, cribs, diapers, clothing, etc.
- **Disaster Relief and Recovery** -- assists those affected by natural or manmade disasters to return home again
- **Representative Payee Program** -- money management for those receiving SSA, SSI, or SSDI who have been deemed by Social Security as needing help
- **Language Translations**
- **Social Service Coordination for Seniors** -- provides services to residents of Catholic Charities Housing Associations properties
- **Adoptions** -- provides services to those looking to adopt or looking to place a child for adoption. Home study services, post-placement services, and birth parent services are available.
- **Counseling** -- provides individual, marriage, and family counseling. Services are available to people of all ages. Group counseling sessions are also available. Services are provided on a sliding fee scale and most insurances are accepted.

The Catholic Diocese of Biloxi is proud to have **Loaves and Fishes** serving meals to

those facing hunger at the former Mercy Cross High School property. This is the first of many phases that will happen over the next year to open a permanent day shelter for the unhoused on the property. The Diocese of Biloxi and Catholic Charities of South Mississippi understand the need for great partners, such as Loaves & Fishes and the City of Biloxi, in order to best serve the community. The day shelter project is moving forward and more details will be announced in the new year.



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Peter was called from Lydda (17 miles away), when Tabitha became ill and died. Upon his arrival, Peter knelt down and prayed, then turning to the body he said,

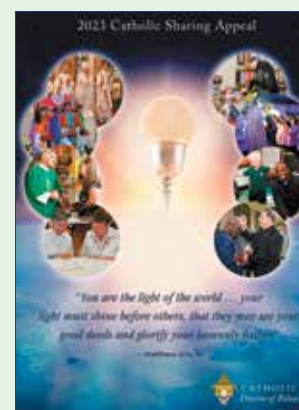
“Tabitha, arise.” Tabitha opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. It became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.



The Tabitha Project logo reflects the mission of the ministry. The needle and thread mending hearts reminds us of our namesake’s passion to serve. The antlers give us a subtle reminder that Tabitha translates to gazelle,

appreciated for its beauty and grace. The red text symbolizes the blood that reminds us, we are all equal children of God. The word project tells us that this is not an original thought, but rather the continuation of the good works and acts of mercy that Tabitha herself gave to those around her.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † †



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 Mission Advancement works to teach, and to put into practice the Spirituality of Stewardship that helps us in our journey towards being Intentional Disciples of the Lord Jesus.

SEE MINISTRIES, PAGE 14

Ministries of the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

MINISTRIES

From page 13



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.



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. This office also publishes the annual Diocesan Directory, which offers a comprehensive list of parishes, schools, ministries, clergy and religious.



The Office of Social Media was established in 2021 and administers the diocesan webpage and Bishop Kihneman's social media accounts, including *Facebook*, *Twitter* and *Instagram*. This office maintains the Diocese of Biloxi's *YouTube* page,

biloxi.smugmug.com, which includes a vast archive of Bishop Kihneman's homilies. It maintains the Diocese of Biloxi's *SmugMug* page where visitors are given access to a vast archive of photos of diocesan events. In October, the office launched *GulfPineCatholic.com*, a new and exciting way to get diocesan news, photos and events. Visitors to the website can access an online version of the *Gulf Pine Catholic* newspaper and sign up for regular email updates.



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. This office assists our parishes and schools in observing best practices for faithful stewardship of the temporal goods in their care.



The Office of Hispanic Ministry serves our ever-growing population of Hispanic Catholics throughout the Diocese of Biloxi with weekly Spanish Masses and regular retreats such as ACTS. Spanish Masses are offered at the following parishes:

- Sábado/Saturday**
Sacred Heart Parish Pascagoula: 6 p.m.
Immaculate Conception Parish, Laurel: 8 p.m.
- Domingo/Sunday**
Blessed Seelos Parish, Biloxi: 11 a.m.
St. Rose de Lima Parish, Bay St. Louis: 12 noon
St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Picayune: 12:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish, Hattiesburg: 1:30 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist Parish, Gulfport: 2 p.m.
St. Alphonsus Parish, Ocean Springs: 2 p.m.
Immaculate Conception Parish, Laurel: 4 p.m.
- Lunes/Monday**
Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Biloxi: 6 p.m.
- Jueves/Thursday**
Immaculate Conception Parish, Laurel: 7 p.m.



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.

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Ministries of the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

MINISTRIES

From page 14



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.

Every relationship needs attention and care to thrive, and marriage is no different. Couples sometimes run on autopilot for months or even years, caught up in the daily tasks of creating a home together, working, caring for children, and serving others.

There are a million and one ways to nurture your relationship: intentional couple-time, learning more about your mission as a married couple, growing in communication skills, etc. No effort is wasted; your love is worth investing in! We can help you on your journey.

This office sponsors a healing ministry called **Rachel's Vineyard**. It is a ministry that provides healing and forgiveness for women who have had abortions, and also for women and men who have suffered from abortion. **Rachel's Vineyard** is a three-day retreat facilitated by both laypeople and clergy. The team also includes a mental-health professional to help monitor and guide the participants as they deal with a number of emotions and feelings. The participants of this wonderful weekend are able to experience the true healing touch of Jesus.

Another exciting project that has recently launched by **The Office of Marriage & Family Life Ministries** is *Walking with Moms in Need*. Walking with Moms in Need is a process through which Catholic parishes and communities "walk in the shoes" of local

pregnant and parenting women in need.

Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be "islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference." Everyone in the parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need.

The 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* gave us a wonderful opportunity to begin to assess, expand, and communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need. Parishes are invited, through the support of their bishop and pastor, to join this nationwide effort entitled *Walking with Moms in Need*.

The Pro-Life Billboard Initiative and Tags for Life are also ways that this office is promoting the Pro-Life message.



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.

We offer the following opportunities:

- SEARCH- Retreat Team (seniors in HS)
- Spirit Movers -- Leadership Team
- DBYC (Diocese of Biloxi Youth Conference) and Middle School Rally
- March for Life Local and in Washington D.C.
- ADORE -- worship nights
- LIFT Youth boys and Girls retreats -- Held at Sacred Heart Parish in Dedeaux
- Young Adult -- "Frassati fellowship of the Gulf Coast"
- Mound Bayou -- Service Mission in the Mississippi Delta
- Steubenville summer youth conferences
- Life Teen Covecrest summer camp

- CYO sports -- Catholic schools youth sports
- Campus Ministry -- Boot Camp and workshops



The Diocese of Biloxi currently has six seminarians studying for the priesthood. **The Office of Vocations** assists those who are discerning for the priesthood and religious life. Adam Frey, a transitional deacon for the Diocese of Biloxi, spent four months at San Miguel Mission in Saltillo learning the Spanish language and immersing himself into the Spanish culture.



VOCATION PRAYER

Loving Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ the High Priest, has told us that the harvest is great but the laborers are few.

We ask you now to send more laborers into your vineyard. Please touch with your Holy Spirit the hearts of all those you are calling to live a life of service in your Church as Priests, Deacons, Consecrated men and women, Dedicated Married couples and Committed Single persons. Help us to follow Christ faithfully and to answer the call to holiness and discipleship.

We ask this prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN

MOST REVEREND LOUIS F. KIHNEMAN, III
BISHOP OF BILOXI

Ministries of the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

MINISTRIES

From page 15



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 Evangelization** offers *Ananias* workshops designed to accompany others on their faith journey. It also offers *Called and Gifted training through the Catherine of Siena Institute*. This office also offers evangelization workshops for parishes and schools and families based on *Missio Nostra: Our Mission -- Living out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ*.

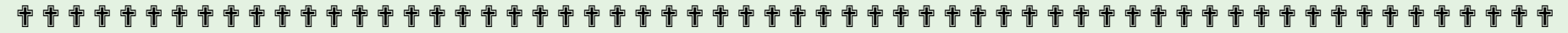
After conducting the Rescue Project for priests, deacons and diocesan staff, the **Office of Evangelization** is now doing the same for parishes throughout the diocese.



The Rescue Project is a multi-week video experience of the Gospel and is designed to be offered in a small group format everywhere and anywhere. Sponsored by *Acts 29*, it flows from the conviction that the most urgent task in the Church is a compelling and attractive proclamation of the Gospel. It’s aim is threefold: that people might be 1) overwhelmed by the good news of what God has done for us, 2) moved to surrender their lives to Jesus in faith, and, 3) mobilized for mission.

Our vision for *Pathways to Discipleship* allows our parishes to evangelize and disciple from Pre- Evangelization through Disciple maker. Our hope is to allow an encounter with Jesus to occur and hearts to be moved in accompanying other in their walk with Christ.

SEE PATHWAYS TO DISCIPLESHIP, PAGE 17



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.

PATHWAYS TO DISCIPLESHIP

FROM THE DIOCESE OF BILOXI

BEGIN HERE

PRE-EVANGELIZATION

• ALPHA

A series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question about faith and is designed to create conversation.

DISCIPLE-MAKING

• DIVINE RENOVATION

Dedicated to parish renewal, a ministry that accompanies priests and lay leaders to lead their parish from maintenance to mission.

• CALLED AND GIFTED

A three step process on Charism discernment, and how you can use your charisms to spread the gospel

• EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC

Assists parishes in forming intentional disciples, by building leaders and equipping them to form evangelizing small groups.

THE FULL LIST AND EXPLANATION OF EACH PROGRAM CAN BE FOUND ON THE DIOCESE OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION WEBPAGE
BILOXIDIOCESE.ORG/DISCIPLESHIP-PATHWAYS



EVANGELIZATION

• THE 99

A three part evangelization parish mission series, from Ascension Presents, that shares the Gospel in a fresh new way

• ANANIAS TRAINING

A five session training, that forms parishioners in "the art of spiritual companionship."

• THE RESCUE PROJECT

An experience of the gospel surrounded by food, conversation and prayer

DISCIPLESHIP

• CHRISTLIFE

A three part evangelization process to lead people towards Discover Christ, Following Christ, and Sharing Christ.

• ANANIAS TRAINING

A five session training, that forms parishioners in "the art of spiritual companionship."

• THE RESCUE PROJECT

An experience of the gospel surrounded by food, conversation and prayer

• STEUBENVILLE QUADS

A group of four people who journey together as disciples through weekly gatherings of and learning

ALPHA



<https://alphausa.org/>

THE RESCUE PROJECT



<https://rescueproject.us/>

EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC



<https://evangelicalcatholic.org/>

THE 99



<https://ascensionpress.com/collections/the-99>

CHRISTLIFE



<https://christlife.org/>

DIVINE RENOVATION



<https://divinerenovation.org/>

ANANIAS TRAINING



<https://siena.org/ananas>

QUADS



<https://steubenvilleconferences.com/discipleship-quads/>

CALLED AND GIFTED



<https://siena.org/called-gifted>