

2025 Training



Thank you for your prayers, time, and willingness
to assist with the Bishop's Appeal!

Stewardship Prayer

O God, source of life and every blessing,

All that we have comes from You.

Help us to walk in Your ways as faithful

Disciples of Jesus, teaching us to be good and

Faithful stewards of Your many blessings.

Lord, grant us the grace to receive Your gifts

Gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share

Them in justice and love with others, and return them with increase to You, our Father

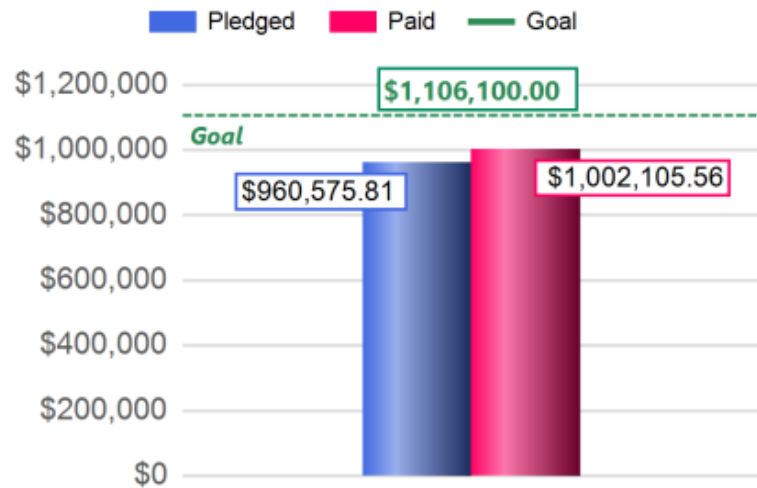
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



2024 Results

Report Summary



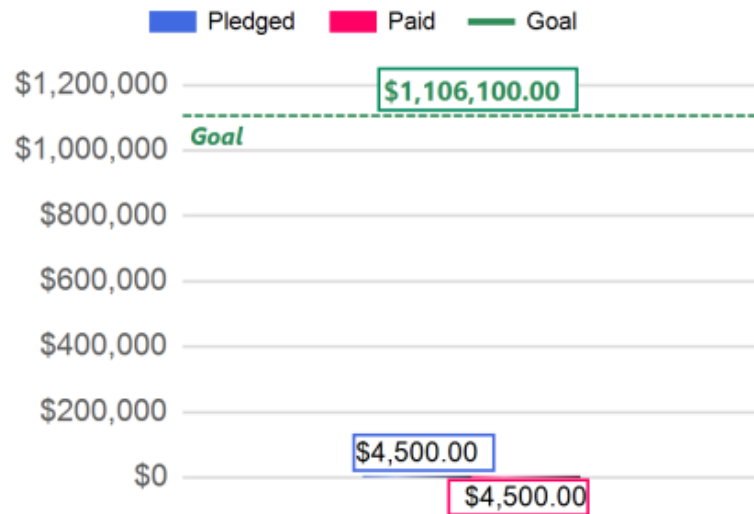
# of Parishes:	42
Goal:	\$1,106,100.00
Total Pledged:	\$960,575.81
Total Paid:	\$1,002,105.56
Pledge Balance:	(\$41,529.75)

Families:	31,957
Pledges:	2,429
Pledges fully paid:	1,947
Pledges outstanding:	482
Sustaining Gifts:	0
Average Pledge:	\$395.46

Pledge Overpayment:	\$59,971.07
Unpaid Pledges:	\$18,441.32

2025 Goals

Report Summary



of Parishes: 42

Goal: \$1,106,100.00

Total Pledged: \$4,500.00

Total Paid: \$4,500.00

Pledge Balance: \$0.00

Pledge Overpayment: \$0.00

Unpaid Pledges: \$0.00

Families: 31,958

Pledges: 1

Pledges fully paid: 1

Pledges outstanding: 0

Sustaining Gifts: 0

Average Pledge: \$4,500.00

Parish Goals

- See Manual and Letter received from Fr. Simon Peter to Parish Priest
- <https://htdiocese.org/parish-resources>

Ministries Supported



Seminarian Education

Your generous gifts to our Bishop's Appeal provide essential funding each year to cover the annual costs of educating our seminarians right here in our diocese. Your gifts provide resources for our diocese to:

- Educate our 6 seminarians
- Cover the annual average cost of \$45,000 to educate each seminarian
- Provide for their education, room, board, and sometimes healthcare needs.
- Educate and provide formation to our 2 men in formation within the House of Formation



Retired Priests

Your generous gifts and prayers to our Bishop's Appeal provides necessary and essential health care, long term care and supplemental income. Once a priest retires, a church parish is no longer supporting his income, therefore the priest is then supported and funded through the diocesan priest retirement. Your gift provides the essential support such as:

- Support our beloved 18 retired priests of our diocese with supplemental retirement income
- Funds supplemental health insurance,
- Funds long-term care needs and
- Other required services for them to continue to live in our diocese.



Formation Ministries

Your generous gifts to our Bishop's Appeal provide essential funding each year to cover the annual costs of fostering a deep relationship with our Lord in both youth and adults in our diocese. Your gifts provide resources for our diocese to:

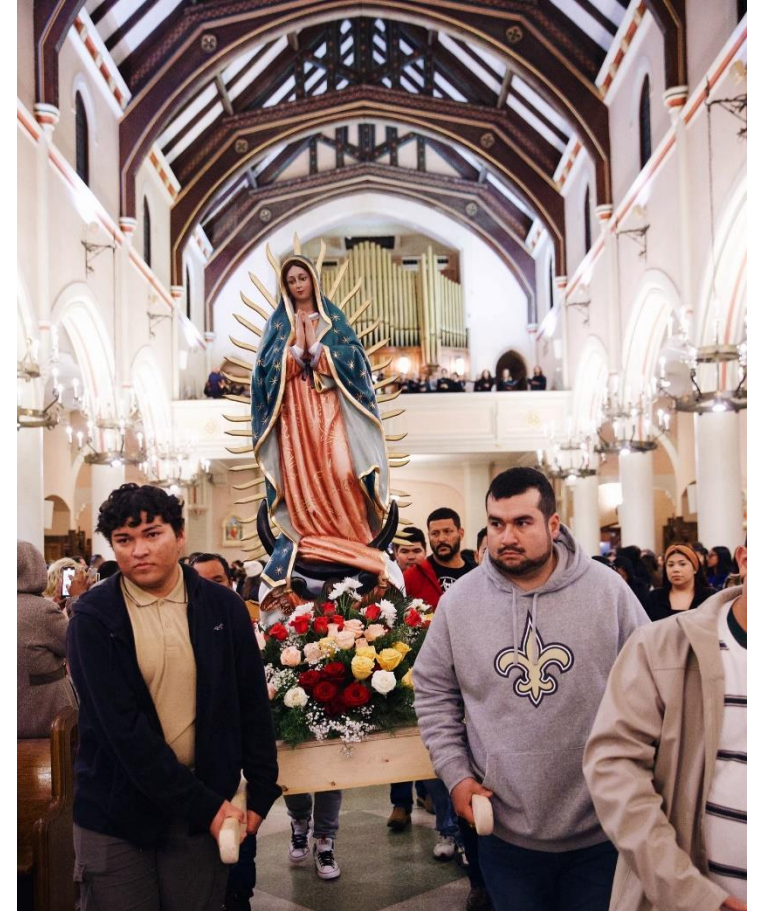
- Training of youth and adult formation leaders to better serve our parishes
- Serving 500+ college students through campus ministry at St. Thomas Aquinas located on Nicholls State University through Colonel Catholics
- Serving the community with formation and evangelization events such as Theology on Tap



Ethnic Ministries

Thank you for your generous support of our Ethnic Ministries. Celebrating and supporting the many different ethnicities across our diocese is incredibly important to our culture and heritage. The diocese has three ethnic ministry offices: Hispanic Ministry, African American Ministry, and Native American Ministry. These offices evangelize through:

- Our ethnic ministries include African American, Native American, Vietnamese, and Hispanic ministries. Each of these ministries is unique to our diocese providing education with culture and spiritually serving a large population within our community.



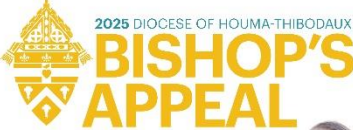
Catholic Schools Office

Your prayers and support to our Bishop's Appeal gives necessary resources to work with and support our teachers, staff and administration at all 10 of our Catholic schools. Our Office of Catholic Schools provides educational opportunities for our staff to grow spiritually and academically ensuring our students have well-formed teachers who have innovative curriculum at their fingertips. As the largest evangelization ministry of our diocese, the Office of Catholic Schools supports our school and students by:

- Serving our 10 Catholic Schools with over 4,800 students being the largest ministry of our diocese
- Professional development to our 500 teachers through teacher convocations and other opportunities
- Access to a Curriculum Specialist and growth within the classroom
- Consultative support for administration and development
- Evaluation of classroom performance and COGNIA accreditation tools
- Certification tracking for all teachers
- Academic testing and performance review
- Curriculum Specialist consultation for all schools



Poster



FORMATION MINISTRIES 20%

RETIRED PRIESTS 25%

GROWING TOGETHER
IN GOD'S LOVE

ETHNIC MINISTRIES 15%

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS 15%

SEMINARIANS 25%

WAYS TO GIVE

Online at hdiocese.org/bishopsappeal
Mail checks made payable to:
Annual Bishop's Appeal
P.O. Box 505, Schriever, LA 70395

In person at church parish
Fax: **IMPACT** to 985-464-7720
to give today
Call 985-850-3176 or
email mohmer@hdiocese.org



2025 DIOCESE OF HOUMA-THIBODAUX
BISHOP'S APPEAL

Brochure

RETIRED PRIESTS



- 18 retired priests of our diocese
- Supplemental health insurance, long-term care needs and other required services

JOIN THE ST. FRANCIS CIRCLE WITH A RECURRING GIFT
Recurring gifts are environmentally friendly gifts helping to reduce printing, postage, and administrative costs while helping to sustain the ministries of the Bishop's Appeal.

JOIN THE BISHOP'S SOCIETY

The Bishop's Society recognizes members of the Catholic faithful who contribute \$250 or more to the Bishop's Appeal. This commitment has a tremendous impact on the immediate needs of our ministries and parishes.

BISHOP'S PARTNERS IN HOPE (\$250 TO \$499)

- Monthly E-Mail Messages
- Annual Progress Report
- Inclusion in Bishop's or Diocesan Administrator's personal Mass prayer intentions

BISHOP'S CIRCLE (\$500 TO \$2,499)

- All of the above, plus the following:
- Catholic Foundation of South Louisiana Report

MITRE SOCIETY (\$2,500 TO \$4,999)

- All of the above, plus the following:
- Invitations to special diocesan events such as State of the Diocese Address, Chrism Mass, and Ordination

CROZIER'S SOCIETY (\$5,000 TO \$9,999)

- All of the above, plus the following:
- Private tour of St. Francis de Sales Cathedral or St. Joseph Co-Cathedral followed by Mass and lunch with key diocesan leaders (based on availability of staff and donor preference)

SOCIETY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (\$10,000 AND ABOVE)

- All of the above, plus the following:
- Special gift by Bishop or Diocesan Administrator's

**YOUR GIFT
TO THE
BISHOP'S
APPEAL
SUPPORTS
THESE
MINISTRIES.**

25%
RETIRED PRIESTS

25%
SEMINARIANS

20%
FORMATION MINISTRIES

15%
ETHNIC MINISTRIES

15%
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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- Mail checks made payable to:
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P.O. Box 505, Schriever, LA 70395**
- In pew at church parish
- Call **985-850-3175** or
email mohmer@htdiocese.org



htdiocese.org/bishopsappeal



P.O. Box 505, Schriever, LA 70395 | (985) 850-3175
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**GROWING
TOGETHER**
IN GOD'S LOVE



Brochure - Thibodaux

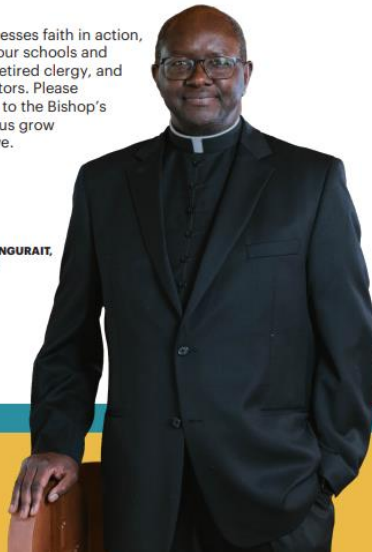
My Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Fr. Peter Scholtes' hymn **"They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love"** reminds us that love is at the heart of our faith. As St. John wrote, "God is Love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in them" (1 John 4:16). This truth inspires our 2025 ABA theme, "Growing Together in God's Love," calling us to reflect God's love in our actions and care for one another.

What does love have to do with it? Everything! Through the Bishop's Appeal, we recognize how our giving impacts others and strengthens our faith. Together, as one community, we can achieve more than any parish alone, embodying Christ's call to love, serve, and uplift those in need.

Your generosity expresses faith in action, supporting youth in our schools and parishes, caring for retired clergy, and preparing future pastors. Please consider a gift today to the Bishop's Appeal 2025 and let us grow together in God's love.

VERY REV. SIMON PETER ENGURAIT,
DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR



SEMINARIANS

ETHAN HENRY, SEMINARIAN



"I am profoundly grateful for your support of the Bishop's Appeal. Your generosity ensures the Church forms joyful, faithful priests who serve God's people with love and dedication."

I grew up in Houma, attending the Cathedral of St. Francis de Sales, and now my parish is St. Thomas in Thibodaux. The year I spent at St. Joseph the Worker House of Formation was one of the hardest yet most rewarding years of my life—a true answer to prayer. As I neared the end of college, the Lord's call grew louder, and I asked Him for a year in Thibodaux before seminary. Weeks later, I learned the Propaedeutic Year would take place there under Fr. Mitch Semar, with two friends joining me. It was a sign of God's providence. This journey deepened my calling to the priesthood.

- \$45,000 per year to educate one seminarian
- 5 seminarians currently
- 1 man in formation within the House of Formation
- Continued work of Office of Formation



FORMATION MINISTRIES

REBECCA ABBOD, FORMATION MINISTRIES



Your support to the Bishop's Appeal ensures we can continue to form disciples, accompany leaders, and bring the Gospel to life in every parish. Together, we can grow our Church and build a stronger, more vibrant faith community!

Through Formation Ministries, I have witnessed firsthand how lives are transformed through faith and community. My journey with the ministry began when I was the Coordinator of Youth Formation at my home parish of Christ the Redeemer. I reached out for help from the ministry leaders and through their mentorship, encouragement, and prayers, not only did I grow spiritually, but I learned how to guide others in encountering Christ. Now, as a liaison, I have the privilege of walking alongside parish leaders across our diocese, tailoring support to the unique needs of each community. These encounters have deepened my love for our culturally rich and faithful diocese, revealing the beauty and generosity of our people. This vital ministry is only possible through the generosity of the Bishop's Appeal.

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ETHNIC MINISTRIES



- Training for youth and adult formation leaders to better serve our parishes
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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



- Assistance with curriculum and growth for each of our 10 Catholic schools and over 4,800 students
- Professional development and assistance to our 500 teachers
- Curriculum Specialist consultation for all schools



2025 DIOCESE OF HOUMA-THIBODAux

BISHOP'S APPEAL

Brochure – South Lafourche

My Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

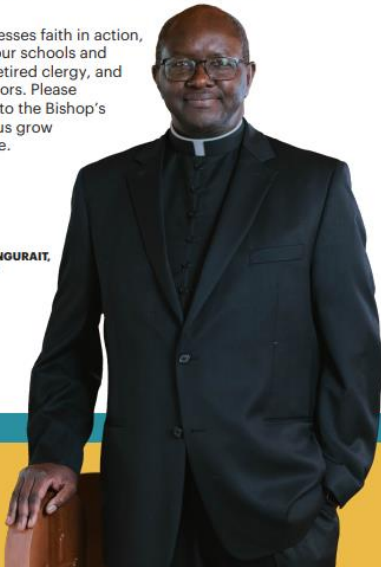
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VERY REV. SIMON PETER ENGOURAIT,
DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR



SEMINARIANS

CHAD CHERAMIE, SEMINARIAN



"Thank you for supporting the Bishop's Appeal. Your generosity helps transform seminarians like me into priests who joyfully serve and guide the Church for generations to come."

During a seminarian's first year at St. Joseph the Worker Seminarian House of Formation in Thibodaux, the focus is on prayer, virtue, and work. My time at St. Joseph's shaped me profoundly, teaching me to serve with prudence, faith, and love. Daily prayer became the foundation of my life, while studying the Catechism and Theology of the Body deepened my commitment to priestly service. Growing up in Golden Meadow, at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Parish, I never imagined the joy and fulfillment I'd find in this calling. I truly feel that I have heard the heartbeat of the Church.

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Brochure – Houma

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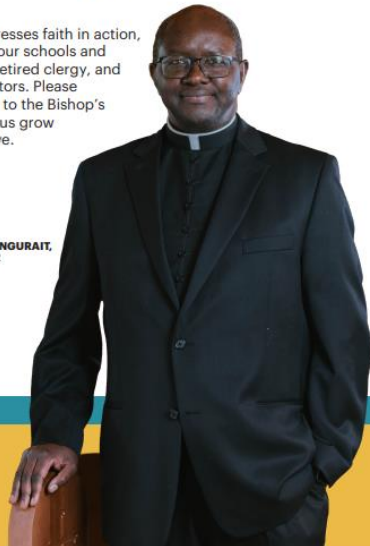
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VERY REV. SIMON PETER ENGOURAIT,
DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR



SEMINARIANS

JAMES SILK, SEMINARIAN



"I am deeply grateful for the time I spent at St. Joseph the Worker. This formation is vital for building a Church of strong, faithful men who can lead and nurture God's people. Thank you for supporting the Bishop's Appeal, which makes this transformative journey possible."

I am originally from Oklahoma and currently enjoy my parish is St. Bernadette in Houma. Like the seasons of nature, my time at St. Joseph the Worker Seminarian House of Formation brought challenges, growth, and renewal. This year was marked by learning to live in community and opening my heart to healing and growth. With guidance from Fr. Mitch and my deepening brotherhood with Roch Gernon, I grew in my capacity to give and receive love and served as a mentor and spiritual father to students at E.D. White Catholic High School and Nicholls State University—a role that brought both joy and purpose. These experiences have shaped my identity as a disciple and future priest.

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FORMATION MINISTRIES

REBECCA ABBOD, FORMATION MINISTRIES



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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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- Curriculum Specialist consultation for all schools

Letters



DATE

MAILING SALUTATION
STREET
CITY, STATE ZIP

Dear INFORMAL SALUTATION,

In the famous hymn by Fr Peter Scholtes "They Will Know We are Christians by Our Love" we are reminded about LOVE as the center of the Christian faith. In the first letter of St John, we read that God is Love and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in them (1 John 4:16). This fundamental teaching encourages us to focus on genuine love and compassion, which is why we have selected as our theme for the 2025 Bishop's Appeal "Growing Together in God's Love" to remind us that our actions should reflect our commitment to God's will and care for others.

So, What Does Love Have to do With It?
Everything!

As we engage in the Bishop's Appeal, we are called to reflect on how our giving not only impacts others but also deepens our own spiritual journey, aligning our hearts with God's mission of love and service. "Growing Together in God's Love," invites us to reflect on the profound connections we share within our faith community and with those in need. This theme emphasizes the importance of unity and mutual support, encouraging all within our community to deepen their relationships with one another and with God. By recognizing our collective responsibility, knowing that together we can accomplish more than one parish can do alone, we embody the spirit of love and compassion that Christ Himself exemplified throughout His ministry.

When we reflect on Jesus' teachings on love and generosity, we can hear His call to love and serve others, particularly the marginalized and the suffering. As demonstrated through His actions, while on this earth, love is not merely a feeling but a commitment to actively support and uplift those around us. He challenges us to extend our love beyond our immediate circles and to pray for everyone.

Love Has Everything to do with Everything!

Moreover, "Growing Together in God's Love" serves as a powerful reminder that our acts of generosity are expressions of our faith. When we give, we participate in a communal effort to create a more just and loving world. Each contribution, no matter the size, helps build a foundation of support within our diocese, fostering an environment where God's love can flourish, and so can ours. **Your expression of LOVE directly impacts the youth within our parishes, schools and on Nicholls campus.** It's an expression of our faith in those who shepherd us even in their retirement and those who will soon be our pastors.

<Informal Name>, <it is in this spirit of unity that I come to you as a generous donor in our <Leadership Giving Society>; strong in faith and filled with conviction and care, to continue your leadership giving to the Bishop's Appeal. You are part of a community of benefactors who take a guiding role in the work of the Church through the Bishop's Appeal and as a member, share a vision for the future and mission of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Simon Peter Engurait
Diocesan Administrator
Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux



Make your gift online!
<https://diocese.org/give-now>
To make your gift by credit card or electronic funds transfer, please visit our secure website



1. YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE 2025 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

- OR
- ☐ With a **recurring** gift of:
- ☐ \$<X> ☐ \$<X> ☐ \$<X> ☐ \$<X> ☐ Other \$_____
- ☐ Until I choose to stop ☐ Monthly payments ending in Dec. 2025 ☐ 4 quarterly payments
- ☐ With a **one-time** gift of:
- ☐ \$<X> ☐ \$<X> ☐ \$<X> ☐ \$<X> ☐ Other \$_____

For questions or assistance, please call Michelle Ohmer at (855) 850-3175 or email bishopsappeal@thdiocese.org

2. PAYMENT DETAILS

Make checks payable to:
Annual Bishop's Appeal

☐ Full amount enclosed

☐ First payment enclosed

Check enclosed for: \$_____

Balance remaining: \$_____



DUID #
<First Name><Last Name>
<Address 1>
<Address 2>
<City>, <State> <Zip>
<Parish Name>
<IG2021>

3. DONOR INFORMATION

Primary Email _____

Spouse Email _____

Phone Number _____

☐ Mobile ☐ Home ☐ Work

☐ Please send information on contributing through:

☐ Stock Transfer ☐ Commodities ☐ My Estate

4. LEAVE A LEGACY

☐ Yes, I would like to learn more about how to include my parish, a Catholic School, the Diocese and/or other



2025 DIOCESE OF HOUMA-THIBODAU

BISHOP'S APPEAL

Non-Donor Post Card



Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux
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Schriever, Louisiana 70395

**POSTAGE
REQUIRED**
Post Office will
not deliver without
proper postage.



WAYS TO GIVE

Online at
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In pew at church parish
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In Pew



YOUR GIFT TO THE BISHOP'S APPEAL SUPPORTS THESE MINISTRIES.

25% RETIRED PRIESTS
25% SEMINARIANS
20% FORMATION MINISTRIES
15% CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
15% ETHNIC MINISTRIES

3. DONOR INFORMATION

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Parish _____

☐ Credit Card Authorization
Card # _____
Exp. Date _____
Name on Card _____
☐ Direct Debit Authorization
Routing # _____
Account Holder _____

BISHOP'S APPEAL Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux
Post Office Box 505
Schriever, Louisiana 70395

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NECESSARY
If no Office will
not deliver without
proper postage

BISHOP'S APPEAL Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux
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Schriever, Louisiana 70395

WAYS TO GIVE
In person at church parish
Call (855) 850-3175 or email [main@hdiocese.org](mailto:mailto:main@hdiocese.org)
P.O. Box 505, Schriever, LA 70395
Visit hdiocese.org/bishopappeal for more information

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. To learn more, visit hdiocese.org/bishopappeal



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Make checks payable to:

Annual Bishop's Appeal

☐ Full amount enclosed

☐ First payment enclosed

Check enclosed for: \$ _____

Balance remaining: \$ _____

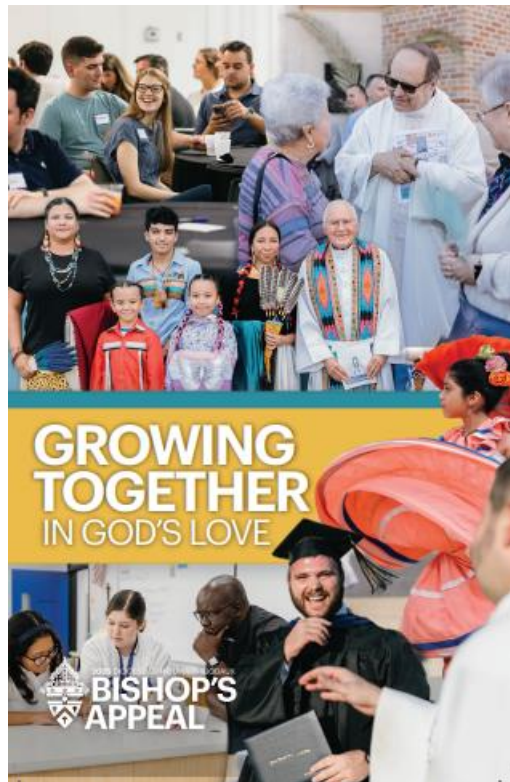
For questions or assistance, please call Michelle Ohmer at (855) 850-3175 or email bishopappeal@hdiocese.org



2023 DIOCESE OF HOUMA-THIBODAU

BISHOP'S APPEAL

Prayer Card



*You are being enriched in every way for all generosity,
which through us produces thanksgiving to God.*

2 Corinthians 9:11

O God, source of life and every blessing,
All that we have comes from You.
Help us to walk in Your ways as faithful
disciples of Jesus, teaching us to be good and
faithful stewards of Your many blessings.

Lord, grant us the grace to receive Your gifts
gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share
them in justice and love with others, and return
them with increase to You, our Father.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

St. Francis de Sales, pray for us.
St. Joseph, pray for us.



Timeline

- 2025 Trainings – January 14 – 21
- Catholic Schools Art Contest – January 17 – 31
- 1st Letter Mailed – January 29
- Education Weekend – February 1 – 2
- Commitment Weekend – February 8 – 9
- Follow Up Weekend – February 15 -16
- Thank You Weekend – February 22 – 23
- 2nd Mailing – April 7
- Annual Report – August 18
- Lagniappe Mailing – November 3



Key Concepts

- Catholic Schools Week Art Contest
- Monthly Messages
- Celebration Lunches
- Guest Speakers

Digital Marketing

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/5uadwizt7rjez83gpni89/AAAuJk9fYNKKJZ9yeq-EL0c?rlkey=yvhxbkfekeh9n6poan5ywrauo&dl=0>

Priest's Roles

- Make a personal commitment and put your gift in collection at mass to show leadership from parish priest.
 - Share with the people how YOU were impacted as a seminarian or will be as a retired priest
- Ensures staff at parish are following Manual
 - Social Media posts are used timely, and websites are adjusted
- Actively engaged in the appeal process
- Directly asks for and encourages participation focused on building community



Parish Coordinators

- Make sure posters are placed in the Church Parish no later than January 31st
- Bishop's Appeal Button added to web for ease of giving
- Weekly Social Media posts as driven by Manual/Flocknote
- Coordinate with guest speaker
- Understand each ministry and the new additions
- Let us know If additional materials are needed
- Receive weekly reminder email beginning in January



Ways to Give

- In Pew at your parish
- Online at htdiocese.org/bishopsappeal
- QR Cods
- Mail Checks PO Box 505, Schriever, LA 70395
 - Made payable to 'Bishop's Appeal'
- Payroll Deduction



Contact Information



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Questions?

Thank You!

