

A Bridge Home

2022 BISHOP'S APPEAL



*Providing works of charity, formation
in faith, education and catechesis*



My Dear Friends in Christ,

"A Bridge Home" is the theme of the 2022 Bishop's Appeal, formerly called the Annual Catholic Appeal, and it highlights hope, renewal and evangelization in our diocese. The Appeal invests in services that continue to engage those in their faith and build a strong bridge to so many who are struggling. Now it is more important than ever to reunite our Church, affirm our faithful and welcome others back.

I am grateful for your support this past year as we continue to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic and we once again gather within our parishes, homes and communities. This is possible because of your faith and generosity.

The Diocese of Bridgeport has a long tradition of providing programs that serve those in need and prepare for the future of our Catholic faith. This year's Appeal goal is \$8.1 million and remains unchanged from last year.

I personally invite you to join with me in making a gift and building **"A Bridge Home,"** one living stone at a time. We have been through much together as a family in faith, and we have much to look forward to because we are a people of hope.

I pray for God's blessings on you and your family.

Faithfully in Christ,

Frank J. Caggiano

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano

The Bishop's Appeal

funds a broad range of essential ministries, programs and agencies that deliver pastoral care and human services where they are most needed.

Every gift is an opportunity for us to come together as a family of faith to support diocesan-sponsored programs that no single parish can provide on its own.



*Providing works of charity, formation
in faith, education and catechesis*



To Teach and Preach the Gospel

The Institute for Catholic Formation provides learning opportunities for those who serve in ministry and education as well as those preparing for marriage. The Institute's resources include family-specific tools for raising faith-filled children, post-wedding formation and a chance for those who wish to be confirmed or join the Church to do so in a hybrid learning environment.

Opportunities for discipleship are essential to keeping **middle school and high school students** involved in their faith. The Institute provides mentoring for parish leaders and guidance to faith communities to make sure young people stay connected to the life, mission and ministry of our parishes.

The **Bishop's Scholarship Fund** provides nearly 1,300 students tuition assistance at diocesan Catholic elementary schools every year, transforming students' lives across Fairfield County.

Tuition assistance is offered to students in need at the **Catholic Academy of Bridgeport**.

Seminarians are educated and discern their calling in preparation for the priesthood at **St. Charles Borromeo Seminary** in Philadelphia and **Redemptoris Mater Seminary** in Stamford.

Deacons share their gifts of faith, hope and love in bringing people closer to Christ in parish communities and ministries. Your gift supports training for men in formation to the Diaconate.

Building "Bridges of Faith" and Serving the Poor

For more than a century, **Catholic Charities** has put faith into action by empowering the needy and vulnerable of all faiths through nutrition, housing and counseling programs.

Saint Catherine Center for Special Needs provides academic, spiritual and life skill programs for children and adults with disabilities.

Priests and Deacons provide pastoral care for the sick and elderly in nursing homes and hospitals.





Building Communities of Faith

“The Bridge” Center for Young Adult Entrepreneurship provides resources and mentorship to young adults for growth in their Catholic Faith, while making an impact on their local communities.

The Ambassador program is an invitational ministry that assists parishioners in welcoming back those who have disengaged from Sunday Mass or have intentionally left the Faith.

The Sacred Heart Guild evangelizes, encourages and inspires through pilgrimages, workshops, concerts and talks that celebrate Christ in the Arts, and is centered on sacred music and art, architecture and literature, with a particular attention to the needs of young people in our diocese.

Parishes that are pastorally vibrant and experiencing financial challenges receive **emergency assistance**.

The Seton Collaborative provides expertise to diocesan schools and parishes focusing on efficient and effective operations.

Retired Clergy receive the support they need to live in dignity at the **Catherine Dennis Keefe Queen of Clergy Residence**.



Photo by Michelle Babyak

2022 BISHOP’S APPEAL CHAIR COUPLE

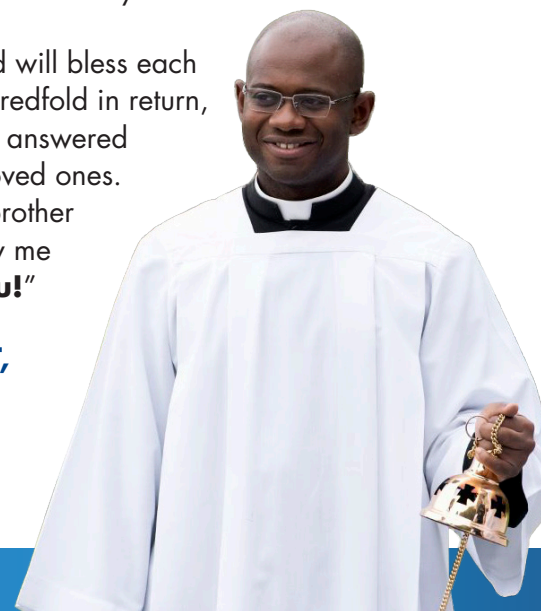
Kelly Anne and Dan Murphy, Parishoners,
St. Catherine of Siena, Trumbull

“I have been truly blessed by the people of God in the Diocese of Bridgeport. The seeds planted yearly in this Bishop’s Appeal are both a financial and a spiritual investment for the Kingdom of God.

Given these challenging times, it would be impossible for me to maintain the expenses of seminary formation, so I am beyond grateful. With God’s grace I will be ordained a transitional Deacon in May.

I pray that the Lord will bless each benefactor a hundredfold in return, especially through answered prayers for their loved ones. On behalf of my brother seminarians, allow me to say **Thank You!**”

**FERRY GALBERT,
FIFTH YEAR
SEMINARIAN,
ST. JOSEPH
SEMINARY**



GOAL - \$8,100,000 Allocation of Funds in 2022



Each year, the Diocese of Bridgeport assesses its financial resources, the needs of parishioners and its ability to respond effectively and with compassion. The following list is an overview of how Appeal contributions will be distributed.

| | |
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| TO TEACH AND PREACH THE GOSPEL | \$3,679,500 |
| + Institute of Catholic Formation..... | \$ 507,000 |
| + Faith Formation of Youth | \$ 153,000 |
| + Formation of Seminarians | \$ 1,065,000 |
| + Formation of Deacons | \$ 161,500 |
| + Bishop's Scholarship Fund..... | \$ 700,000 |
| + Catholic Academy of Bridgeport..... | \$ 300,000 |
| + Communications | \$ 743,000 |
| + Veritas Catholic Network | \$ 50,000 |

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|---|--------------------|
| BUILDING "BRIDGES OF FAITH" AND SERVING THE POOR | \$1,799,500 |
| + Catholic Charities of Fairfield County | \$ 550,000 |
| + St. Catherine Center for Special Needs | \$ 250,000 |
| + Pastoral Care of the Sick and Elderly..... | \$ 999,500 |

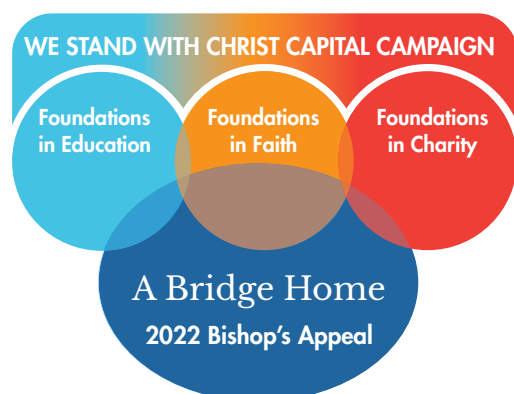
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|---|--------------------|
| BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH | \$2,046,000 |
| + Support of Retired Priests | \$ 1,325,000 |
| + Support to Parishes in Need..... | \$ 300,000 |
| + Seton Collaborative..... | \$ 100,000 |
| + Campus Ministry and Young Adult Support | \$ 100,000 |
| + Strategic and Pastoral Planning | \$ 83,000 |
| + "The Bridge" Center for Young Adult Entrepreneurship..... | \$ 10,000 |
| + Institute for Catholic Culture..... | \$ 128,000 |

Fundraising Expenses \$ 575,000

Total ABA Goal Allocation \$8,100,000

In the spirit of financial transparency, the cost to conduct the Bishop's Appeal totals 7 cents on the dollar based on the 2022 goal. Fundraising expenses may also provide additional support to a number of these areas.

Diocese of Bridgeport Funding Model



We Stand With Christ Capital Campaign \$75 Million Goal

Gifts invested provide for the future of the Church through endowments in three foundations strategically aligned for long-term funding and sustainability.

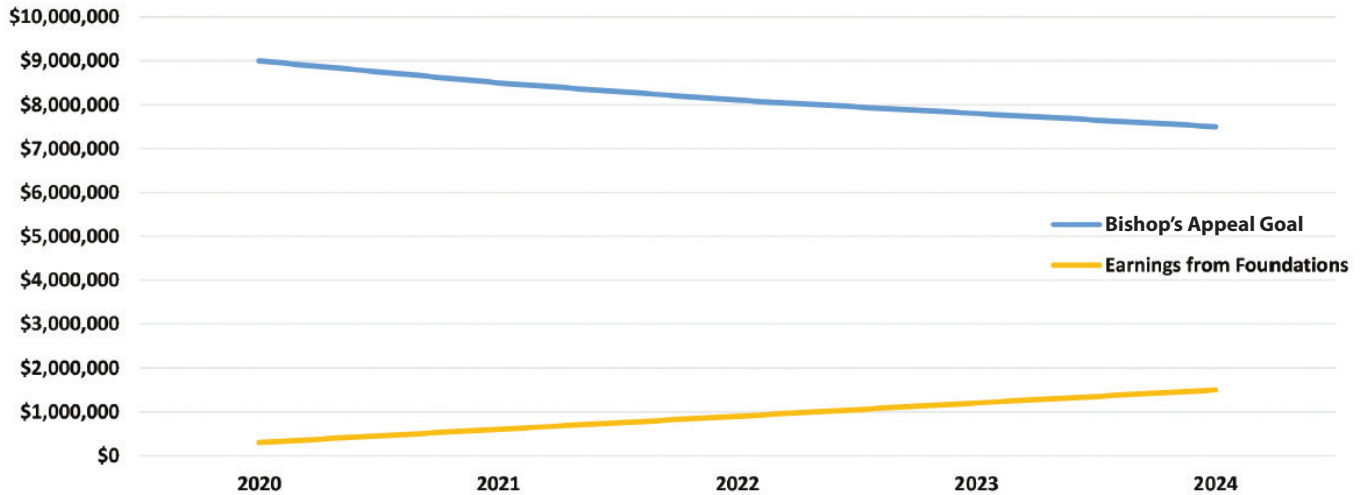
**50% directly benefits parishes,
50% invested in the foundations**

"A Bridge Home" 2022 Bishop's Appeal \$8.1 Million Goal

Gifts to the Bishop's Appeal support day-to-day ministries and programs

The Capital Campaign and the Bishop's Appeal

Earnings generated from the three foundation endowments will assist in reducing the overall Bishop's Appeal goal in future years.



Ways to Give

When contemplating your level of sacrificial giving, please consider using the Pledge Plan. Pledging will allow a greater sacrifice by extending the payment of your gift through December 31, 2022.

CHECK

Make payable to the **Bishop's Appeal**.
Please do not send cash.

CREDIT CARD

Payable online or by pledge card.

ONLINE GIVING

2022BishopsAppeal.org



TEXT TO GIVE

To make a gift via text messaging, text the word APPEAL to (475) 241-7849. Message & data rates may apply.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many organizations will match gifts to Catholic Charities and Schools, and the Bishop's Scholarship Fund.
Please contact (203) 416-1312 for more information.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

If you own securities that have appreciated in value, they can be given to the Appeal and their full market value becomes a tax-deductible gift.
Please contact (203) 416-1470 for more information.

Court of Honor

Recognizes donors who have demonstrated extraordinary generosity to the Bishop's Appeal. Membership is extended to any individual or family that contributes an Appeal gift of \$2,500 or more.

- + Bishop's Leadership Circle (\$25,000 and above)
- + St. Teresa of Calcutta Society (\$10,000 - \$24,999)
- + St. Katharine Drexel Society (\$5,000 - \$9,999)
- + Court of Honor Partner (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

For more information please visit the website at 2022BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or email 2022BishopsAppeal@diobpt.org.