

Church of the Good Shepherd

2026 CATECHUMENS & CANDIDATES



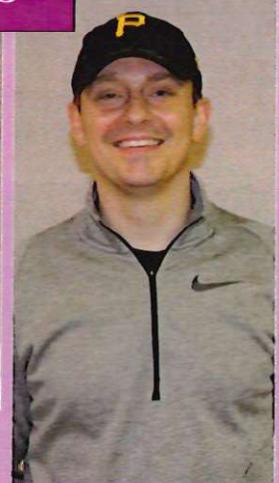
Bill



Ainsley



Ashley



Noah



Ava



Mackensie and Cross



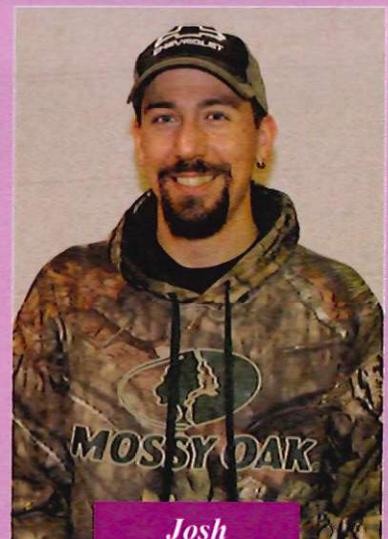
Gabby



Gavin



Luke



Josh

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Week of February 16th, 2026, Calendar of Events

Rosary 1st Sunday of every month 20 min. before 9am Mass

Monday, February 16th – Offices closed for President's Day

Tuesday, February 17th

Ash Wednesday, February 18th – Soup & Grilled Cheese Sandwich after noon service in Social Hall

Thursday, February 19th–Passion Narratives 10:30-noon or 4-5:30

Friday, February 20th – Stations of the Cross 6:30pm

Saturday, February 21st

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND,
THOSE ON OUR PRAYER CHAIN, AND THE HOSPITALIZED.

COLLECTION	Feb. 8, 2026
# of Registered Families	602
# of Envelopes Used	180
Attendance at Mass	484
Attendance Online 02/08	292
Offertory Collection	\$11,944.00
Loose Offertory	\$1,129.00
Children's Env. / Solem. Of Mary	\$1.00 / \$20.00
Cath. Com. / Ash Wed.	\$10.00 / \$10.00

Church of the Good Shepherd

Office Phone: (724)528-3539

Office Address: 3613 Sharon Road
(PO Box 226)
West Middlesex, PA 16159

PASTOR – Fr. Glenn Whitman

Email: pastor@goodshepherdwm.org

RELIGIOUS ED DIR. – Lauren DeFelice

Email: religioused@goodshepherdwm.org

PARISH SECRETARY – Rhonda Dolin

Email: parishoffice@goodshepherdwm.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR – Greg Hansley

PLANT MAINTENANCE – Gary Wojtalik

KITCHEN MANAGER – Michelle Whalen

PRAYER REQUEST

Email: prayerrequestsgswm@gmail.com

Phone: (724)977-3369

Mass Intention Date & Time	Intentions	Requested By
Monday, February 16 th at 8:30am	Dudash Family	Tim Dudash
Tuesday, February 17 th at 8:30am	Mary Janusko	Friends
Ash Wednesday, February 18 th at 6:30am & Noon	*Ash Service only	
Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18 th at 8:30am Mass	For Our Parishioners	
Ash Wednesday, February 18 th at 7:00pm Mass	Jacob Bakuhn	Kay Kujan
Thursday, February 19 th at 8:30am	Marcie Mondoc	Ed Robich
Friday, February 20 th at 8:30am	Scrip Morocco	Mr. & Mrs. Phil Gadola
Saturday, February 21 st at 6:00pm	Tony Mottle	Friend
Sunday, February 22 nd at 9:00am	Robert Kamensky	Wife, Patricia Kamensky
Sunday, February 22 nd at 11:30am	MaryAnn Van Buren	Family

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS (HU –Head Usher)	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, Feb. 21 st at 6:00pm	Lyndon & Michael Cain	Charlene Cain Frank Langosh Brian Rogers Gary Salatino	Mary Ellen Doult – HU Brian & Debra Biggins	Alexis Onestak	Rianne Cain
Sunday, Feb. 22 nd at 9:00am	Bonnie Smith	Bonnie Smith Mary Ann Palanti Christine Schwarz Aiden Puskar	Ed Grober – HU Neil Hosich Mary Anderson	Judy Selenchik	Andrew David
Sunday, Feb. 22 nd at 11:30am	Mary Killingsworth	Lisa Dach Mary Lu Walters Beth Garrett Rudy Koraus	Deb Sokolak – HU Mary Killingsworth Don Kemerer	VOLUNTEER	Luke & Jackson Seelbaugh

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, WEST MIDDLESEX, PA



FROM OUR PASTOR

***“Do you think I have come to abolish the law?
I have come to fulfill it.”***

After our dad died quite suddenly, Mom was still living in the St. John Lutheran Home in Erie where she had a wide array of friends who surrounded her with companionship and a lot of love. Despite this envelope of support, she developed an addiction...cop shows and courtroom drama. Now she herself wasn't an active lawbreaker, but she loved following criminals down their morally dark paths, trying to outsmart clever law-enforcers and those slick lawyers who were always uncovering one loophole of jurisprudence after another in the never-ending struggle between good and evil. And then, to her delight, some tiny, infinitesimal fact comes to light resulting in the condemnation of the guilty and the vindication of the innocent. We weren't sure what our elderly mother enjoyed more: that justice was served or that the perp almost got away with it!

Many of us have a morally ambiguous relationship with the law. We either have plenty of laws nailed into place to protect us and our property from others, or we'll play fast and loose with the laws that inconvenience us. Traffic laws, tax laws, municipal codes are just three sorts of rules that many are comfortable breaking if they can get away with it. For the sake of this column, let's assume that we church-goers are the *law-abiding* segment of the population. (*Wink! Wink! Nod! Nod!*)

Mom became glued to *Breaking Bad*, *The Sopranos*, and others that weren't recommended by the Lutheran Home's Sewing Circle, which skirted stories where the moral lines were vague between the good guys and the bad guys. When we asked her about the “progress” of her stories she'd tell us, “I seem to recall that given the right set of

circumstances, you four would test our limits quite regularly.” Which gave us the right opening to remind her that “her stories” back then were entitled, *“The Guiding Light, Search for Tomorrow & Days of Our Lives.”* Maybe we convinced ourselves that most laws can be arbitrary, and that if a given law crosses our sovereign free will or basic self-interest, we might be willing to look the other way and “break bad” just this once.

Old Testament Biblical Law was established to be a different kind of law altogether from what folks were used to. The Hebrew word for *Law* is more like “guidance” or “instruction” than a line drawn in the sand. Divine law wasn't viewed as negatively prohibitive or punitive but positive and helpful. The point wasn't to constrict human freedom but to keep people safe, happy, and at peace.

A red traffic light isn't made to make you late for an appointment, after all, even if it does just that, it's intended to keep you and your neighbor from plowing into each other at an intersection. Law was deemed to be such a joyful and cheerful thing in Israel that some of the psalms were written to praise it. God's gift of law is evidence that God is serious about wanting to preserve the happiness of the community that was so divinely favored. When Jesus extends the laws as deep and high as you can conceive, is this his way of making life harder – or simpler than ever?

Fr. Glenn & Fr. Frank

Lenten devotional books are
available in the gathering space.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Calendar

CLASS TIME IS FROM 10:00AM -11:15AM

February 22 Class all grades

March 1 Class all grades

March 7 Saturday Mass participation
grades 3-5 6:00pm Mass

March 8 Class K-5 and Confirmation

March 8 EDGE Retreat – 1PM – 5PM
more information to follow.

Becoming Catholic

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion is on

Sunday, February 22, at 3:00pm.
Our catechumens and candidates will travel to
Erie next Sunday to meet Bishop Persico.

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion

The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion is celebrated near the beginning of Lent and marks the end of the period of the Catechumenate and the beginning of the period of Purification and Enlightenment. In this rite the Church acknowledges the readiness of the catechumens and candidates for initiation. The catechumens and candidates express their will to receive the sacraments of initiation and be received into the Catholic Church. Following this rite, the catechumens are known as the “elect.”



HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP?

THE PASSION NARRATIVES

Beginning on the day after Ash Wednesday, Thursday, February 19 for four weeks, there will be a Scripture Study group focusing on the four Passion narratives in the New Testament – Mark, Matthew, Luke and John. Like our sessions on the Prophet Isaiah last year, we'll follow the same format on Thursdays: 10:30 – noon / 4:00 – 5:30 pm. Registration sheets will be available in the gathering space up until Ash Wednesday.

No book will be required, but common texts of each version will be available THE WEEK BEFORE THE SESSIONS BEGIN. There is no cost for the sample texts, but there is homework!

Please continue to pray for our Catechumens & Candidates

(Elect) and (Candidates)

<i>Gavin Mathews</i>	<i>Noah Bianco</i>
<i>Cross Arbuckle</i>	<i>Ashley</i>
<i>Mackensie Attiscano</i>	<i>Baldsberger</i>
<i>Luke Baker</i>	<i>Ainsley Cain</i>
<i>Ava Sellers</i>	<i>Joshua</i>
	<i>Dobbins</i>
<i>Gabby Ricker</i>	<i>Bill Logan</i>

ALL OFFICES ARE CLOSED, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY. WE WILL BE BACK IN THE OFFICE ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH.

Spaghetti Dinner



SUNDAY FEB. 15, 2026 11:00am-3:00pm

Advance Tickets: \$ 12 Adults/\$6 Children (12 and under)

Tickets at the Door: \$15 Adults /\$7 Children (12 and under)

*Tickets available after Mass,
beginning 1/ 17/2-26*

TAKE OUT MEALS AVAILABLE

Good Shepherd Church Social Hall
West Middlesex PA

Proceeds to benefit Religious Education

GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD PANTRY "FEBRUARY FOOD DRIVE"



**PASTA AND SAUCE
(no glass jars please)**

There will be grocery carts in the Gathering Space for drop-off.



God Bless and
thank you
Good Shepherd Family!

THAT'S
ITALIAN!!!

*"A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."*

Proverbs 11:25

Food Pantry Committee

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, March 1st at 2:00pm
at Notre Dame (Hermitage, PA)

Wednesday, March 11th at 6:00pm
at St. Joseph Parish (Sharon, PA)

Sunday, March 15th at 2:00pm
at Blessed Disciple (Grove City, PA)

Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00pm
at Good Shepherd (West Middlesex)

Fridays of Lent at 6:00-7:00pm
at Immaculate Heart



FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS

Thanks to our parishioners!

Peanut Butter – 222 jars

Jelly -206 jars

Misc. Nonperishable food items - 60

LADY OF FATIMA STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, there will be
Stations of the Cross on Tuesdays at
12:15pm. with communion to follow.

**ASH WEDNESDAY WILL BE HERE
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
BRING YOUR OLD PALMS IN AND
PLACE THEM IN THE BASKET SET
UP IN THE GATHERING SPACE.**



Palm

Beginning this Lent

St. Joseph Church will host a Men's Rosary Group on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, February 19. We will be reading *The Contemplative Rosary: With St. John Paul II and St. Teresa of Avila*, having an in-depth discussion on the mysteries of the rosary, and praying the rosary together. There will be a \$20 fee to cover the cost of the books and supplies.

To sign up, please call the church office at 724-981-3232.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CAVATELLI FOR SALE

Our Lady of Fatima's Cavatelli can be purchased in the Good Shepherd Social Hall on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am – 11am. The cost is \$15 for a 5 lb. bag of cavatelli.

Games! • Swimming! • Food! • More!

SHENANGO VALLEY
YOUTH NETWORK

**Teen
Takeover**

Sunday, March 1 • 4-7pm

Sign up for 3v3 basketball:



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Contribution Statements for Tax Purposes

If you wish to receive a statement of giving for your 2025 income tax records, please fill out the information below. Please return it to the parish office or by placing it in the mail or in the collection basket marked to the attention of the Parish Secretary.

Full Name _____

Envelope # _____



St. Anthony Lenten FISH FRY

Beginning Fri., Feb. 20th
and serving every Friday during Lent, including Good Friday

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Dine In or Take Out

MENU

\$16 Fried or Baked

Fish Dinners include choice of:
fresh cut fries or baked potato,
homemade coleslaw or applesauce,
and peanut butter cookie

\$13 Palacinke Dinner

TRY OUR FISH AND YOU'LL BE HOOKED

ANTONIUM (Sherman Ave. Entrance)
Hall is Handicap Accessible

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HELP NEEDED

Housekeeper Wanted:

Fr. John Hindman and Fr. Frank DiCristina are in need of a housekeeper one day every two weeks. Work would entail dusting and cleaning.

If you are interested, please contact Fr. John at 951-236-8024.



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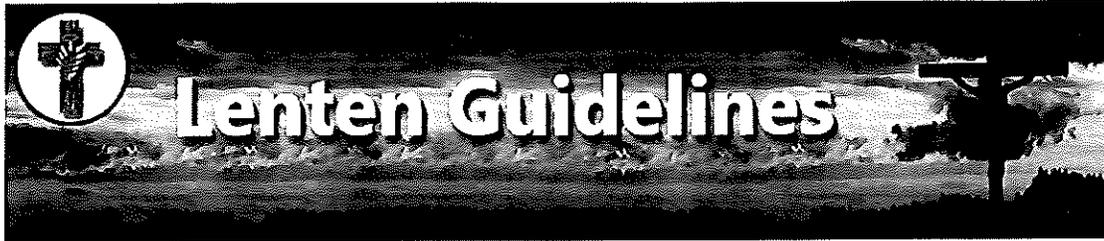
PARISHIONERS REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

CHECK: New Registration Change of Address Moving out of Parish Want envelopes

Please drop this information into the Offertory basket or mail to the Rectory.



The season of Lent begins this year on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2026, and concludes when the Paschal Triduum of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of the Lord begins at the start of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026.

Traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and other forms of self-denial, are recommended most warmly by the church. Daily Mass is particularly encouraged.

Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence from eating meat for those 14 years of age and older.

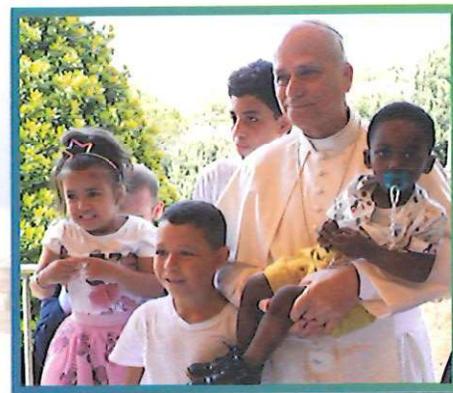
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday also are days of fasting for those ages 18 to 58 inclusive. (On these days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength according to one's needs, are also permitted. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.)

LENT 2026

 = a day of fasting and abstinence from meat

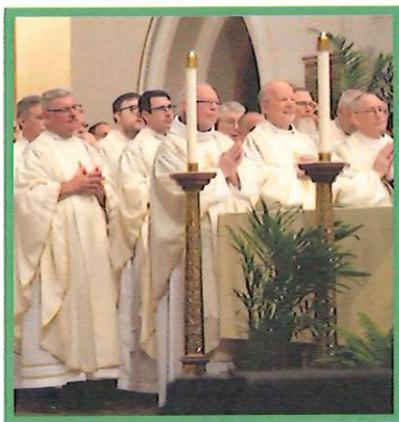
 = a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>*Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).</p>						
22 Stay after Mass and pray for a spiritually fruitful Lent.	23 Pray the Morning Offering before checking your phone.	24 "Peace begins with a smile" (Mother Teresa). Resolve to smile at everyone.	25 Pray for one specific person by name today.	26 Worry closes the heart. Replace it with trust, "Jesus, I trust in You"	27 Even when things go wrong, be patient, starting with yourself.	28 Fulfill a commitment or promise you've been putting off.
1 March Read Matthew 17:1-9. Where does God want to transform your heart, prayer, and life?	2 Today, pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, who always need our prayers.	3 Read the daily Gospel and meditate on one line that stands out to you.	4 Today, choose silence instead of complaining.	5 Pray for Christians experiencing persecution. Pray for a conversion of heart for the persecutors.	6 Return love for Love. Visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, where He waits in love.	7 Avoid gossip and change the subject when it starts. If it's untrue, unkind, or confidential, don't say it.
8 Read John 4:5-42. Where do you go when life feels messy? What if Jesus met you there?	9 If your responsibilities permit it, choose one weekday this week to attend Daily Mass.	10 Practice patience intentionally with one difficult person.	11 Skip a meal and donate the money saved from fasting to the poor box.	12 First thing today, tell God, "Try Will be done!" — and really mean it!	13 Give up a small luxury - drive-thru coffee, streaming, take-out meals - just for today for God.	14 Do a hidden act of service without seeking thanks.
15 Laetare Sunday The priest wears rose for the halfway point of Lent. Enjoy a small treat to celebrate.	16 Holy Week and Easter are busy times for parishes and ask how you can help.	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Pray for missionaries and catechists who, like St. Patrick, bring the faith to every corner of the world.	18 Experience God's mercy and attend Confession this week.	19 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i> Say an extra prayer for your father. Don't forget the priests — spiritual fathers.	20 Buy food or hygiene items for a local pantry.	21 Take a mini-retreat. Reserve time to silence your phone, light a candle, and be with Jesus.
22 Stay after Mass and pray for the intentions of the Pope and your bishop.	23 Give the gift of a spiritual bouquet — a note recording prayers said for someone who needs them.	24 Think before you speak, especially before responding in annoyance or anger, recall the presence of God.	25 <i>The Annunciation</i> We celebrate Mary's "yes," which opened the way for Christ's coming. Pray the Rosary in her honor.	26 Set out a box and fill it with gently used items, books, or clothes. When it's full, bring it to its destination.	27 Abstain from recreational screen-use between 12:00pm and 3:00pm in honor of Jesus' final hours on the Cross.	28 Visit a church or chapel for 10 minutes of quiet if possible.
29 Palm Sunday Read Matthew 27:11-54, accompanying Jesus through His trial, Passion, and Death.	30 This whole week, practice the Heroic Minute and get up the moment your alarm rings.	31 Say grace slowly and intentionally, with gratitude, before meals today.	1 April Today is the day, Judas plotted to betray Christ. Take time to seek forgiveness or to extend it, if needed.	2 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Thank Him for the Eucharist, the Mass, and the Priesthood.	3 <i>Good Friday</i> Pray the Stations of the Cross. Your presence and love today consoled Him then.	4 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Thank God for His blessings this Lent. Consider which practices you will continue.



In Christ, We Are One

ENCOUNTER CHRIST *In the Sacraments*



Each spring at the Chrism Mass, sacred oils are blessed and carried into every corner of our 13-county diocese. Priests and pastors rely on these oils for baptisms, confirmations, anointing the sick and daily pastoral care, where parishioners, youth and the suffering encounter Christ in life's most defining moments. The sacred Chrism is used by the bishop during the ordination of new priests.

Behind the scenes, diocesan offices coordinate each detail—ensuring hospitals, prisons, parishes, mission churches and campus ministries receive what they need to celebrate the sacraments faithfully. These sacred oils form a quiet thread that binds our diocese together, reminding us that no one serves alone and that countless sacramental moments begin at the cathedral.

Your generosity to the CSA ensures that these sacred oils reach every parish and ministry, allowing the faithful across Northwestern Pennsylvania to encounter Christ in the sacraments. *In Christ, we are one.*

LIVE CHRIST *Through Formation & Discipleship*

To live Christ is to be formed by grace and strengthened through community. Across the diocese, youth encounter Christ through retreats, parish formation and diocesan events that open their hearts to prayer and belonging. Many describe discovering for the first time that faith is more than information—it is a way of life.

This growth is made possible through the shared work of the Faith Formation Office, Catholic Schools Office, Pastoral Services and Communications. Together they equip catechists, families and parish leaders with consistent, mission-focused support that forms disciples of every age. Confirmation especially reveals this unity, as young people are strengthened not only by their parish but by our entire diocesan family.

Your CSA support makes this formation possible, helping every parish and school cultivate disciples who truly live Christ. *In Christ, we are one.*



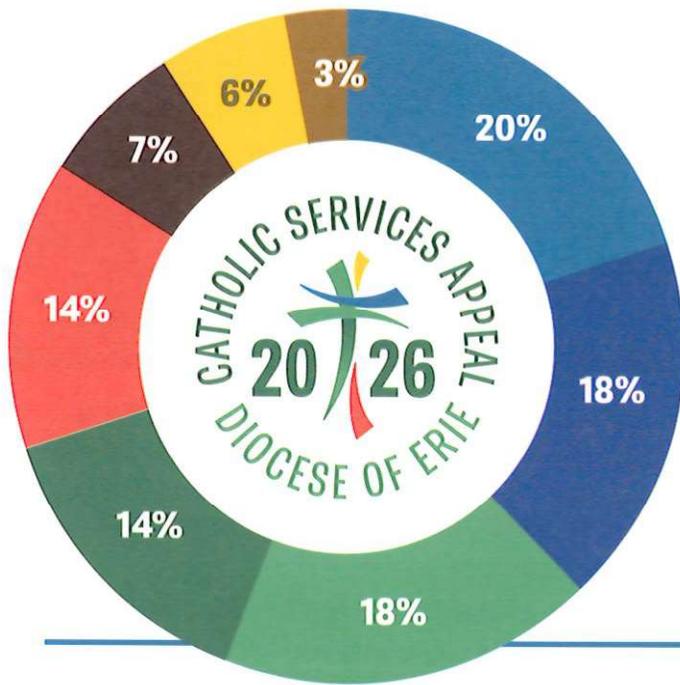
SHARE CHRIST *Through Missions & Mercy*



Sharing Christ means recognizing Him in the poor and responding with compassion. Across our diocese, parishioners, youth and pastors participate in mission efforts that bring hope to families with limited resources. Those who serve often return changed—realizing that those with the least frequently reveal the deepest faith.

Through the Missions Office, parishes receive guidance to sponsor families, nurture global partnerships and prepare volunteers for service. These efforts extend beyond our borders, while Catholic Charities and parish outreach programs ensure that mercy is present here at home. Together, these ministries bring Christ's love to those who need it most.

Your gift to the CSA strengthens these works of mercy, enabling our diocesan family to share Christ with the most vulnerable—locally and abroad. *In Christ, we are one.*



2026 CSA Goal TOTAL: \$4,235,000

20% Catholic Schools & Tuition Assistance

- ◆ Supports Catholic school mission and identity
- ◆ Provides tuition assistance across the diocese
- ◆ Strengthens leadership through training and resources
- ◆ Assists with accreditation, enrollment and operational needs
- ◆ Ensures safe environments for children and youth

18% Catholic Charities

- ◆ Provides compassionate outreach across all 13 counties through a network of ministries — including Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services, Christ the King Manor, Good Samaritan Center, Prince of Peace Center, Saint John XXIII Home, Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Center and Saint Martin Center — offering food assistance, housing support, counseling, emergency aid and long-term stability services
- ◆ Strengthens parish outreach through social services, respect life and social justice support
- ◆ Assists vulnerable families with emergency aid for housing, utilities and basic needs
- ◆ Advances diocesan work in maternal support, anti-trafficking efforts, adoption and family counseling

18% Communications

- ◆ Produces Faith magazine for 40,000 households, diocesan E-News and social media platforms
- ◆ Supports parishes with digital tools for websites, bulletins, graphic and messaging
- ◆ Strategic communications for the bishop, clergy, ministries and Catholic schools
- ◆ Provides media relations, press coverage and evangelization content

6% Seminary & Vocations

- ◆ Supports seminarians with housing, food and formation
- ◆ Provides education, mentorship and spiritual development
- ◆ Strengthens diocesan vocation outreach and discernment programs

14% Faith Formation

- ◆ Trains and mentors 500+ catechists and parish leaders
- ◆ Supports parish religious education and sacramental preparation
- ◆ Provides OCIA, marriage prep, family life and NFP support
- ◆ Leads diocesan retreats, events and youth/young adult initiatives including NCYC

14% Clergy Services

- ◆ Provides retreats, days of recollection, study days and continuing formation for priests and deacons
- ◆ Supports clergy assignments, transitions and pastoral planning
- ◆ Ensures sacramental coverage and pastoral support across the diocese

7% Pastoral Services

- ◆ Coordinates diocesan liturgies and sacramental celebrations like Chrism Mass and Confirmation
- ◆ Supports chaplaincy in hospitals, prisons and nursing homes
- ◆ Provides training for pastoral ministers and bereavement teams

3% Diocesan & International Missions

- ◆ Supports national and global missionary outreach
- ◆ Sustains the Mission of Friendship in Mérida, serving 150+ families yearly
- ◆ Provides mission education and formation for parishes and schools

Learn More »
www.eriecd.org/csa.html

