

ADVANCING THE MISSION

Filled with His grace...
STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE.

Join us for this Lenten opportunity!

DIOCESAN DAY OF
stewardship

ALL ARE WELCOME
TO JOIN US
Saturday, March 2

OTHER NEWS INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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- Upcoming Events
- 40 Days, 40 Ways
- Annual Diocesan Appeal Grant Awards
- Special Collections

DIOCESAN DAY OF STEWARDSHIP

It's not too late to register!

Individuals and parishes are welcome at the Diocesan Day of Stewardship. Keynote speaker Leisa Anslinger is the founder of Catholic Life and Faith, a center for stewardship and servant leadership development. You will not want to miss hearing from this stewardship expert and from our spiritual leader, Vicar General, Very Rev. Johnathan Wallis.

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DIOCESAN DAY OF STEWARDSHIP

Filled with His Grace... Stewardship as a way of life.

Join us for a special Lenten opportunity to hear from vibrant and dynamic speakers who will set the groundwork for you to deepen your relationship with Christ throughout your Lenten journey.

Opportunities for reflection and sharing with other participants will be included. All priests, deacons, ministry leaders, parish and school staff, leadership committees and councils, and all members of the laity are invited to attend.



Featured Speakers will be Very Rev. Jonathan C. Wallis, VG, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, and Leisa Anslinger, author and founder of Catholic Life and Faith, a center for stewardship and servant leadership development,

Registration

Cost per person: \$10

Breakfast and materials included.

[Register Online Here](#)

Location

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
2100 N. Davis Drive
Arlington - 76012



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER FOR LENT

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this new day, and another opportunity to give the traditions of Lent genuine meaning in my life.

Help me to be a good steward of this day; to use it wisely to reflect on my words and deeds, review my habits, and correct my faults. Inspire me to live as Jesus did, to embrace his cross, and live the great paschal mystery in a way that gives hope to others.

Be merciful to me this day. Forgive me my failings and weaknesses. Cultivate in me a humble and repentant heart.

Prepare me for the renewal of my baptismal vows, today and throughout the season of Lent; so that at Easter I may truly rejoice in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Amen

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Three Aging with Grace Workshops
Scheduled for March 13, April 6, 27

The first two Aging with Grace workshops in Fort Worth and Wichita Falls were so popular we are hosting three more in March and April.

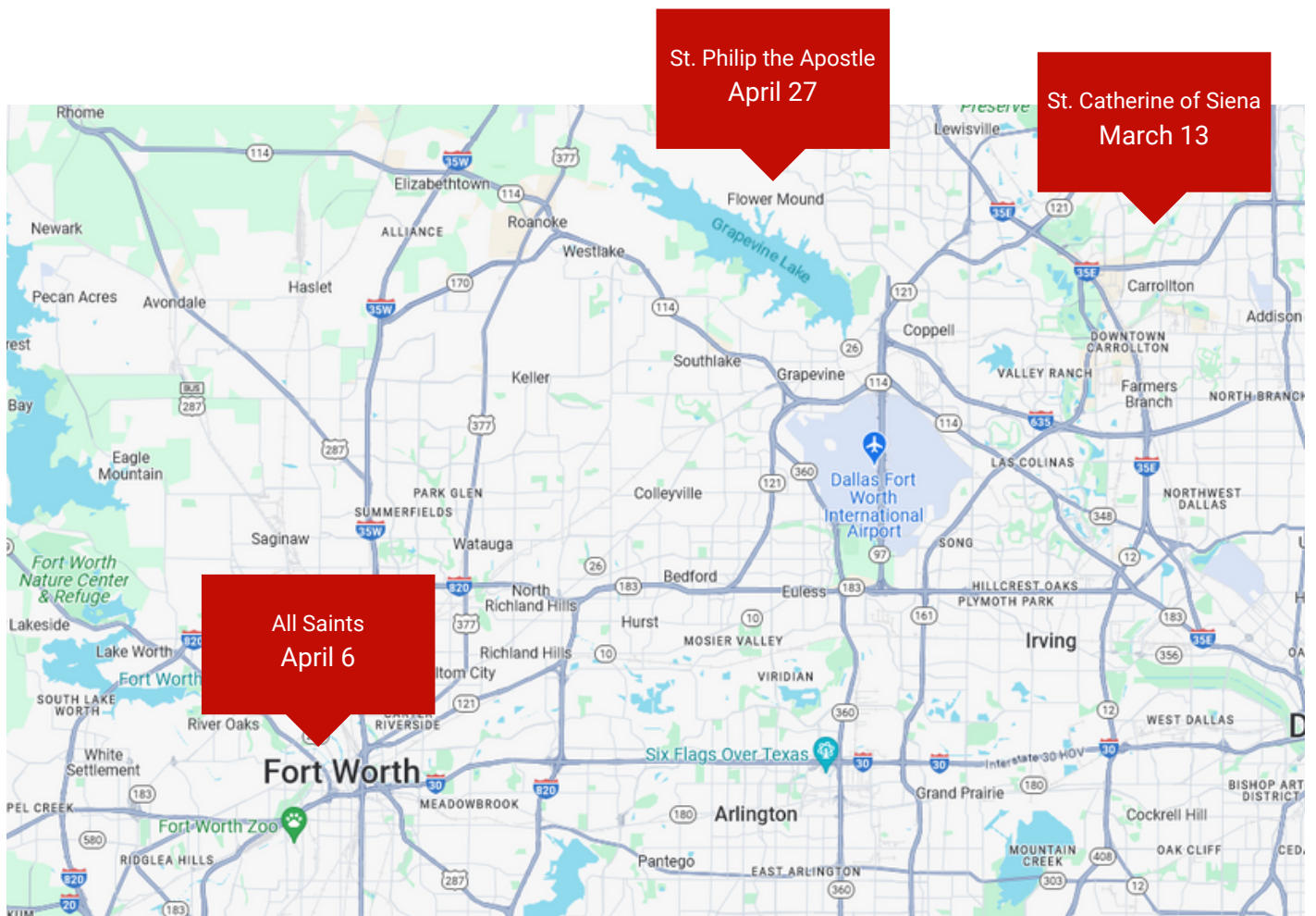
Save these dates:

- Wednesday, March 13 St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Carrollton
- Saturday, April 6 All Saints Catholic Church, Fort Worth (en español)
- Saturday, April 27 St. Philip the Apostle Parish, Flower Mound



The workshop includes presentations by clergy and laypersons, including Catholic attorneys, on topics such as the spirituality of aging, ethical medical decisions, important legal documents, caregiving and discerning how one wants to be remembered after they are gone.

Sponsored by the Advancement Foundation, the Office of Respect Life and the St. Thomas More Society of Fort Worth, the events are open to anyone, but advance registration is required and limited to the first 50 participants. Learn more and register at <https://www.advancementfoundation.org/aging-with-grace>.



FORTY DAYS, FORTY WAYS

To Exercise Good Stewardship of Lent and Easter

Are you looking for ideas to help you with your Lenten experience? Here are 40 ideas to fill the 40 days of Lent and the beginning of the Easter season.

1. Attempt a more intentional prayer life – start a habit in the morning and before bedtime.
2. Attend Mass on Ash Wednesday. Wear your ashes out into the world as a witness to our faith.
3. Make a prayer basket at home - slips of paper or construction paper hearts (invite kids to participate) writing names or intentions that each person around the table picks out before each meal.
4. Attend a weekday Mass.
5. Pray the rosary.
6. Make a point of experiencing the sacrament of reconciliation at the beginning and end of Lent. Consider inviting someone who's been away from the sacrament to join you.
7. Pray for someone with whom you are out of touch.
8. Give up meat on Fridays but don't substitute lobster - make fasting something that is truly sacrificial.
9. Resolve to stop engaging in rumors, gossip, and negative chatter that devalues others.
10. Begin and end each week with an e-mail thanking someone for all that they do.
11. Be sure to say grace at any restaurant you frequent (don't dodge making the Sign of the Cross either).
12. Buy a cup of coffee for someone living on the street but not until you learn their name and exchange in some conversation.
13. Pray before the Blessed Sacrament.
14. Reconcile with someone you've hurt or aren't speaking to.
15. Invite someone who's been away from the church to attend Mass with you.
16. Make a gift to a charitable cause - make it a sacrificial gift.
17. Attend a parish or diocesan event centered on faith issues.
18. Thank a bishop, priest or member of a religious congregation for their public witness - invite them out for coffee or a meal.
19. Learn about the life of a saint, perhaps your parish saint.
20. Visit someone who's alone.
21. Reflect on the most pressing challenges confronting our Church and pray for a Spirit-filled response.
22. Pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis.
23. Attend the Stations of the Cross.
24. Find out if there is a person participating in your parish's RCIA program and send a note of encouragement.
25. Find out how your diocese is involved in refugee resettlement and see how you can help.
26. Attend your parish's Good Friday liturgy, squeeze in and make room in your pew to give others a spot to sit.
27. Make time for family activities that are faith-related such as reading the Bible as a family.
28. Keep a journal during Lent about your spiritual highs/lows.
29. Make a playlist of spiritual music that you enjoy and share it with a friend.
30. Embrace periods of silence in each day.
31. Attend a parish mission or Lenten Retreat; invite others to join you.
32. Offer to be part of the church preparation crew or cleanup crew for the Easter Triduum liturgies.
33. Commit to a parish ministry or try a different ministry than the one you in which you are currently engaged.
34. Cut your media consumption to open time for prayer or scripture reading. Start and end each day free from the influence of the media.
35. Attend a Friday fish fry at a local parish with friends or coworkers. It's not the healthiest meal, but a fun Catholic tradition to join others and help you abstain from eating meat on Fridays during Lent.
36. Find a form of Lenten fast appropriate for your age and state of health.
37. Buy a book of daily spiritual reflections, keep it by your bed and read it upon rising or retiring or both.
38. Dedicate a portion of your time during Lent to serve others such as working at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.
39. Participate in Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) Rice Bowl collection. Visit crsricebowl.org to watch videos of the people and communities you support through your Lenten gifts to CRS Rice Bowl.
40. Invite someone you know who will be alone to Easter Sunday dinner.

This article is used with permission from the International Catholic Stewardship Council.

HAVE YOU MADE PROVISIONS FOR THE CHURCH IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS?

Established in 2005, the purpose of the Legacy Society is to acknowledge and honor those individuals who make a permanent gift to benefit the Diocese of Fort Worth through a planned gift or who create an endowment fund. Specific parishes, schools or ministries may be designated beneficiaries.

The Society also serves to promote planned giving through the positive example of seeing those who have designated the Diocese in their estate plan as an echo of their faith and values.

If you're interested in including the Diocese of Fort Worth in your estate plans, please contact us for more information, or visit <https://bit.ly/CatholicLegacy>

To make a free legal will in about 20 minutes, please visit: www.freewill.com/FortWorthDiocese

For a copy of the Legacy Intent Form: advancementfoundation.planmygift.org/documents/c/catholic-diocese-of-fort-worth/6504intent.pdf



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Advancement Foundation will be closed on **Thursday, March 28, Friday, March 29 and Monday, April 1, in observance of Holy Week and Easter.**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

You will find information about giving opportunities, upcoming events and occasionally some words of wisdom and inspiration.



[@advancementfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/advancementfoundation)



[@AdvFdn](https://twitter.com/AdvFdn)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL GRANTS

Parishes, schools and the poor

Sacred Heart of Jesus is 103-year-old parish community in Breckenridge, a small town with a population of 5,300. According to their grant application, the Hispanic community is growing this parish and bringing young adults and children in need of faith formation, motivation and value-based social activities. The parish received a \$47,000 operating grant from the Annual Diocesan Appeal to help pay the salaries of their pastor, office manager, bookkeeper and faith formation activities. Without this grant, the parish would be unable to make ends meet. Offertory is steadily increasing but the costs of operations continues to increase.

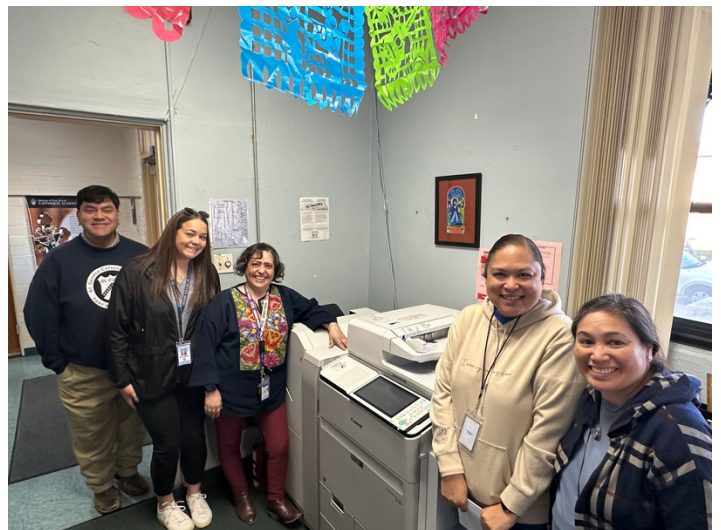
Parish staff and volunteers are essential to a thriving parish life. The parish currently shares their priest with Jesus of Nazareth in Albany, Our Lady of Lourdes in Mineral Wells and St. Francis of Assisi in Graford. All four parishes received operating grants this year.

Operating grants from the Annual Diocesan Appeal are often the only way a rural parish can afford a part-time priest in order to provide sacraments to the Catholic faithful.

Your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal reaches the peripheries of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Please consider giving online at bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal



Photo (left to right): Parishioner Charles Russek, Office Manager Ana Diaz and visiting priest Christopher Columbus, SAC receive operating grants from the Annual Diocesan Appeal for Sacred Heart of Jesus, Breckenridge and Jesus of Nazareth, Albany.



"Thank you!" from St. George Catholic School teachers and staff. The Foundation awarded a grant to provide a new and very much needed copier for St. George School



Poverty initiatives and expectant mothers under the care of Catholic Charities Fort Worth receive grant award. [Read more here.](#)

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

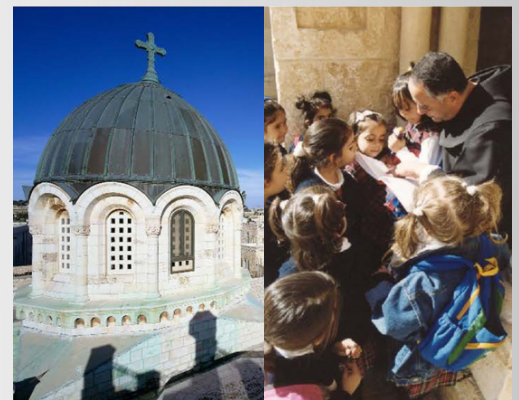
Catholic Relief Services, March 9-10

The Catholic Relief Services Collection is our opportunity to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people around the world and here in the United States, families. It works to provide for their basic humanitarian needs, protect vulnerable children, reunite families, and encourage legislation that reflects the importance of family in society. The reach of this Collection spans the globe, your gift will make a difference.



Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Friday March 29

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection helps Christians in the Holy Land. When you give you stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as a witness of peace, supporting Catholics there in parishes and schools, maintaining Christian shrines and caring for refugees in the Holy Land. Please be generous!



Good Shepherd Sunday - Seminarian Education Fund. April 20-21

Seminarians in the Diocese of Fort Worth receive free tuition thanks to the generosity of North Texas Catholics. Funds raised during the Good Shepherd Sunday Collection remain in the Diocese of Fort Worth. A portion of the collection in parishes pastored by religious order priests is sent to support formation programs of their religious orders. Please support the future priests of the Diocese of Fort Worth.



Visit fwdioc.org/special-collections to make a donation to one or all special collections.



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WHAT WE DO

Support the Catholic Diocese of Fort
Worth

- Identify Needs
- Raise Funds
- Create Awareness
- Provide Opportunity
- Inspire Generosity

*Fear not, I am with you.
Be not dismayed,
I am your God.
I will strengthen you,
and help you,
and uphold you...*
~Isaiah 41:10

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We are here to assist you, please
contact any member of the team for
information.