

CROSSROADS

QUARTERLY NEWS FOR PASTORS, BUSINESS MANAGERS AND FINANCE COUNCILS FROM THE ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION



Diocesan Day of Stewardship, March 2 Filled with His Grace...Stewardship as a way of life.



Join us Saturday, March 2, 2024 at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 2100 N. Davis Drive Arlington, TX 76102 for our Diocesan Day of Stewardship. This year's theme is "Filled with His Grace...Stewardship as a way of life."

All priests, deacons, ministry leaders, parish and school staff, leadership committees and councils, and all members of the laity are invited to attend.

The day begins at 8:30 a.m. with Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Olson and priests of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Following Mass, participants will enjoy breakfast and hear from Bishop Olson and Leisa Anslinger, national Catholic stewardship speaker, how every moment of every day is a moment to return to the Lord that which is his.

To register and for additional information, please visit: <https://bit.ly/DayofStewardship> Questions? Contact Wendy Collins, Director of Stewardship and Parish Relations, at wcollins@adv-fdn.org or 817-533-3178.

Bishop Michael Olson, MA, STD and Leisa Anslinger, author and founder of Catholic Life and Faith, a center for stewardship and servant leadership development, will keynote the Diocesan Day of Stewardship.



MISSION

To educate, motivate and invigorate Stewardship, to garner resources in a fiscally transparent and responsible manner, and to manage and distribute solicited gifts for the immediate and long term needs of the faith community of the Diocese.

UPCOMING DATES

January 27 - February 3
National Catholic Schools Week

January 27/28
Church in Latin America Special Collection

February 14- March 31
CRS Rice Bowl Voluntary Special Collection

February 17-18
Black and Indian Missions Special Collection

February 29
Extra Day to Care

March 2
Diocesan Day of Stewardship

March 9/10
Catholic Relief Services Special Collection

March 15
FY25 Operating Grant Applications Available on Our Website

March 29
Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

Where can I find parish resources for ...?

Parish Capital Campaigns <https://bit.ly/ParishCampaignResources>

Special Collections <https://bit.ly/2024SpecialCollections>

Annual Diocesan Appeal <https://bit.ly/ADAMaterials2024>

Stewardship <https://bit.ly/StewardshipFW>

Endowment Funds <https://bit.ly/FWEndowments>



Charitable Gift Annuities Highest Rates in 16 Years

Are your parishioners aware that they can make a donation that pays them an income for the rest of their life? Payout rates for Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs) increased on January 1, making them an option for donors who want to make a gift that provides stable, regular income – regardless of the economy. The Advancement Foundation will be marketing the new rates and the benefits of CGAs heavily in social media, emails, *North Texas Catholic* ads and through bulletin blurbs and flyers sent to all parishes. Watch the eBulletin, or visit <https://advancementfoundation.planmygift.org/charitable-gift-annuities> for complete details about the benefits, the new rates, a downloadable brochure and a personalized benefit calculator. You or your parishioners may also contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at runderwood@adv-fdn.org or 817-533-5242 with any questions.

February 29 - An Extra Day to Care



2024 is a leap year and brings us a gift—an extra day. It's a chance to reflect on our blessings and plan

how we'll extend our legacy of faith beyond our lifetimes. In partnership with FreeWill, the Advancement Foundation will promote February 29 as an opportunity for faithful Catholics to use online tools to create a will or trust at no cost to support the future of our parishes, schools and ministries, and provide for their families. Watch the eBulletin for social media, website and bulletin content to use in support of An Extra Day to Care. (If you have not yet visited the FreeWill website, please check it out at <https://www.freewill.com/FortWorthDiocese>.)

Annual Tax Statements to be Mailed By January 31

Thanks to the large volume of year-end donations from your parishioners to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, the St. John Paul II Shepherd's Guild (Seminarist Education), parish capital campaigns, endowment funds and diocesan ministries, our gift processing team continues to record contributions made by December 31. Our goal is to complete all gift entry for 2023 by January 19 in order to release tax statement data to the printer/mail house. If any of your parishioners ask when they will receive statements of their donations to the Advancement Foundation or the Diocese of Fort Worth, please let them know that these will be mailed no later than January 31.



Questions About Proper Receipting of Donations?

The IRS has strict and ever-changing regulations regarding the ways nonprofit organizations provide tax receipts for donations. This includes very specific language that must be included. If you are unsure how to receipt gifts from donor advised funds, a qualified charitable distribution from a retirement account, a donation from a business owned by a parishioner, a noncash asset such as personal property or real estate, or donations of goods or in-kind services, please contact us before you provide any written acknowledgement to your donor. We are happy to assist.

Looking Ahead

April 10

Planned Giving Webinar for Parishes

April 15

Parish Grant Applications Due

April 15

Light of Christ Award Nominations Due