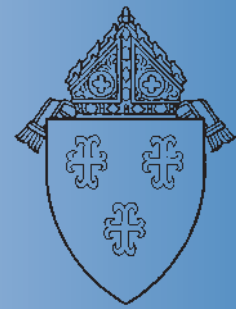


Legacy



A Newsletter From the Office of Stewardship & Development

Diocese of Providence

Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island • Catholic Charity Fund Appeal • Anchor of Hope Scholarship Fund • Stewardship

Spring 2006

May 2006

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As part of his first encyclical as our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI has written a very important and beautiful reflection called “Deus Caritas Est,” or “God is Love” (please see www.vatican.va). This encyclical focuses on God’s love for us and our responsibility as a Christian community to share that love with one another. The Pope writes, “Love of neighbor, grounded in love of God, is first and foremost a responsibility of each individual member of the faithful, but is also a responsibility of the entire Church at every level.”

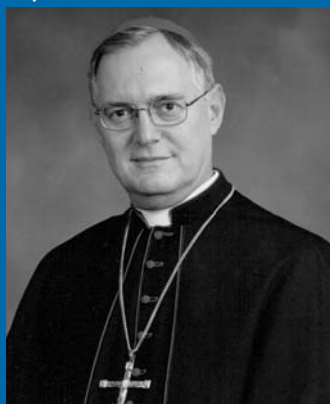
In calling this encyclical to your attention, it is my hope that you will see that our Church takes its responsibility for charity very seriously and effectively. In so many ways we reach out to people who are in need—spiritually, socially and educationally—to be certain that all who turn to us are touched by God’s love. Without a doubt, in the brief time I have been among you, I have witnessed wonderful acts of charity and faith-filled support for the ministry of the Church.

I am very grateful for all you have done to support the many works of our Church, locally at your parishes, within our diocese and at the national and international levels as well. As we continue to work together as a community of love and concern, I hope you take heart in the words of our Holy Father: “I wish to offer a special word of gratitude and appreciation for all those who undertake these activities in any way.”

Assuring you of my daily prayers of gratitude for your generous support and charitable concern, I am

Sincerely yours,

Thomas J. Tobin
Bishop of Providence



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to address you today through this spring issue of our *Legacy* newsletter from the Office of Stewardship & Development at the Diocese of Providence. This biannual newsletter is intended to keep you informed of the many opportunities to share in the faithful stewardship of the Diocese of Providence and to assist in supporting the parishes, schools and ministries that serve the people of Rhode Island.



Anthony T. Gwiazdowski, Director
Office of Stewardship & Development

In this issue you will find information about the many ministerial agencies funded by the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal, as well as the prevailing sentiments of fellow Catholics in Rhode Island around the work done by the Diocese.

Two issues of particular concern for our Diocese today are the need to grow our Seminarians’ Education Fund and to increase support for the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal. As a Diocese, we must support our seminarians. The cost of seminary education continues to rise, and our budget must keep pace with these increases. We need immediate contributions to the Seminarians’ Education Fund, as well as gifts and bequests designated to an endowed fund to help meet future needs in this area. The Catholic Charity Fund Appeal monies are the lifeblood of our Diocese and help to meet the human, social and educational needs right here in Rhode Island. These spiritual, educational and temporal needs are beginning to exceed Diocesan resources. Please give generously this year to help us meet this growing challenge. You can find out more at www.providencediocese.org.

We are grateful for your support and stewardship.

Summary Report on Bishop's Partnership In Charity Donor Visits

Dec. 2, 2004, to Dec. 14, 2005

Article by Derek M. Wesley, Assistant Director, Special Gifts, Stewardship & Development Office

The Stewardship & Development Office of the Diocese of Providence has undertaken a unique endeavor to meet each year with a group of donors who give to the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal. These visits are designed to thank the donors on behalf of Bishop Tobin, to provide accountability for the allocation of funds from the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal, to provide detailed information regarding the purpose and mission of each agency under the auspices of the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal, and, most important, to obtain donors' insights and opinions on the Diocese of Providence, the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal and where their future interests for our various program reside.

Eighty-three visits with 113 individuals were conducted between December 2004 and December 2005. Chart A illustrates the age breakdown of individuals visited.

When asked to identify which CCFA agencies they believe are the most important in the work that they do, the donors identified several areas that they feel to be extremely important. Chart B identifies the top seven areas of interest. An interpretation and breakdown of each area follows (*all categories cited in at least 10 percent of visits are listed):

Fifty-three percent of those visited indicated that social ministry efforts are, and should remain, the crux of the Catholic

Charity Fund Appeal. Specific agencies such as Community Services and Advocacy (which includes Dire Emergency Fund and AIDS Ministry) were highlighted by donors during several of the visits for the vast amount of compassionate work they achieve.

"I truly feel concerned for those in our state who are going to struggle to pay their heating bill this winter. Utility rates have been increasing steadily for some time now, but it seems out of control as of late. It is times such as these that the true importance of the Charity Appeal comes to light."

Fifty percent of the donors during this year's visits identified Catholic education as being extremely important. The aspect of the Catholic influence was cited as the most important part of the educational experience.

"We are very thankful that there are so many good Catholic schools in Rhode Island. Both of us attended Catholic school and you cannot put a price on the positive experiences we had."

Forty-two percent of the donors believe that youth ministry is an area that deserves significant attention. While there are various means of keeping the young people in Rhode Island interested and involved in their faith (e.g., CYO programs, campus ministry), these donors feel that the diocese needs to spend as much time and effort as possible in reaching out to our young people if viability of the Catholic Church is to continue.

Chart A

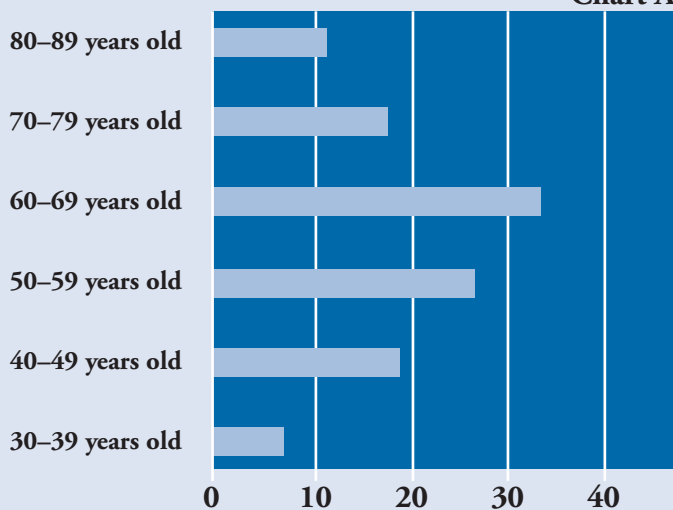
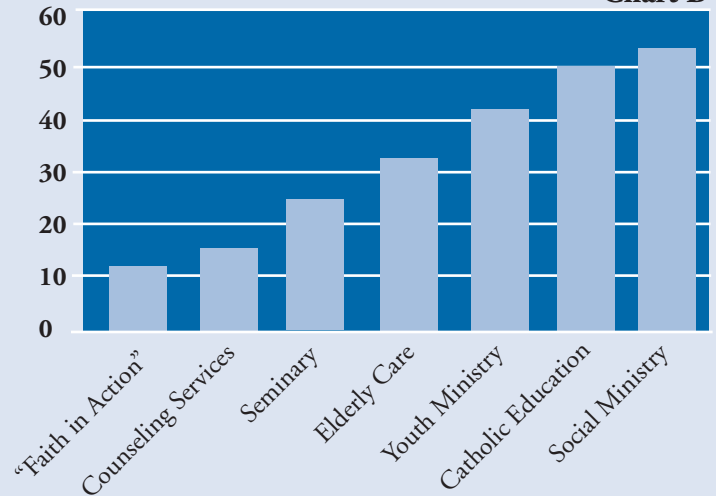


Chart B



“There is no way to possibly measure how important it is to keep our youth active within the Church. The younger generation has so many potential paths, and parents must make a concerted effort to keep their children involved in their faith.”

Thirty-four percent of the respondents felt that agencies that assist with elderly care are extremely important. Similar to last year’s findings, St. Antoine Residence in North Smithfield received numerous accolades for its dedication and administration of Catholic, compassionate care. Many of those visited in the Newport area also had high praise for St. Clare Home, though several people believe that it is too small and that demand greatly outweighs accommodation.

“The Bible teaches us to care for others, especially when they are no longer able to do so themselves. Helping the elderly is something I feel that is of the utmost importance, even though I am relatively young.”

Twenty-five percent of the donors cited support for the seminary and priests’ vocations as one of the most pressing issues facing the Diocese of Providence and the Catholic Church as a whole. Many of those visited could recall a time when their parish had several priests. Now, they observe that there are some parishes in Rhode Island that have only one priest, who often has other duties at other parishes as well. The overwhelming sentiment of people who fully support the seminary fund reflects their belief that this is potentially a “make or break issue” in regard to the future viability of the Catholic Church.

“If this issue is not addressed, it could have a serious impact on the Catholic Church. I fully support any and all programs that support seminary education.”

“The increasing number of priest retirements in recent years coupled with fewer vocations is a real concern. The diocese needs to get the message across to our young men that the priesthood is a viable option for them.”

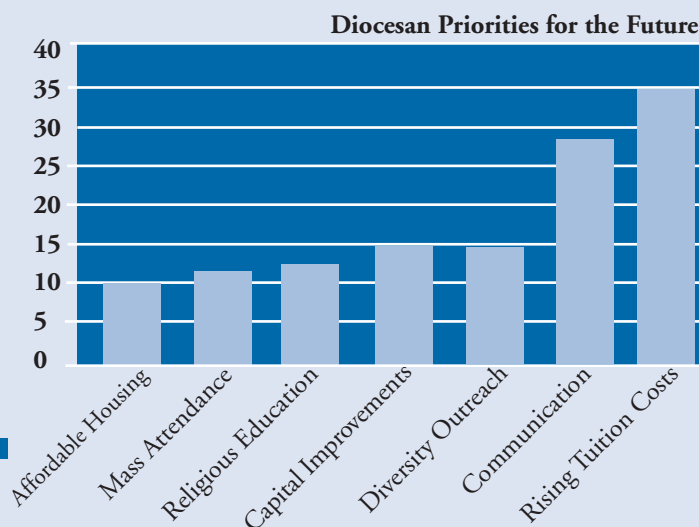
During this year’s visits, 15 percent of the donors identified counseling as being a very important area. Many cited the increased complexities and pressures often associated with family life, job stress and emotional issues as taking an incredibly heavy toll on certain individuals. They believe that the diocese needs to identify the fact that many people are suffering in ways other than physical.

“We need to be cognizant of people who are deeply hurting on the inside. Many stories of personal disaster and hardship often begin with the loss of a spouse, parent, child, etc. If these feelings are pushed aside and not dealt with, an individual could begin the process of entering into a state of hopelessness and despair.”

Eleven percent of the donors stressed their desire to see more evidence of “faith in action” programs sponsored by the diocese. While they are pleased with and support the agencies under the auspices of the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal, many donors in this group would like to see more opportunity for people to put their faith and talents to work in a very active way. They mentioned ideas such as helping with building projects for the underprivileged, as well as helping distribute meals to the needy. While many recognized that several parishes and chapters of the St. Vincent de Paul Society help with these kind of initiatives, more awareness of such programs should be promoted at the diocesan level.

“To give of your time selflessly is the ultimate form of stewardship. The Diocese should promote various opportunities for people to get involved.”

The top three areas for future priority/improvement were similar between 2004 and 2005, with rising tuition costs and communication being the top two areas. In 2005, the third issue equally mentioned was increasing diversity and capital improvements, whereas addressing the decrease in Mass attendance ranked number three in 2004. It is important to note that communication, though still an issue, went from being mentioned in 36 percent of visits in 2004 to 29 percent in 2005. Rising tuition costs remained virtually unchanged between 2004 and 2005, registering in 36 percent of visits in 2004 and 35 percent of the time in 2005.



Catholic Charity Fund Appeal Agencies

2005 Subsidy • \$7,130,066 • Distributions

<i>Apostolate for the Handicapped</i>		<i>Hispanic and Haitian</i>	\$255,505
Special Religious Education (SPRED)	\$65,000	<i>Clergy Assignments—Grant</i>	
Diocesan Apostolate Handicapped	\$48,382		
Diocesan Apostolate—Deaf	\$40,043	<i>Office of Clergy/Priests Formation</i>	
		Ongoing Formation of Priests	\$18,345
<i>Secretariat Office of Catholic Education</i>	\$319,855		
		<i>Office of Permanent Diaconate</i>	\$64,518
<i>Office of Religious Education</i>	\$205,839		
		<i>Major Seminary Grant</i>	
<i>Catholic School Office</i>	\$599,577	Major Seminarian Education	\$100,000
		Program—Grant	
<i>Diocesan Schools</i>	\$599,419		
		<i>Community Services and Advocacy</i>	\$552,742
<i>Hispanic Ministry</i>	\$115,686		
		<i>Saint Francis House</i>	\$38,807
<i>Hispanic Parish Support</i>	\$77,200		
		<i>Saint Antoine Residence—Grant</i>	\$75,000
<i>Campus Ministry</i>	\$317,825		
		<i>Human Development Grants</i>	\$44,000
<i>Ministry to Black Catholics</i>	\$18,000		
		<i>Saint Martin de Porres Center</i>	\$211,226
<i>Office of Youth Ministry</i>	\$127,000		
		<i>Office for Secretary for Social Ministries</i>	\$277,525
<i>Youth Centers (e.g., Fr. Barry Youth Center, Saint Domenic Savio Youth Center, Father Marot CYO Center, Rejoice in Hope Youth Center, Emmaus Youth Center)</i>			
Father Barry Youth Center	\$63,000	<i>Project Hope / Proyecto Esperanza</i>	\$148,748
Father Marot CYO Center	\$28,000		
Rejoice in Hope Youth Center	\$120,000	<i>Life and Family Ministry—</i>	\$285,586
Emmaus Youth Center	\$64,500	Assists with issues of family, counseling, divorce, separation.	
<i>Mother of Hope Day Camp</i>	\$53,000	<i>Saint Clare Home—Grant</i>	\$50,000
<i>St. John Bosco Scout Chapel</i>	\$2,500	<i>Family Child Care Assistance Program</i>	\$348,815
<i>Youth Ministry—Parish Outreach</i>	\$58,500	<i>CCFA Administration</i>	\$709,559
<i>Our Lady of Peace Retreat House</i>	\$155,000	<i>Grants and Property Management</i>	
		Diocesan Grants	\$413,900
<i>Office of Health Care Ministries</i>	\$229,359	Parish Grants	\$67,460
		Property Management and Capital	\$160,645
		Total	\$7,130,066

Making a Difference Tomorrow, Today

Creating an endowment fund is one of the finest and most far-reaching things anyone can do for his or her church. Long after today's parishioners, pastor or bishop is gone, the endowments will continue to provide annual payments and bear witness to the foresight and Christian stewardship of others. It is a way to make a significant difference tomorrow by doing something today.

Endowment funds are kept separate from the operational funds of the Diocese of Providence and invested for long-term stability and growth through the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island. Only the interest, or a portion of the interest, is used each year to support the purposes of the endowment.

Endowments can be created to provide annual contributions to the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal to support ministerial agencies of the Diocese, Catholic education, the seminary or other Catholic charitable causes.

You can create an endowment with a minimum of \$10,000, given in one lump sum or over a period of years. You can also establish an endowment with a will bequest or the remainder of a life income gift like a charitable trust or gift annuity. In any case, you can do something now to get the ball rolling.

An endowment can bear your name as the donor who established it, or the name of someone else you wish to honor. It could be a family member, such as a parent, or a pastor, or friend who influenced your life.

An endowment to continue your annual contribution of the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal well beyond your lifetime and into

perpetuity is important to the financial integrity of the Diocese of Providence and your parish. The funds give us a baseline of support and help us to look into the future with greater confidence. They also inspire others to become involved in supporting our worthy mission.

More than 200 endowment funds are held at the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island and represent a total endowment of more than \$51 million. Founded in 1983, the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island is a nonprofit corporation established to provide a means for individuals and organizations to ensure long-term financial stability for charitable, religious and educational institutions of the Diocese of Providence.

The endowment funds of the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island are monitored and managed with counsel from professional investment advisors on the Diocesan Investment Advisory Committee. Asset allocations are extremely diverse and are professionally managed by Cambridge Associates L.L.C., who follow the guidelines of the Catholic Investment Trust. The Foundation's assets are invested in socially and morally responsible funds that are not in conflict with the tenets of Roman Catholic doctrine.

To learn more about the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island's Endowment Program, please contact Sandra Sebring at (401) 277-2121. You can also obtain information about giving and the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island at our Web site: www.providencediocese.org.



Students at St. Paul's School in Cranston, Rhode Island



Providing Scholarships for Tomorrow's Students

The Anchor of Hope Scholarship Fund was established in 2001 to make a difference in the lives of our children, our families and our community. Each year significant need-based scholarships are awarded to more than 80 elementary students and more than 20 secondary students. Anchor of Hope Scholarships provide students who may not otherwise be able to afford a Catholic education the opportunity to attend our schools.

Awards are made possible by the generous donations of corporations, foundations, individuals and devoted volunteers who are committed to the education of our children. Thanks to our donors, \$992,500 in scholarships have been awarded over six years. Contributions are welcomed and encouraged. All contributions are tax deductible.

"I am very thankful for the opportunities given to me because of this scholarship. I am finding success in my academic, social

and extracurricular activities. Thank you once again for this wonderful gift. Without it, my life would not be what it is," says one scholarship recipient.

The 2006 Anchor of Hope Scholarship Campaign is chaired by Glenn and Mary Jane Creamer and vice chaired by Frank and Anne McMahon. The Sixth Annual Anchor of Hope Scholarship Fund Award Dinner and Auction will take place on Friday, Sept. 22, at the Westin Hotel from 6 to 9:30 p.m.

Year	Award	Students Accepted
2000	\$34,500	19
2001	\$154,500	79
2002	\$157,500	80
2003	\$186,000	103
2004	\$230,000	107
2005	\$230,000	107

For more information about The Anchor of Hope Scholarship Fund, how to sponsor a child, and the Award Dinner, please contact:

Jennifer Perrault, Assistant Director, Catholic Education
 Office of Stewardship & Development
 Diocese of Providence
 One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903
 E-mail: Jperrault@dioceseofprovidence.org
 Phone: (401) 277-2121

Through The Anchor of Hope Scholarship Fund, the Diocese of Providence provides significant need-based financial assistance to students attending Catholic schools. All awards are made regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or religious affiliation.

The Saint Katharine Drexel Legacy Society

honors individuals who have shared their gifts or made gift intentions known to the Catholic Foundation of Rhode Island. Gifts of the past have helped perpetuate our ministry and service to those in need. Your gift is a reflection of your faith and values and brings the presence of Jesus Christ and the light of the Gospel into all areas of human life. Stewardship of your estate assets is diverse with gifts through wills, trusts, retirement plans, life insurance, life income or outright gifts, and others. Help us secure our financial future with your thoughtful gift. Please let us know so we may include you in our special circle of friends in the Saint Katharine Drexel Legacy Society.



Sandra Sebring, Associate Director

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Back row (from left): Derek Wesley, Assistant Director, Special Gifts, and Jennifer Perrault, Assistant Director, Catholic Education
 Front row (from left): Sandra Sebring, Associate Director; Anthony Gwiazdowski, Director; and Robert Spirito, Assistant Director, Parish Services