

TEACH  
SERVE  
SANCTIFY

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**IMPACT REPORT**

2020

YEAR IN REVIEW  
COVID-19 RESPONSE

Photo credit: Tony Correa



*the* **CARDINAL'S**  
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

*Sharing God's Gifts*





# IMPACT REPORT 2020

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OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL  
1011 FIRST AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10022

June 2021  
Year of St. Joseph

Dear Friend in the Lord:

When we were making preparations for the 2020 *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*, we had no way of knowing what the coming months had in store for us. As the new year began, no one would have imagined that by March, we would be facing a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented proportions, and that our beloved New York City and its surrounding areas would become the epicenter of a global pandemic. I need not go into the harrowing details because together we lived through those early days of fear, lockdowns, and an unimaginable loss of life; but, no matter how dark some days seemed, we remained united in our unwavering faith in God, knowing that He would bring light out of the darkness, hope from despair, life from death.

What we did know was that our parishes are, and always have been, the heart of the communities they serve. We knew support of our parishes, especially in financially vulnerable parts of this archdiocese, improved the lives of parishioners and their neighbors. We knew that Catholic Charities, working through our parishes, provided food pantries, homeless services, assistance for immigrant families, and ministries serving the elderly and the sick. We understood that keeping it all going, even in the best of times, required calling upon the generosity of our friends. Thank goodness you always come through! Little did any of us know then that your gifts would enable us to respond to the worst public health crisis in U.S. history with immediacy and love. We found ourselves on the frontlines, caring for the many New Yorkers who were left without jobs, money for food and rent, much less tuition for school.

*Teach, Serve, Sanctify* was the theme we chose for 2020 and we got to work! Teaching in our schools, which continued even as they pivoted to remote learning; serving food to the hungry – over a million meals through Catholic Charities and parish food pantries; providing medical and financial assistance to those in need. All this was done through the Sanctifying Grace of our Heavenly Father which empowers us to rise to the call of our mission every day. In the next few pages, we will take a look at the year in review, highlighting just some of the work that was made possible through your generosity in 2020.

Today there is reason for hope; but we're not on the other side of this pandemic just yet. We still need your help. And I thank you for all that you do to make the life-giving work of the *Appeal* a success.

Faithfully in Christ,

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Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan  
Archbishop of New York

# MISSION AND LEADERSHIP

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**T**he *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* exists to ensure that all who come to us for assistance are never turned away. This is our mission: to make Christ present in the world through service and outreach to those in need. This work is achieved through the pastoral work in the 288 parishes of the Archdiocese of New York, the competitive education and formation of students in our 128 parish-based, Catholic schools and the charitable works that have become the cornerstone of the *Appeal*. Our donors and, in particular, the Leadership Committee are helping us bring hope and care to those who are most in need every day.

The work of the *Appeal*, as we have discovered over the course of these four decades, adapts to the evolving needs of communities across the ten counties that comprise the Archdiocese of New York. The needs of each region vary considerably according to geography and population. In 2020, however, the pandemic amplified needs across the board. No community was untouched by COVID-19. With the support of the Leadership Committee, the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* was able



to mobilize the necessary resources to support these communities.

The Leadership Committee consists of people, like you, who wish to make a difference; so that when crisis strikes an individual, a family, or a city, the parishes are there to offer hope. Committee members collaborate closely with the Director of the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* to help the archdiocese achieve its mission of providing financial and ministerial support to financially vulnerable parishes, individuals, and families throughout the archdiocese.



**For more information on how to join  
the Leadership Committee, please contact:**

Juliette Picciano  
Director, *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*  
[juliette.picciano@archny.org](mailto:juliette.picciano@archny.org)

## LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Joseph Fonti, *Chair*  
St. Augustine, Westchester County

Cindy Caruso Aquila  
St. Ignatius Loyola, Manhattan

Kathryn Bisaro  
St. Stephen, Orange County

Nicholas Denefrio  
St. Ignatius Loyola, Manhattan

Thomas Doyle  
St. Monica–St. Elizabeth–St. Stephen,  
Manhattan

Karen Furey  
St. Patrick's Cathedral,  
Manhattan

Brenda Green  
St. Margaret of Cortona–St. Gabriel,  
Bronx

Mark Kiely  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
and St. Thomas More, Manhattan

Maura McGrath  
Blessed Sacrament, Manhattan

Christopher O'Brien  
St. Monica–St. Elizabeth–St. Stephen,  
Manhattan

Joseph Riggio  
St. Patrick's Cathedral, Manhattan

Bradley Robins  
St. Ignatius Loyola, Manhattan

Henry Schwalbenberg  
Holy Rosary-Nativity of Blessed Lady,  
Bronx

Dina Wolleben  
St. Catharine, Rockland County

# SUPPORT IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC

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Photo credit: Tony Correa

When the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* prepared fundraising goals for 2020 at the start of the year, five distinct areas of support essential to the Life of the Church in New York were selected: *Assistance for Needy Parishes, Pastoral, Charitable and Administrative Support, Formation of New Parish Priests, Funding for Parish Schools, and the Home for Retired Priests*. Little did we know that just three months later these areas would become main arteries of support in a time of crisis in the city and surrounding counties. Our priests, teachers, administrators

and religious would become front-line workers responding to the needs of the community at the epicenter of a global pandemic. The state was on lockdown, people lost jobs, businesses, and most importantly, loved ones died at an unprecedented rate. People turned to their pastors for material support, moral guidance, and the sacraments, with many priests personally delivering groceries, handing out gift cards, stocking pantries, and connecting their parishioners to medical resources and counseling services. The Church in the Archdiocese of New York was very much on the frontlines.

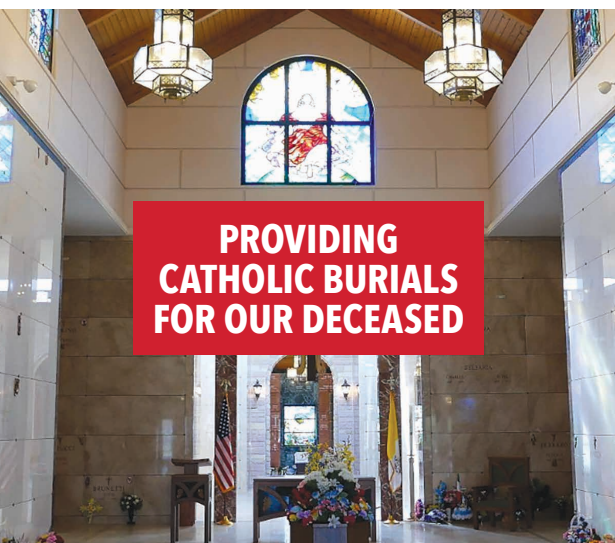




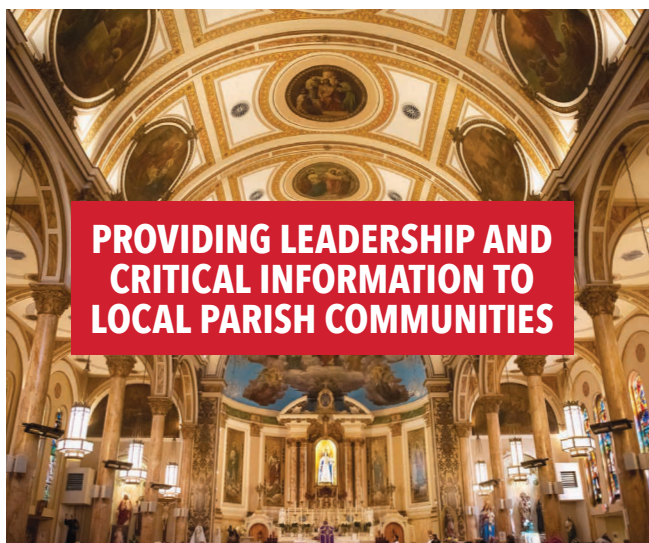
**FEEDING THE HUNGRY**



**MINISTERING TO THE  
SICK AND ELDERLY**



**PROVIDING  
CATHOLIC BURIALS  
FOR OUR DECEASED**



**PROVIDING LEADERSHIP AND  
CRITICAL INFORMATION TO  
LOCAL PARISH COMMUNITIES**



**COLLABORATING WITH AGENCIES THROUGHOUT  
THE CITY TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES AND GET  
THEM TO PEOPLE IN NEED**



# TEACH



# SERVE



# SANCTIFY





- **1,500 smartboards for instruction**
  - **Over 10,000 virtual reality simulations for social / emotional health trainings for teachers, principals and staff**
  - **90,000 tele-health sessions**
- 

- **Cash assistance to 9,000 families**
  - **188 pop-up pantries in parishes and local communities**
  - **500,000 homebound meals**
- 

- **288 parishes in 10 counties calling thousands of parishioners for ministry and wellness checks**
- **8.4 million meals to New Yorkers in need – Catholic and non-Catholic alike**
- **85,000 units of Personal Protective Equipment**

# TEACH

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## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK**

**T**he Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of New York navigated the challenges of the pandemic with dedication to the education and well-being of its students and compassion for the financial setbacks faced by many families at the peak of the pandemic in April of 2020. Their readiness to equip teachers, principals, and staff with the professional development training required by the changing instructional landscape resulted in a seamless transition to remote and hybrid learning last year. They spent the summer with a taskforce of health and safety experts ensuring that in September of 2020, our schools could safely welcome students back to classrooms. By the fall of 2020 the Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of New York were heralded as a model for schools around the country seeking to transition from remote to in-person learning.

After responding to the initial phase of the lockdown and the demands of remote learning with a strategic plan that helped children and teachers adapt to the new learning environ-



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**Our Catholic schools  
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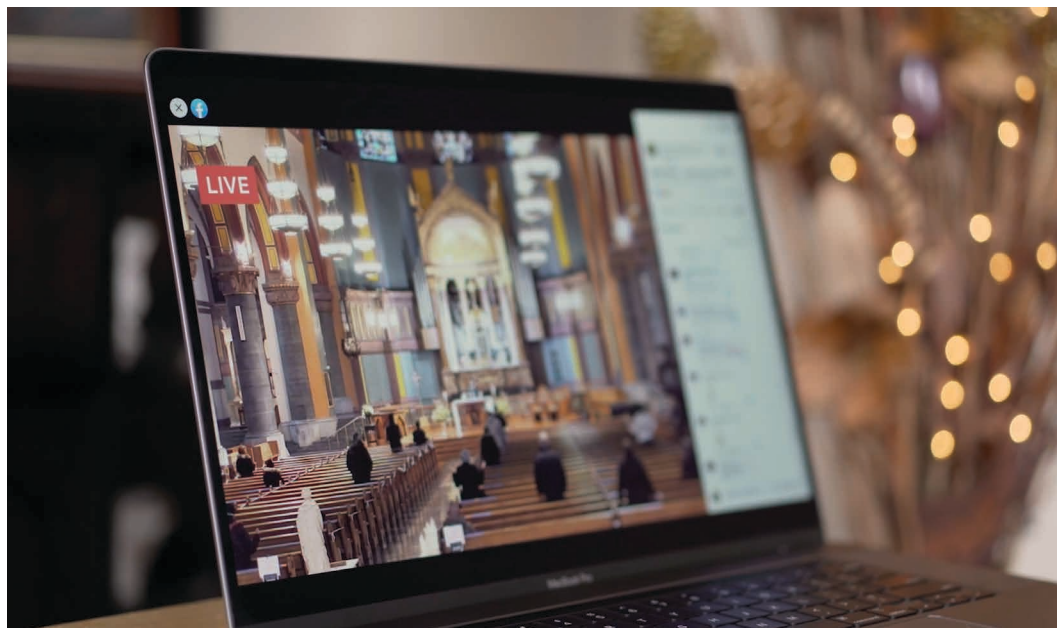
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ment, providing training, equipment, and tuition assistance as needed, leadership set their sights on finding ways to transition to in-person, classroom instruction safely and effectively. Employing a hybrid approach that preserved the longstanding commitment to a competitive education in a values-based environment, our Catholic schools have been the standard-bearers for safety, efficiency, and quality education during the pandemic. Donors and institutional partners throughout the archdiocese helped raise millions in tuition assistance to keep the 200-year tradition of Catholic education in the archdiocese of New York alive and thriving.

## FORMATION OF NEW PRIESTS AND DEACONS

If this past year taught us anything, it is the importance of having well-formed, exceptionally trained leaders in our local churches poised to respond to the needs of parishioners and, in 2020, the extended community. Thanks to your support of the *Appeal*, St. Joseph's Seminary is doing just that. Seminarians are formed and trained in the areas of pastoral care and theology, as well as digital media, administration, and interpersonal communication, which they will need to lead and accompany future generations of Catholics through any crisis, big or small.



# SERVE

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## PASTORAL, CHARITABLE, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The coordinated COVID response efforts that took place throughout New York City and the ten counties of the archdiocese would not have been possible without the financial support of the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*. The *Appeal* made it possible to continue operations at all levels of the archdiocese, its agencies, and our parishes when the coronavirus pandemic overtook New

York City and its surrounding areas. COVID-19 response required a confluence of resources, relationships, and the infrastructure necessary to reach into the heart of communities affected by the pandemic, to connect with people in need and provide assistance. For over two centuries, this has been the work of the Church in New York and the systems were in place to effectively minister to a city and state in crisis.

Pastors and clergy were on the frontlines, providing meals, assistance with bills, ministering to the elderly, the







sick, the homebound, providing information for medical services like **ArchCare**, partnering with community leaders and **Catholic Charities** to feed the hungry. 188 pop-up food pantries and \$5 million in cash assistance programs helped families in financial distress keep food on the table and the lights on in 2020. Pastors also buried an unprecedented number of people. They made wellness calls. They dropped off groceries and gift cards. They administered the Sacraments. They made sure that no one who approached the parish for help left unaided.

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**The Office of Black Ministry** and pastors in predominantly Black parishes throughout the archdiocese worked tirelessly to minister to their communities who were disproportionately affected by the pandemic and devastated by the loss of life. Thanks to the generosity of our benefactors, meals, community medical services, and gift cards were made available at the peak of the crisis when the need was most

dire. Young people in the parishes were instrumental in reviving parish life, setting up technology necessary for livestreaming Masses and ministry events. Church leaders also worked ecumenically and with civic leaders to ensure services were made available to the most vulnerable.

**The Office of Hispanic Ministry** in collaboration with **Catholic Charities**, **Archcare**, and **SOMOS** arranged pop-



up clinics to offer COVID-19 testing in financially vulnerable communities, as well as providing medical information to Spanish-speaking populations. They also arranged mobile clinics for the more remote communities in the Upper Counties. Extensive food distribution efforts through Catholic Charities in the South Bronx made sure that over one million meals were distributed by November 2020.

**Technology** played a pivotal role in the life of the Church last year with many parishes and priests live-streaming Masses, initiating prayer groups, and broadcasting daily devotionals online when the churches closed. Homebound Catholics in New York and around the country were able to watch Easter Mass with Cardinal Dolan live

from St. Patrick's Cathedral in April of 2020. More than two million viewers tuned in to watch the Mass live on PIX 11. Palm Sunday and Easter Masses were live-streamed and broadcast live on local television in New York and in syndication around the country.

**The Office of Young Adult Outreach** live-streamed a digital series called *Catholic NYC Presents* twice a week during the pandemic, featuring live interviews and talks by notable Catholic speakers and musicians. If you visit their YouTube Channel by the same name, you'll find talks with Cardinal Dolan, Dr. Edward Sri, Jim and Jeannie Gaffigan, Jason Evert and many more. They have since resumed their homeless outreach program, Rosary walks through Central Park, and Young Adult Masses.

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**Thanks to the generosity of donors and the *Appeal*, meals, community medical services, and gift cards were made available at the peak of the crisis when the need was most dire.**

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# SANCTIFY

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The *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* designates funds for needy parishes every year to ensure that, even in the best of times, financially vulnerable communities of faith have the resources to weather the storms that inevitably arise in day-to-day life. Last year, due to the temporary closure of parishes, as part of the state-wide lockdown, and the significant reduction of in-person Mass attendance in churches, most of our 288 parishes incurred significant financial losses. Our neediest parishes were also situated in the areas hardest hit by the coronavirus pandemic with high levels of unemployment and soaring infection rates. Thanks to your generous gifts to the *Appeal*, we were able to support not only those parishes, but the many others who turned to us for assistance during the 2020 lockdown.

Thirteen parishes in the Bronx, four parishes in Manhattan, one on Staten Island, three parishes in Westchester, two in Ulster County, two in Orange County, and three parishes in Sullivan County received direct assistance from the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* as planned. What was not expected was the generosity that parishioners



in many of these vulnerable parishes extended toward their parishes, in return, throughout the course of 2020. Witnessing their church buildings closed and pastors without a weekly collection, parishioners gave generously from their limited resources. Fr. Richard Marrano, Pastor of St. John Chrysostom in the Bronx explains, “Our parishioners give their hearts and souls to this church. We are, in many ways, stronger than we were before the pandemic. They love this place. They love their parish. They want to be fed by

the Lord.” Fr. Marrano, like other pastors in the archdiocese, sought creative ways to bring the sacramental life of the parish to parishioners. Fr. Marrano and his fellow priests carried the Blessed Sacrament into the neighborhood, on the streets, and from their windows, parishioners, who hadn’t been to Mass in weeks, praised the God whom they knew to be in their midst. There are countless stories like these – of priests making the sacramental life of the parish present to the community when the doors of our churches were forced to temporarily close.

## HOME FOR RETIRED PRIESTS

The Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence is situated on the banks of the Hudson River in the Riverdale section of the Bronx. Here, the men who spent their lives in service of the Lord and the archdiocese, find respite, fellowship, and the medical attention they require when sick. All of the men residing at the clergy residence are of advanced age and some suffer from underlying conditions, making them among the most vulnerable population during the pandemic. Your gift to the *Appeal* enables us to continue to care for our elderly priests, providing them with the safety and the attention they deserve after a life of service to the Church.

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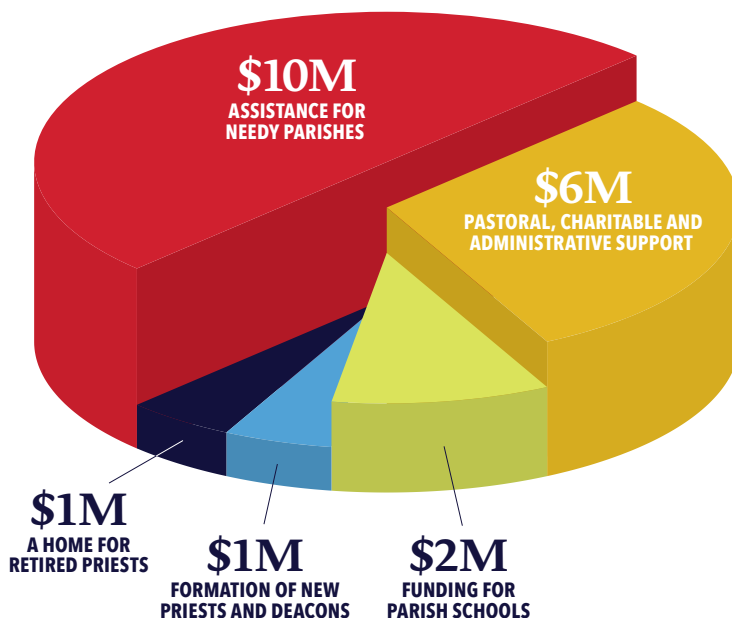
**– Fr. Richard Marrano**

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# AREAS OF SUPPORT

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**\$20 million total**

\$19.8 million of the \$20 million goal was reached in 2020, due to the generosity of our benefactors and parishioners.





**MAKE AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT**

**Donate Online Today**

**[cardinalsappeal.org/donate](https://cardinalsappeal.org/donate)**

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**SELECT YOUR GIFT**

Select your gift amount or write it in,  
and then choose your number of payments.

To become a monthly sustaining donor,  
please scan the QR code below with your phone.

**CHOOSE YOUR PARISH**

Choose your parish from the online drop-down menu.

**DONATE**

Enter your billing and credit card information,  
then click “Process.” Once your gift is processed, you will  
receive an email notification acknowledging your contribution.

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Your gift to the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*  
is essential in promoting the growth and vitality  
of the Church in New York.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!**

**The Archdiocese of New York  
Development Office  
1011 First Avenue, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10022**

[Postage]



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