



BISHOP'S APPEAL

February 2, 2025
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Church throughout the world will observe 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a moment of more intense celebration. For centuries, Jubilee years have been times for pilgrimage, spiritual renewal, and increased concern for the poor. Our Holy Father has called us to be **Pilgrims of Hope**, witnesses before the whole world of our faith in Jesus Christ whom we worship in the beauty of holiness.

At its heart, the Ordinariate's mission is to proclaim Christ in that Jubilee hope! Plan a pilgrimage with your family or community, deepen your participation in the Holy Mass, give witness to your joy in this Jubilee year with acts of charity. I invite you to support the mission of the Ordinariate in this year of hope. Below are just a few examples of our continuing growth:

- **Eleven Ordinariate seminarians** are preparing for ordination to the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary, St. Joseph's Seminary, and the Pontifical College Josephinum.
- **Two new priests** were ordained June 28, 2024, assigned to serve the faithful of Our Lady of the Atonement, San Antonio, TX and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Knoxville, TN.
- **Sr. Maria Placida** professed final monastic vows in the Abbey of Saint Walburga, Virginia Dale, CO.
- **Six permanent deacons** were ordained and nine men began formation in the 2024 diaconal cohort.
- **Saints Peter and Paul** community in Austin, TX, was recognized as our newest community in formation.
- **Four** of our communities are currently engaged in capital campaigns to buy or develop land for their permanent parish home.
- **Cathedral High School**, Houston, TX received accreditation!

I ask you to consider prayerfully supporting this mission with a monetary gift to the 2025 Bishop's Appeal. Your gift, no matter how large or small, contributes to these works and makes more possible. The Bishop's Appeal provides direct support to the Ordinariate, cultivating vocations to the priesthood and religious life, providing crucial administrative support to our nearly 40 parishes and parochial communities, and helping new communities to form. The Ordinariate is certainly stronger because of your generosity! God has indeed blessed us with growth and with vocations. We can better receive that grace by supporting what we have been given.

There will be many ways we can participate in the Church's Jubilee celebrations, just as there are many opportunities to deepen our faith and promote our Catholic teaching. Thank you for your consideration of a sacrificial commitment to this year's Bishop's Appeal. May you be richly blessed by God and know the loving intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope.

With the promise of prayers, I am
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Steven J. Lopes
Bishop of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter

P.S. You may use the enclosed envelope and pledge card to donate to the 2025 Bishop's Appeal or save time and a stamp by **giving online** at ordinariate.net/bishops-appeal.