



MINISTRIES IN ACTION

DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG | CATHOLIC MINISTRY *Appeal*



TIME TO START OVER



Last year, Bishop Parkes, diocesan leadership and a task force of experienced pastors studied how our parishes work together to support our local Church. For more than 20 years, the Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA), had supported all parts of our diocesan budget: administrative, business, leadership as well as ministry, programs and outreach.

Parishes worked to reach their goal, sometimes all year. But if not met, the balance was paid by the parish. The Appeal Task Force recognized how difficult this was for parishes. They also discerned that our people wanted to support the good work of our Catholic Church.

After much prayer, consultation and review, the task force voted unanimously to retire APA, and start over, separating how different areas would be funded. Their innovative plan calls for the leadership of our local Church to be supported by a much smaller assessment of 2%, and the administrative functions such as accounting and human resources to be funded through interest earnings on a responsibly invested trust.

And finally, it invites our parishioners to participate in the new *Catholic Ministry Appeal* each year to fund what most consider to be the traditional ministries and programs of our diocese.

HOW *is* THE CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL DIFFERENT?

- + Each parish will have a goal for the new appeal, but it does not have to be paid by the parish if not achieved.
- + Because leadership and administrative costs are not included in this appeal, 100% of donations are going to outreach that positively affects people, communities, parishes and schools.
- + If we exceed our \$7.1 million goal, ministries such as seminarian support, Worship, the permanent Diaconate program, campus ministry efforts, discipleship formation and vocations can grow.