

Ministry and the Profound Meaning of the Eucharist



Ministry: Answering the Call to Serve

Ministry is a fundamental element of our Catholic community. As baptized members of the Church, we are all called to serve one another with love and compassion, just as Jesus served during His earthly ministry. Ministry takes various forms, including liturgical ministries such as lectors, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, and musicians, as well as pastoral ministries like catechists, visiting the sick, and outreach to the marginalized.

Every ministry within our parish plays a vital role in fostering a vibrant and welcoming community. Through your participation in various ministries, you actively contribute to the spiritual growth of our parishioners and **offer your talents to honor God**. We encourage everyone to discern their unique gifts and find a ministry where they can actively engage and make a difference in your parish and community. The Disciple's Response Fund helps our families and parishes with resources to grow.

Next weekend is Commitment Weekend for the 2023-2024 Disciples Response Fund Appeal.

See back for Commitment Weekend pledge card sample.

When you support the Disciples Response Fund, you support:

- Religious Education and Faith Formation for students and adults
- Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center, used by hundreds each year
- The homeless, marginalized and those considered “the least among us”
- Retired Priests
- Parish Leadership Teams
- Seminarian Formation
- Family Life Enrichment

And many other efforts of the Diocesan Church, found in the annual Diocesan Impact Report. If you would like a copy, please call, email, or write:

Valeria Vessels

Director of Stewardship & Development

600 Locust Street ● Owensboro, KY 42301

Office: (270) 852-8348 ● Email: valeria.vessels@pastoral.org



The Eucharist: Nourishment for Our Souls

Among the sacraments, the Eucharist holds a unique and central place in our Catholic faith. It is both a sacrament and a sacrifice, where we partake in the body and blood of Jesus Christ, truly present under the appearance of bread and wine. Through the Eucharist, we experience Jesus in the most intimate way, entering into communion with Him and with one another as the Body of Christ.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life. In this sacrament, we receive spiritual nourishment, finding strength, grace, and forgiveness. It is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the cross, His self-giving love poured out for us. When we receive the Eucharist, we are called to imitate Christ's selflessness, embracing His commandment to love one another as He loves us.

As we participate in the Eucharistic celebration, let us approach the altar with reverence and gratitude, recognizing the incredible gift we receive. The Eucharist unites us as a parish community, binding us together in faith, hope, and love. It empowers us to go forth and share God's love with the world, becoming living witnesses of His presence among us.

Please mark your calendars for the NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS July 17 – 21, 2024 at the Lucas Oil Stadium Indianapolis, Indiana. At this historic event, more than 80,000 Catholics of all ages will gather to reconsecrate their hearts to the source and summit of our faith.



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<p>Please check one: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. and Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.</p> <p>First name <u>John</u> Spouse name <u>Mary</u> Last name <u>Smith</u></p> <p>Address <u>123 First Street</u> City <u>Anytown</u> State <u>KY</u> Zip <u>01234</u></p> <p>Phone <u>555-123-4567</u> Email <u>email@domain.com</u></p> <p>Please credit my gift to (Parish Name and City) <u>St. Mary's, Anytown</u></p>		<p>PLEASE PRINT BELOW:</p> <p>First name <u>John</u> Spouse name <u>Mary</u> Last name <u>Smith</u></p> <p>Address <u>123 First Street</u> City <u>Anytown</u> State <u>KY</u> Zip <u>01234</u></p> <p>Phone <u>555-123-4567</u> Email <u>email@domain.com</u></p> <p>Please credit my gift to (Parish Name and City) <u>St. Mary's, Anytown</u></p>																													
<p>Ways to Give</p> <p>Stock or Required Minimum Distribution (RMD): See back</p> <p>Memorial Gift to Disciples Response Fund: See back</p> <p>Give online: owensborodiocese.org/give-disciples-response-fund or scan the QR Code</p> <p>Mail your gift: Fill out your credit card information below</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> Amex</p> <p>Credit Card Number <u>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6</u> Exp. Date <u>12/15</u></p> <p><u>John Smith</u></p> <p>Print name as it appears on card Signature</p> <p>Please remit to: Disciples Response Fund Appeal, McRaith Catholic Center, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301</p> <p>If you need assistance or have a question, please call Valeria Vessels at 270-852-8348 or email her at valeria.vessels@pastoral.org.</p>		<p>Diocese of Owensboro • Disciples Response Fund</p> <p>2023-2024 ANNUAL APPEAL</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Suggested Pledge</th><th>12 Monthly Payments</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>St. Stephen Society</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> \$1,440.00.....</td><td>\$120.00</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$1,200.00.....</td><td>\$100.00</td></tr><tr><td>Circle of Compassion</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> \$840.00.....</td><td>\$70.00</td></tr><tr><td>Circle of Mercy</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> \$600.00.....</td><td>\$50.00</td></tr><tr><td>Circle of Grace</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> \$420.00.....</td><td>\$35.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> \$240.00.....</td><td>\$20.00</td></tr><tr><td>Other Gifts</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> \$120.00.....</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other.....</td><td>\$</td></tr></tbody></table>		Suggested Pledge	12 Monthly Payments	St. Stephen Society		<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,440.00.....	\$120.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$1,200.00.....	\$100.00	Circle of Compassion		<input type="checkbox"/> \$840.00.....	\$70.00	Circle of Mercy		<input type="checkbox"/> \$600.00.....	\$50.00	Circle of Grace		<input type="checkbox"/> \$420.00.....	\$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240.00.....	\$20.00	Other Gifts		<input type="checkbox"/> \$120.00.....	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Other.....	\$
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