

## **Fund for the Faith Ministries**

Apostolate for the Deaf – provides support for hearing impaired individuals including sign language at various worship services.

Campus Ministry – provides spiritual and vocational support, faith formation and sacraments at public colleges and universities throughout the Diocese.

Catechumenate Office – Coordinates support services for parishes welcoming people to the faith through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, including the celebration of the Rite of Election at the cathedral.

Department of Catholic Schools – provides leadership, direction and curriculum development to 33 Catholic elementary schools and 12 Catholic high schools. Ensures mandated government services are received. Coordinates testing and athletic programs.

Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministry – Provides a variety of spiritual development opportunities for youth (middle and high school) and young adults (18-39) of our diocese, including retreats, leadership development, the annual Diocesan Youth Convention and Camp Turner. Promotes a comprehensive vision for these ministries for the diocese and provides training, resources and support for local parish, school and campus leaders to strengthen their efforts in local faith communities.

Diocesan Counseling Center – serves the psychological and spiritual needs of sisters, brothers, seminarians, lay ministers and clergy who comprise the Diocese of Buffalo. The certified staff is available to provide healing services to Church Ministers, including counseling, group work and consultation.

Evangelization and Parish Life - provides a range of resources to thrive and grow as a parish. Promotes innovation, provides leadership and ministry formation as well as consulting in strategic planning and council development.

Family and Sacramental Life - provides preparation for those entering marriage, as well as support for parishes dedicated to all families who are striving, as well as those thriving in faith.

Hospital Apostolate – brings spiritual comfort and sacraments to the sick and infirmed via hospital chaplaincy and nursing home visitation.

Office of Communications - shares in the ministry of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the mission of the Church by supporting the communication needs of our Bishop, parishes, schools, and other Catholic institutions and ministries in the Diocese of Buffalo. The Office utilizes the Diocesan website, social media, and the WNY Catholic to disseminate information as well as interfacing with television, radio and newspaper outlets.

Office of Cultural Diversity – identifies and addresses the pastoral and spiritual needs of the various cultural communities in the Diocese of Buffalo. Organizes ways for the entire Church to celebrate its ethnic diversity and to recognize diversity as strength of our Church.

Lifelong Faith Formation – develops and oversees parish faith formation programs for people of all ages (children, teens, and adults) and preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. It includes training of leaders, catechists, and program planning and assessment which focus on forming lifelong disciples for Christ.

Priests Continuing Formation – provides opportunities for ongoing spiritual renewal and enrichment for our priests.

Seminary Training – provides financial support for Christ the King Seminary and seminarians, the center for education and training for future priests, deacons and lay ministers in our diocese.

Vicar for Priests – assists the Bishop in promoting the personal and ministerial well-being of the priests of our diocese, both active and retired.

Vicar for Religious – coordinates the communications, activities and ministry initiatives among the various religious communities of the diocese, as well as on a national level.

Vocation & Diaconate Program - works to raise awareness of the vocation to priesthood with consideration of its relation to the vocations of religious life. The office also provides guidance and assistance to those who are discerning the vocation to priesthood and to those who are applying to the seminary formation program.

Western New York Catholic – the primary publication of our Diocese which helps spread the good news and works of our Church.