TEACHING, EVANGELIZING AND WORSHIP

Ministries charged with this mission administer the largest private school system in Texas and sustain numerous religious education programs serving more than 100,000 people of all ages. They also promote the Catholic faith, reach out to other faiths, advocate for social justice and support liturgical and musical ministries throughout the Archdiocese.

Your donation to DSF will support these Teaching, Evangelizing and Worship ministries:

- Apostleship of the Sea
- Catholic Schools Office
- Chapels (Holy Cross and Warren)
- Communications Office
- Ecumenism Commission
- Office of Evangelization and Catechesis
- Office of Worship
- Pastoral and Educational Ministry

Apostleship of the Sea – Reverend Jan Kubisa, Reverend Carlos de la Torre, and Karen Parsons

The Seafarer Centers exist to serve the spiritual and social concerns of the 300,000 seafarers from around the world who arrive at the area ports each year, as well as the local fishers and shrimpers. The Apostleship of the Sea, or Port Chaplaincy, is responsible for the sacramental care for Catholic seafarers and the pastoral care of all seafarers. The Archdiocese helps operate three seafarers’ centers in Houston, La Porte and Galveston.

Catholic Schools Office – Debra Haney, Interim

The Catholic Schools Office (CSO) serves the largest private school system in Texas. The CSO provides support to pastors and principals in 61 schools in the areas of administration, finance, personnel, curriculum development, assessment, religious instruction, technology, and serving the needs of all students. The CSO is responsible for implementing and supervising the accreditation process, providing leadership in staff development, overseeing budgeting, supporting governance structures, helping schools in their participation in federal program opportunities, and affirming parents in their role as the primary educators of their children. The CSO exists to support school pastors, principals, teachers, and communities as they work together to form students as they grow in holiness and become disciples of Jesus Christ that will transform the world.

- Catholic High School Scholarship Grants

All private Catholic high schools within the Archdiocese receive an annual DSF grant to provide tuition assistance to applying students. These schools include: Cristo Rey College Preparatory, Duchesne Academy, Frassati Catholic High School, Incarnate Word Academy, O’Connell College Preparatory School, St. John XXIII High School, St. Agnes Academy, St. Pius X High School, St. Thomas High School, and Strake Jesuit College Preparatory.

Chapels

- Holy Cross Chapel – Reverend Frank Vera

This ministry offers sacramental and pastoral care to the downtown Houston working community by offering Mass twice daily, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, spiritual direction, educational programs and spiritual activities aimed toward the business and legal communities as well as a number of other activities for men and women.
Chapels continued…

† Warren Chapel – Bishop George A. Sheltz
Located at St. Dominic Center, this chapel is the site of daily Mass for the residents of St. Dominic Village’s continuing care and retirement community. Retired priests generously give of their time to provide this spiritual nourishment to the faithful. The sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick as well as exposition of the Blessed Sacrament are celebrated regularly with retired residents. The chapel is available to Archdiocesan groups for retreat Masses, jubilee celebrations and days of prayer.

Communications Office – Jonah Dycus
The Archdiocesan Communications Office is responsible for communicating all official news and information about the Archdiocese. The office’s mission is to share the Gospel message of God’s boundless love with Catholics and non-Catholics alike, through words of hope, images of Christ's work and modern communication tools.

The Communications Office serves as the official "voice" of the Archdiocese on issues related to the Catholic Church and on Archdiocesan events, programs and services. It also facilitates official Chancery communication with Archdiocesan parishes, schools, offices and departments.

The Communications Office is divided into the following branches:

† Internal Communications
Internal Communications is responsible for: Archdiocesan advertising (in the Texas Catholic Herald and in external publications); Archdiocesan internal communications tools and branding; the annual Archdiocesan Directory; monitoring the official use of Archdiocesan images by internal and external parties; the Chancery Copy Center; and the Chancery Mail Room.

† Media Relations
The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston offers a variety of resources to credentialed members of the print and broadcast news media regarding the events, people and parishes that make up the Archdiocese. The Communications Office is the point of contact for all credentialed media inquiries and provides information to the press, arranging for all media interviews regarding local Catholic news. This team prepares and distributes statements and other resources to the media, responds to media queries and credentials media for coverage of major Archdiocesan events.

† Radio
The Office of Radio Ministry produces and distributes original Catholic programs for local broadcast in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. The content of the programming is based on the Scriptures and the Liturgical Calendar. The Office of Radio Ministry promotes diverse Archdiocesan events such as conferences, retreats and activities to the general public.

† Texas Catholic Herald
The Texas Catholic Herald is the official newspaper of the Archdiocese, carrying news, feature stories and columns about local, national and world events to approximately 72,000 subscribers in the 10-county area of the Archdiocese. It is also an instrument of the Archdiocese for informing and educating readers about the teachings of the Church.
Communications continued...

† Website/Social Media
The Website and Social Media division of Communications is responsible for developing and maintaining the official website of the Archdiocese, www.archgh.org. This site provides information on all official Archdiocesan departments and their programs, as well as basic data on parishes and Catholic schools of the local Church. The Website division guides official social networking efforts for the Archdiocese and provides support for Archdiocesan departments employing social media in their ministries.

Ecumenism Commission – Reverend Reginald Samuels
The Commission for Ecumenism and Inter-Religious Affairs fosters an awareness of the different religious communities and faith traditions in the Archdiocese as well as dialogues with other denominations and faith traditions on issues of common interests and concerns.

Office of Evangelization and Catechesis – Julie Blevins
The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis assists catechetical leaders in parishes and schools in furthering the catechetical-evangelical mission of a family-oriented, multi-ethnic Church of adults, youth and children. It provides services to enable each person's faith to become living, conscious and active through the light of lifelong faith formation.

† After School Catechesis in Public Schools
After School Catechesis in Public Schools help parishes set up programs in their community schools, providing an opportunity to reach children and youth not in catechesis. This benefits parishes which may lack sufficient space for their catechetical needs and parents who cannot provide transportation from school to parish. Parishes sponsoring After School Catechesis have found a significant increase of families actively participating in parish catechesis and Sunday Eucharist.

† Formation toward Christian Ministry/Formacion Para el Ministerio Cristiano
Formation toward Christian Ministry offers theological formation for various parish ministries for all adults. Knowledge of Scripture, Spirituality, Sacraments, Church History and Doctrine is covered so that parish ministers may better serve their parish communities. The program is three semesters in length, and is taught by approved catechists who hold a Masters Degree in Theology. It is available in various parishes throughout the Archdiocese in English or Spanish.

† Life Long Systematic Faith Formation
The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis trains and supports catechetical leaders who provide formation in the faith across the life cycle for our parishes and schools in accordance with the promulgated document, “A Catechetical Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation.” The office emphasizes that we always need to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ. We must continue to grow in our knowledge of our Catholic faith, nurture our spirituality so that we can be witnesses to our brothers and sisters in our evangelizing efforts to pass on faith. The office provides leader formation in the Archdiocesan Catechetical Curriculum.

† Ministry Formation Programs
Ministry Formation Programs form our catechetical leaders and catechists in their own knowledge of the faith and methodologies to teach at all levels of the life cycle in their parish and school faith formation processes. We offer programs for the beginner as well as the advanced catechist and leader. Programs are available in both English and Spanish. The OEC is a certifying agent for the USCCB Certification in Catechesis.
Office of Evangelization and Catechesis continued...

† Ministry with Persons with Disabilities
Ministry with Persons with Disabilities assists parishes in opening their doors to invite, welcome and accept persons with disabilities into the full life of the Church. Presentations inform how to provide religious formation and sacramental preparation in ways that best serve persons with different learning abilities.

† Sacramental Preparation Programs
Sacramental Preparation Programs offer formation for parish leaders, clergy and team members who prepare families for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Adult Confirmation.

Office of Worship – Sandy Higgins
The Office of Worship seeks to make liturgy the source of spiritual growth and development of the Church. The Office of Worship serves as a resource center for liturgical ministry materials, ministry formation and consultation.

† Archdiocesan Choir
This mixed chorus of approximately 65 voices serves to provide liturgical music in the celebration of designated Archdiocesan liturgies. The Archdiocesan Choir strives to act as a model liturgical choir for Parish Music Ministries throughout the Archdiocese. The Archdiocesan Choir membership represents over 50 parishes from the Archdiocese, and is accepted by auditions held annually by its artistic director.

† Consultation
The Office of Worship provides consultation to parish leaders regarding liturgical norms and practices. Additionally, the office is available as a resource on the building and renovation of liturgical space.

† Formation
Workshop opportunities are offered for the formation and training of liturgical leaders, parish ministers and RCIA teams. Annual resources and other formational materials are available through the office. The office publishes *The Year of Grace* for those responsible for liturgical preparation.

† Liturgical Commission
As required by Church law, the Liturgical Commission is an advisory board to the Archbishop and is a consultative body on liturgical matters in the Archdiocese. It also provides advisory support for the Southwest Liturgical Conference which will be held in Houston in January 2019.

† Liturgy
The office is responsible for overseeing and coordinating Archdiocesan liturgical celebrations such as the Chrism Mass and ordinations. The office also reviews all liturgies at which the Archbishop presides as well as liturgies for the assisting bishops. The office is responsible for the Archdiocesan inventory of vestments. The office’s artistic director oversees the selected Catholic School Choir which serves four Archdiocesan liturgies each year. The office coordinates liturgies for regional and national conferences celebrated in the Archdiocese.

Pastoral and Educational Ministry – Jim Barrette

† Archdiocesan Pastoral Council
The Archdiocesan Pastoral Council engages the diverse faithful of the Archdiocese with the Archbishop in consultative dialogue. The council addresses significant pastoral needs and concerns through investigation, reflection and feedback. Through these actions, this representative body of the laity, religious and clergy assists in the articulation of a vision and proposes long term plans to develop the faith community and to assist the Archbishop in his shepherding of the Church of Galveston-Houston.
Pastoral and Educational Ministry continued...

† Archdiocesan Committee on Catholic Youth Organizations
This committee promotes the Catholic faith and teachings to youth involved in Scouting and other youth organizations by sponsoring Catholic Religious Award programs that recognize the youth for knowing and practicing their Catholic Faith. The committee also provides training for the adult leaders of youth organizations to help guide them in aligning the programs of their organizations with the teachings of the Catholic faith.

† Evangelization Commission
The Evangelization Commission is responsible for the development, oversight and evaluation of new evangelization initiatives in the Archdiocese. The commission distributes materials to each pastor to assist him in maintaining an evangelizing focus in all parish activities.

† Parish Pastoral Council Training
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) provides assistance with council member discernment and consultation with pastors on the development of the PPC in their parish. Each year two workshops are offered for training council members in the basics of Parish Pastoral Council development and in special topics of interest.
MINISTERING TO THE POOR, THE SICK AND THE INCARCERATED

Answering the call to serve the least among us, these ministries bring pastoral and sacramental aid to the disadvantaged, the disabled, and those who are most in need of God’s healing grace. Whether comforting refugees or battered women, those confined to a prison cell or hospital bed, they show compassion to those in the margins of our society.

Your donation to DSF will support these Ministering to the Poor, the Sick and the Incarcerated ministries:

† Angela House
† Catholic Chaplain Corps
† Catholic Charities
† Correctional Ministries
† Foreign Missions
† Office of Justice & Peace/Catholic Campaign for Human Development
† Our Daily Bread
† San José Clinic
† St. Dominic Center for the Deaf

Angela House – Sister Maureen O’Connell, O.P.

The mission of Angela House is to successfully transition women into the community from incarceration. Founded in 2001, this transitional, residential facility provides emotional, spiritual and educational support for women seeking to change their lives as they return to the community and voluntarily choose to reside at Angela House. This ministry also provides a unique opportunity for members of the Archdiocesan community to play a role in welcoming the prisoner through a variety of volunteer opportunities.

Catholic Chaplain Corps (Hospital Ministry) – Deacon Al Vacek

The Catholic Chaplain Corps provides sacramental and pastoral care to the patients, families and staff of hospitals and institutions of the Texas Medical Center, Houston, and other select hospitals in Houston. In addition to the designated staff, the Corps sponsors the pastoral assistants – specially trained lay personnel who assist the staff in bringing the healing presence of Christ to those whom the Corps serves.

Catholic Charities – Cynthia N. Colbert, M.S.W.

Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities helps people in southeast Texas by providing caring, compassionate services and advocating for social justice in collaboration with parishes and communities. We guide people to self-sufficiency and help them live with dignity. Our four impact areas are listed below:

† Nurturing and Caring for Children
  ▪ Blessed Beginnings Pregnancy & Parenting Life Center; St. Jerome Emiliani’s International Foster Care; St. Michael’s Homes for Children; School Counseling Services; After-School Program
† Strengthening Families
  ▪ Housing Counseling; Guadalupe Basic Needs Center; The Lewis and Joan Lowenstein Foundation Pan de Vida Food Pantry; Trini’s Market Food Pantry; La Sagrada Familia Counseling and Behavioral Health Program; Parish Social Ministry & Social Justice; St. Genevieve Disaster Recovery Program; Beacon of Hope Center
† Supporting Refugees and Immigrants
  ▪ Refugee Resettlement; St. Frances Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance
† Promoting Independence for Seniors & Other Vulnerable Adults
  ▪ HIV/AIDS Ministry; Mamie George Community Center; Services to the Alone, Frail and Elderly (S.A.F.E.); Women Veterans Services and the Villa Guadalupe Short-Term Shelter
Correctional Ministries – Reverend Ron Cloutier
The priests, deacons and lay volunteers provide sacramental and pastoral care to those victimized by crime and violence, as well as the nearly 60,000 men and women who are incarcerated in the federal facility, 26 state prison units, and 10 county jails located within the boundaries of the Archdiocese.

Foreign Missions – Bishop George A. Sheltz
This fund provides financial grants to religious orders and congregations which have a representation in the Archdiocese and are engaged in missionary activity in other countries.

Office of Justice & Peace/Catholic Campaign for Human Development – Deacon Sam Dunning
The Office of Justice and Peace promotes the social mission of the Church and specifically the social justice agenda of the Archbishop, the Texas Catholic Conference, and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Through communication, collaboration, education, resource development and direct advocacy, the Office of Justice and Peace seeks to promote the common good by presenting the voice of the Church in matters of social concern. In addition, the office facilitates opportunities for the Catholic faithful to act on the social teachings of the Church by developing community action efforts in and through parishes.

The Office of Justice and Peace also implements the mission of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the U.S. Bishops’ domestic anti-poverty campaign, by awarding grants to community organizations and economic development projects directed by the poor on behalf of the poor to achieve systemic change to break the cycle of poverty and exclusion.

Our Daily Bread – Sister Pauline Troncale, C.C.V.I.
This community center in Galveston provides human services to women and men who are experiencing homelessness. It is committed to upholding the dignity of each person by providing programs to help break the cycle of homelessness. The staff encourages and empowers those seeking help to make positive choices, to seek treatment for mental, emotional or addictive disorders, and to develop a plan of action and a network of community support. Toward this, the center provides counseling, tele-medicine, nutritious meals, support groups, clothing, hygiene articles, referral, and education.

San José Clinic – Paule Anne Lewis
San José Clinic, the original safety-net clinic in Houston, provides quality healthcare services for individuals and families in the Greater Houston area who struggle the most with accessing care. For the past 95 years, San José Clinic has served the Houston area by providing high-quality health care and health education to low-income, uninsured and uninsurable individuals and families.

The Clinic was founded in 1922 by Monsignor George T. Walsh, pastor of Annunciation Catholic Church, with the Charity Guild of Catholic Women, and volunteers from the community. Today, San José Clinic is a comprehensive health home for more than 4,000 of underserved Houstonians. To those that pass through the Clinic’s doors, San José Clinic is an instrument of Christ’s healing love, as all clinic services are delivered in an environment which is respectful of each person’s dignity. San José Clinic is a ministry of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, a Texas Medical Center member institution, and a United Way agency.

Supported by more than 800 volunteer healthcare providers and community volunteers, as well as collaborative partners, academic affiliates, and a caring staff, San José Clinic offers patients:

† Primary Medical Care
  • Adult Medicine; Pediatrics; Immunizations
San José Clinic continued…

† Women’s Health Services
  ▪ Gynecology; Cervical Cancer Screening; Mammography

† Specialty Medical Care
  ▪ Cardiology; Dermatology; Endocrinology; Hematology; Internal Medicine; Neurology; Nutrition and Health Education; Orthopedics; Otolaryngology; Physical Therapy Diagnostic Evaluation; Psychiatry and Licensed Professional Counselors; Podiatry; Rheumatology; Urology

† Radiology Services
  ▪ Diagnostic Ultrasound; Digital X-Ray

† Laboratory Services

† Vision Care
  ▪ Neuro-ophthalmology; Ophthalmology; Optometry

† Dental Care
  ▪ General Care/Exams; Hygiene; Fillings; Root Canals; Crowns; Extractions; Dentures/Partials

† Pharmacy
  ▪ Prescriptions; Patient Assistance Program; Disease State Management

St. Dominic Center for the Deaf – Reverend Len Broniak, C.Ss.R.

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston has ministered to the Catholic Deaf Community for more than 50 years. The mission of this ministry is to provide all deaf and hard of hearing people complete accessibility to the Catholic Church: worship, ministering to others, to receive religious education and participate in all aspects of parish life. This office also acts as the “Catholic Voice” within the larger hard of hearing/deaf community of the Metro-Houston Area. To provide for the needs of the deaf community in accomplishing this ministry, we offer all the services of a regular parish:

▪ Mass in Sign Language every Sunday at 11:15 a.m. in Warren Chapel
▪ A Voice Interpreter is provided for the hearing family members
▪ Deaf members serve as Lectors, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, etc.
▪ Classes are held for deaf couples for marriage and baptism preparation
▪ Hospital visitation and home visiting for the sick and shut-ins
▪ Interpreters provided for baptisms, weddings, funerals, and church events at other parishes

† St. Dominic Deaf Club

In addition to religious services, there is also a social club for any member wishing to join. The Club sponsors a variety of activities throughout the year.

† St. Dominic Deaf Religious Education for Our Children

This program provides deaf teachers for deaf children. The class is conducted in Sign Language with a heavy emphasis on visual presentations. Classes are small in size, so the teacher is able to be sure the child fully understands the lessons. After class, the children and their families attend Mass with the entire community. It is important for children to see successful, fully participating deaf adults, to give them role models. It is also beneficial for the parents.

▪ Classes are held for: First Confession, First Communion, and Confirmation
▪ Classes: twice a month Sundays 9:30 a.m.
Vocational ministries address the full range of support for the clergy from the beginning stages of discernment to retirement. These ministries offer education and formation of men for the priesthood and permanent diaconate as well as provide direct sacramental and pastoral care, spiritual direction, and fraternal support as they carry out their ministries.

Your donation to DSF will support these Promoting, Preparing and Supporting the Clergy ministries:

- Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Priest Retirement Residence
- Clergy Formation and Chaplaincy Services
- Clergy Pastoral Outreach
- Department of Seminarians
- Ministry to Priests
- Office of Vocations for Priesthood and Religious Life
- Office of Permanent Diaconate Ministry

**Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Priest Retirement Residence – Amy Shields, L.N.F.A.**

This residence for retired Archdiocesan priests as well as religious priests, on a space availability basis, in which they can live securely and independently in the company of their peers. The residence comfortably serves 24 priests, each with a suite. Full-time cooks provide three meals a day, seven days a week; and full-time housekeepers provide daily housekeeping and laundry services. The residence also includes a beautiful Chapel, outdoor spaces, a media room, a work-out room, a library, and a dining room.

**Clergy Formation and Chaplaincy Services – Reverend Italo Dell’Oro, C.R.S.**

The Office for Clergy Formation and Chaplaincy Services offers oversight and coordination of both pastoral services and programs. The pastoral services consist of chaplaincies that offer the consolation of the sacraments and an understanding heart to both parishioners and workers in hospitals, in prison, and at ports and airports. The programs for Clergy Formation assist the development of clergy—permanent deacons and priests, from vocational discernment and seminary formation to ordination. It also is a resource for the Ongoing Formation of Priests Committee. Finally, the office operates as a resource and connecting point with the departments of the Archdiocese in matters pertaining priesthood.

**Clergy Pastoral Outreach – Deacon Gary Hilbig**

This ministry, located at St. Dominic Village, addresses the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of all retired clergy (retired bishops, priests, and deacons). It also maintains and provides communications with the retired clergy regarding special events, Archdiocesan news and community resources. Through visitations, phone calls, mailings, group events, personal assistance, and communication with Archdiocesan offices, the Clergy Pastoral Outreach Ministry cultivates relationships with retired clergy to ensure a quality of life that is healthy, secure, and dignified.

**Department of Seminarians – Reverend T.J. Dolce**

This department journeys with men who desire to be priests for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The department is involved in the man’s discernment, application, and admittance into seminary in addition to providing the seminarian administrative, financial, and personal support while on his journey to the priesthood.
Ministry to Priests – Reverend Phil “Skip” Negley, M.S.
The Ministry to Priests supports the priests of the Archdiocese, diocesan and religious, in their ongoing spiritual, fraternal and pastoral development. It serves as a “priest for priests,” providing resources for spiritual direction, sacramental reconciliation, priests support groups, the mentoring of newly ordained priests, the visitation of elderly and infirm priests, and the acculturation process for international missionary priests. It also coordinates days of prayer, annual retreats; offers consultation to the Priests Personnel Board and the Ongoing Formation of Priests Committee. The Director invites fraternity and hospitality to all priests serving the local Church of Galveston-Houston.

Office of Vocations for the Priesthood and Religious Life – Reverend T.J. Dolce
The Office of Vocations journeys with men and women who are discerning a call to the priesthood and religious life. This department provides resources, retreats, prayer experiences, and guidance to all age groups to help them see the beauty of serving God as a priest, brother, sister, or nun.

Office of Permanent Diaconate Ministry – Deacon Phillip Jackson, Deacon Rob Ward, Deacon Dominic Romaguera
The Office of the Permanent Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston has a three-fold mission: (1) to foster vocations to the permanent diaconate as a life of committed and sacramental service to the Church, (2) to direct the formation of aspirants and candidates to the diaconate during the five years of study and service leading to ordination to the diaconate, and (3) to assist deacons, their wives and families and their colleagues in the Church in the living out of the ministry of the diaconate in service to the holy people of God. Among the many continuing education opportunities for deacons, the Office of Permanent Diaconate fosters and trains deacons and lay ministers through a Hospital Ministry Institute as well as a Parish Based Hospital Ministry Program to offer pastoral care to the Catholic patients in the 118 hospitals within our Archdiocese.
NURTURING AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Family ministries nurture the most basic core unit of Christian life by caring for human and spiritual needs of family members. These range from the spiritual formation of young people at different ages of development to providing dignified care for the elderly. These ministries also address the needs of different ethnic constituencies and respect for the sanctity of life.

Your donation to DSF will support these Nurturing and Strengthening Families ministries:

- Aging Ministry
- Camp Kappe
- Ethnic Ministries
- Family Life Ministry
- Family Retreat Center at Circle Lake
- Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization
- Office of Hispanic Ministry
- Pro-Life Activities
- Special Youth Services
- St. Dominic Village
- Vicar for Judicial Affairs (Metropolitan Tribunal)
- Young Adult and Campus Ministry

Aging Ministry – Katherine Bingham

The Office of Aging Ministry supports parish activities that enhance the spiritual, social and physical well-being of older adults by assisting in the development of senior groups and by providing opportunities for formation, training and education. The Office of Aging Ministry assists pastors, parish leaders, older adults and their caregivers in identifying and accessing community and Archdiocesan resources that enhance the individual’s independence and their ability to plan for their future.

Camp Kappe – Randy Adams, Interim

Camp Kappe is a center for youth retreats, programs and other youth related activities. The School of Environmental Education is also located at Camp Kappe. These facilities are available to all parishes, schools and youth groups in the Archdiocese.

Ethnic Ministries

- Ministry to Catholics of African Descent – Deacon Leonard P. Lockett
  The main objective of this ministry is evangelization. The ministry focuses on collaborative ministry with and for persons of African descent through advocacy, leadership development, evangelization, and collaboration with other Archdiocesan offices. It provides a voice and representation for the value and needs of the Catholic community of African descent. The ministry provides spiritual, cultural, educational and social development in the community; and seeks to bring all Catholics of African descent together with their various cultures to celebrate the universality of Catholicism in an effort to evangelize and develop leadership models that will encourage vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and to religious life.

- Filipino Ministries – Reverend Edmund P. Eduarte
  This ministry focuses on providing opportunities for the Filipino Catholic community to gather for prayer and activities which promote and nurture the Filipino Catholic faith and culture. Annual Masses, liturgical celebrations and devotions are hosted as are many social, cultural, and educational activities. Among the religious celebrations are the Simbang Gabi, Salubong, Sto. Nino, Fiestas of San Lorenzo Ruiz and San Pedro Calungsod, May Sta. Cruzan and retreats. Programs for parish leadership are also promoted. The Filipino Ministry Council assists the Vicar for Filipinos in the ministry.
Ethnic Ministries continued...

† Vietnamese Ministries – Reverend Thu Ngoc Nguyen
This ministry promotes weekly Vietnamese radio broadcasting and publishes bulletins for all Vietnamese in the Archdiocese. The ministry also arranges special events for the Vietnamese community including a Christmas Eve Mass, and facilitates meetings for clergy as well as lay leaders.

Family Life Ministry – Deacon Arturo Montrubio
The Office of Family Life Ministry (FLM) is committed to increase the awareness of the family as the basic unit of the Church and society. FLM functions as an educational and enrichment resource for Archdiocesan leadership and parish ministers, both clerical and lay, so they can more effectively serve families. FLM provides direct services to individuals and families.

Resources and services include: Marriage Preparation; Natural Family Planning; Marriage Enrichment and Healing; Parenting Education and Family Enrichment; Ministry for Persons Separated, Divorced and Widowed; and Bereavement Ministry. The office offers leadership training and formation. Resources and services are available in English and Spanish.

Family Retreat Center at Circle Lake – Gloria M. Bustillo
The Family Retreat Center at Circle Lake is an Archdiocesan-owned retreat center in Pinehurst, Texas, about one hour northwest of the downtown Houston area. The facility is available for weekday or weekend retreats as well as family functions. The center hosts family programs, spiritual retreats, community programs, and events that focus on the support and development of all families.

Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization – Jim Barrette
The Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization, a department of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, is rooted in Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit through Sacred Scripture and Tradition. This ministry cultivates formation of parish and Catholic high school leaders in comprehensive Catholic youth ministry to, with, by, and for adolescents within the context of lifelong faith formation in collaboration with other Archdiocesan offices. A major ministry that comes from the department is the Archdiocesan Youth Council, which has as its focus to be the voice of youth to the Archbishop and to assist in the design and implementation of programs for youth on an Archdiocesan level.

Office of Hispanic Ministry – Lázaro Contreras
The Office of Hispanic Ministry has as its end the glory of God through the sanctification of all its collaborators and participants through its work as an interactive communications center for the Hispanic community.

Faithful to the principles of the Catholic Church, the office observes, listens, and discerns the needs of the Hispanic community, and responds in collaboration with the various Archdiocesan offices, parishes, as well as with other Catholic and secular organizations. It promotes inclusion among the different cultures, appealing to “the spiritual and moral capacities of the human person and to the permanent need for inner conversion” so as to achieve true reconciliation, solidarity and unity among all (CCC, 1888). It seeks to integrate and empower Hispanics into leadership positions, fostering in them the vocation to the priesthood and/or religious life, as well as the call to permanent diaconate, ecclesial lay ministry, and responsible participation in society at large.
Pro-Life Activities – Julie Fritsch
With complete confidence in God’s providential mercy, the Office of Pro-Life Activities seeks to bring about a true appreciation for God’s gift of life from conception to natural death. The office works to educate about Catholic principles and to advocate for society’s most vulnerable on issues of abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide, capital punishment and Catholic bioethics. The office strives to bring God’s loving mercy to men and women in need of support and healing through the Gabriel Project, Project Rachel, Courage and Jerome’s Hope apostolates.

Special Youth Services – Franchelle Lee Stewart
Special Youth Services models the embrace of Christ through pastoral care, advocacy, and faith sharing in local juvenile justice centers, facilities, and programs including the promotion and coordination of restorative services to at-risk youth and their families.

St. Dominic Village – Amy Shields, L.N.F.A.
Founded in 1975, St. Dominic Village is Houston’s only Catholic continuing-care senior living community. A member of the Texas Medical Center, St. Dominic Village is one of the largest non-profit senior living communities in Harris County. Dedicated to their mission of “Caring for Our Elders with the Compassion of Christ,” St. Dominic Village serves approximately 250 seniors each year through a continuum of care including independent living, assisted living, respite care, skilled and long-term-care. St. Dominic Village relies heavily upon the gifts and donations that we receive each year in order to care for so many seniors that have outlived their resources. St. Dominic Village also offers Angel House, an affordable, temporary home for individuals or family members of patients receiving treatment in the Texas Medical Center.

St. Dominic Village strives to provide a welcoming home with the highest standard of care to each of its residents according to his or her needs, while safeguarding and celebrating each one’s inherent personal dignity and individuality. St. Dominic Village accepts residents from all faiths and walks of life. St. Dominic Village is blessed to have the beautiful Warren Chapel that offers spiritual enrichment through daily Mass and Sunday Mass as well as services in the centers for those unable to attend in the Chapel.

Vicar for Judicial Affairs (Metropolitan Tribunal) – Very Reverend R. Lucien Millette, J.C.L.
The Archdiocesan Metropolitan Tribunal Office, as defined in canon law, is an extension of the Archbishop’s judicial ministry in the Archdiocese; and as such, is concerned in a special way with the quest for justice. Among the many matters handled in the Metropolitan Tribunal, the following are the most common services:

- Acts as a resource to the Archbishop for canonical matters
- Studies requests for declaration of nullity and Privilege of the Faith cases
- Serves as First and Second Instance Court of petitions challenging the validity of marriage; in addition, judges the rights of physical and juridical persons
- Serves as a consultative agency for priests, religious, and laity in canonical policy or programs related to marriage
- Serves as a source of information with regard to canonical matters, especially regarding the sacraments, administrative decrees, penal matters, and the rights and obligations of the clergy and the Christian faithful

Young Adult and Campus Ministry – Gabriela Karaszewski
This office is responsible for the outreach to young adults (18 -39 years old) among the diversity of cultures present in our community, college and university campuses. Currently there are 63 young adult groups based in parishes throughout the Archdiocese, half of them are in English and half of them in Spanish. Workshops are offered to form leaders on how to build and sustain a young adult ministry.
Young Adult and Campus Ministry continued…

The emphasis is on evangelization, with programs like the Young Adult Day/Conference, Bayou Awakening, Charis Ignatian Spirituality Retreats, Discovering Love with Clarity, Challenging Faith Series and a summer speaker series Café Catholic which expanded to North, South and Central locations. These programs serve over 4,000 young adults per year; Vigilia Pastoral, Curso de Pastoral Juvenil and PasCon, that serves over 1,200 Spanish speaking young adults from different parishes.

The office also maintains campus ministries at the University of Houston, Texas Southern University, Prairie View A&M University, Sam Houston State University, Rice University, the schools of the Texas Medical Center, and the Galveston Newman Center, serving the University of Texas Medical Branch and Texas A&M at Galveston. These centers minister to both students and faculty, connecting Catholic faith with academic life, providing worship, catechesis and service opportunities, building up the Catholic community on campus, and providing leadership opportunities.

SPECIAL GRANTS

In addition to the Archdiocesan ministries and agencies indicated above, special grants are awarded to ministries and agencies operating within the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston as determined by Cardinal DiNardo.

AID TO POOR PARISHES

In 1968 Bishop John L. Morkovsky, tasked then Father Joseph A. Fiorenza, now Archbishop Emeritus, and a committee of priests and laymen to find a way to regularly help support the poor parishes in the Archdiocese. They created the Aid to Poor Parishes program, which asked all pastors to donate 10% to this effort from their Thanksgiving and Christmas collections and tithing from their offertory. Later, Archbishop Fiorenza gave support to the program when he initiated a tax on the building parish projects and the DSF rebate program. Parishes that exceed their DSF goal, receive half the surpassed amount and the other half goes to the Aid to Poor Parishes Fund.

Ministries reviewed and revised on September 15, 2017.