



Office of the Bishop  
Diocese of Toledo

+

March 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

All good greetings in the Lord! In releasing our 2025 annual financial report, I trust it is evident that we continue to commit our ongoing efforts to responsible stewardship in the service of the Gospel. We remain diligent in managing our expenses and ensuring an environment of sound financial practices. Our broader focus continues to be on the long-term pastoral, spiritual, and financial health of our diocese, as guided by our collective mission and the priorities of our diocesan strategic plan.

The diocesan strategic plan continues to be an important guide and is comprised of six key areas of focus we refer to as Pillars. Over the past few years there has been much progress made by the various Pillar Teams (staff and volunteers) to complete planned actions and initiatives. It is well worth noting that many of the strategic plan initiatives became foundational case elements for our diocesan-wide *Living Christ* Capital Campaign, which is now in the all-important pledge redemption phase. Some of the strategic plan accomplishments for the past year are outlined below:

- *Expanded diocesan priestly vocations outreach and discernment initiatives, increasing both personnel and programming dedicated to accompanying young men discerning the priesthood. These efforts have borne remarkable fruit, resulting in what is expected to be the largest entering class of seminarians in the fall of 2026 for the Diocese in nearly two decades.*
- *Launched the first cohort of the Parish Lay Missionary Formation, equipping the laity for the work of the New Evangelization in their parishes to support their pastors more significantly. Formation includes all four dimensions: human, spiritual, intellectual & pastoral, focused on equipping for the concrete realities of parish ministry.*
- *Promoted, facilitated and distributed \$680,000 through the Diocese of Toledo Scholarship Fund, a need-based State of Ohio Scholarship Granting Organization.*
- *Launched a comprehensive ongoing formation program for pastor leadership, drawing upon the most effective leadership principles from both the nonprofit and corporate sectors. Twelve pastors are currently participating in this inaugural cohort, strengthening their capacity to lead vibrant parishes and guide the faithful with renewed pastoral vision.*
- *Implemented a newly revised Permanent Diaconate Formation Program,*

*carefully structured according to the National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Twenty-eight men are presently engaged in rigorous monthly formation—human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral—as they prepare for ordination to the diaconate in 2030 and future service to the Church across the Diocese.*

- *Hired a Director of Catechetical Formation to assist parishes and schools in promoting catechesis. Our Director of Catechetical Formation has been working to establish various levels of communication for Parish Catechetical Leaders (DREs) and Pastors to foster better collaboration among parishes and between the diocese and parishes. This includes monthly meetings, a weekly newsletter and frequent visits. Additional effort is being put into expanding the reach of the Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University of Steubenville. This free resource allows for certification classes and ongoing training for DREs, catechists, teachers, and the lay faithful.*
- *Continued the project of civil incorporation for consolidated and diocesan-sponsored schools across the Diocese, including updating board of limited jurisdiction bylaws and assisting the boards in their operation.*
- *The Department of Catholic Education has been working with a consultant to build a dashboard for each school that allows for effective display and review of data related to vitality and strategic planning.*
- *The multi-year Living Christ Campaign pledge redemption phase continued to thrive, with over \$66 million collected through June 2025.*

Due to the dedicated work of our committed staff and volunteers, and the generosity of our faithful throughout the diocese, the financial state of the diocese has consistently improved over the past five years. I am excited to share that the diocese has achieved a modest surplus budget in fiscal year 2025, and we are projecting to do the same in fiscal year 2026.

Along with the financial and operational matters noted above, it is important also to mention a few of the many ministry and pastoral highlights of the past year, including:

- *Catholic Charities served over 80,480 meals to men, women, and children across 19 counties.*
- *Catholic Charities provided emergency and transitional shelter 42 men, women, and children per night.*
- *More than 1,600 citizens returning from jail and prisons were visited and 14,421 incarcerated men and women attended worship services.*
- *Catholic Charities responded to 16,638 calls for assistance and provided opportunities for help and support in their respective communities.*

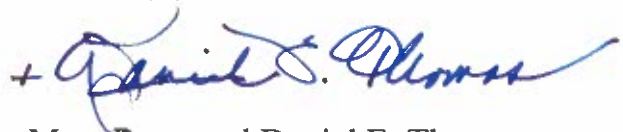
- *Through their Adult Advocacy Services (AAS) program, Catholic Charities provided guardianship services to 133 elderly men and women.*
- *Helping Hands served 8,972 households at their clothing center.*
- *HOPE Food Pantry in Mansfield and Helping Hands Food Pantry provided food for 30,311 people.*
- *Continued to engage college students through FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) at Corpus Christi Parish (University of Toledo) and St. Thomas More Parish (Bowling Green State University), fostering stronger relationships with Christ and the Church and promoting virtuous lives.*
- *Over 500 educators attended Mass and presentations at the reintroduced Known, Loved, Served Conference at the Glass City Center, focused on the call to vocation as a Catholic Educator.*
- *Welcomed over 100 new teachers and administrators to the Diocese of Toledo and provided formation through the John 3:16/Catholic School Orientation Program, aligning with the Holy See's Teaching on Catholic Schools.*

There are many other signs of Gospel engagement occurring throughout our diocese as a result of the good and selfless work of our dedicated priests, deacons, consecrated religious, countless lay faithful and pastoral center staff.

Accompanying this letter is a summary report from our Chief Operations and Finance Officer together with our Controller; a letter from the Chair of our Diocesan Finance Council; and three independent 2025 audit reports: "The Diocese of Toledo Combined Financial Report," "The Deposit & Loan Trust Financial Report" and "The Catholic Investment Trust Financial Report." Please take time to review these reports to gain a better appreciation for the progress being made, along with the financial results for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Through intentional prayer, careful stewardship, transparency, and the dedicated work of so many, we continually improve the health of our diocese pastorally, operationally, and financially. All these are important aspects of moving closer to achieving our collective vision of becoming a more faith-filled, united and vibrant Diocese of Toledo, fostering Holy Disciples, Holy Families, and Holy Vocations.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,



Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas  
Bishop of Toledo