

## 2026 DIOCESAN PRAYER

**IF YOU LOVE ME,**  
*you will keep my commandments.  
And I will ask the Father, and he will  
give you another Advocate to be with  
you always, the Spirit of truth, which  
the world cannot accept, because it  
neither sees nor knows it. But you know  
it, because it remains with you, and will  
be in you. I will not leave you orphans;  
I will come to you. In a little while the  
world will no longer see me, but you will  
see me, because I live and you will live.  
On that day you will realize that I am  
in my Father and you are in me and I in  
you. Whoever has my commandments  
and observes them is the one who loves  
me. And whoever loves me will be loved  
by my Father, and I will love him and  
reveal myself to him.*

JOHN 14:15-21

**Amen.**



DIOCESE of ROCKFORD

### EASY WAYS TO GIVE

#### ONLINE

by Credit Card or ACH  
[rockforddiocese.org/donate](https://rockforddiocese.org/donate)

#### TEXT

"Donate" to 815-885-5806

#### U.S. MAIL

Diocese of Rockford  
Office of Charitable Giving  
PO Box 7044  
Rockford, IL 61125

#### PARISH

Drop off your envelope at the office  
or place in the collection.

#### MORE OPTIONS

You may set up a recurring gift at  
[rockforddiocese.org/donate](https://rockforddiocese.org/donate) OR call the Office of Charitable  
Giving at **815-399-4300** and we will help you with estate gifts, or  
donations through bill pay, stocks, donor advised funds, and IRAs.

Thank you for your prayerful support –  
it makes our ministries possible!



GIVE ONLINE

Scan this QR code or visit [rockforddiocese.org/donate](https://rockforddiocese.org/donate)



# I WILL COME to you

*2026 Diocesan Appeal*



DIOCESE of ROCKFORD





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**I** Will Come to You” is the theme for the 2026 Diocesan Appeal. Our theme comes from the Gospel of John. When Jesus speaks with His disciples about heaven and finding the way to the Father, Jesus reassures his disciples by telling them, “I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.” (John 14:18) His disciples were apprehensive about Jesus leaving them and they felt uncertain about the future. At different stages of our lives we have all felt that same uncertainty. In our more difficult times in life, as it was with the disciples, God’s presence is a sure guide for each of us today.

In the scriptures, Jesus spoke words of confidence to his disciples to alleviate their uncertainty and encourage them in joining Him one day in heaven. “Where I am going you know the way.” (John 14:4) Their mission of making disciples of all nations would be fraught with difficulties and Jesus knew they would have doubts. He promised them that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, would be sent to teach and remind them of everything Jesus had told them. Much like the disciples of the past, we need only look to God

as a guide during the times in which we struggle and trust in His constant presence in our lives.

Our ministries at the Diocese of Rockford seek to share God’s presence with people across our diocese. Your donation to our 2026 Diocesan Appeal will allow us to fund our ministries that guide people closer to Christ. Would you please prayerfully consider a contribution to our appeal? Your support allows us and to care for the souls of young and old, prepare men for the priesthood and permanent diaconate, and continue to respond to all those in need.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *David J. Malloy*

Most Reverend  
David J Malloy  
Bishop of Rockford



**I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU  
ORPHANS; I WILL COME TO YOU.**

—JOHN 14:18

# Key areas



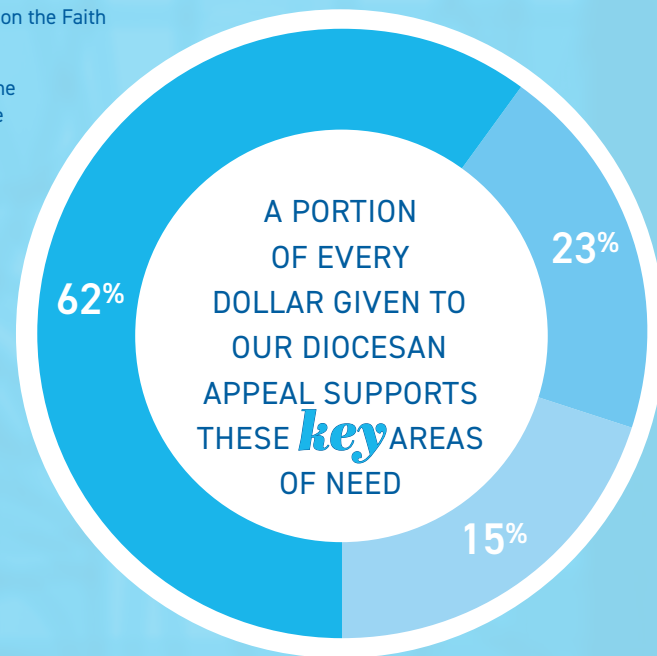
15% **FORMING** and  
Supporting Clergy



62% **PROCLAIMING** the  
Gospel and Passing on the Faith



23% **CARING** for the  
Poor and Vulnerable



**The Diocesan Appeal directly helps your parish through its support of Catholic Charities, education, vocations, and administration. Your donation helps keep your parish and our diocese strong.**



## CARING FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

Your gifts to the Diocesan Appeal support those who need our help the most: the poor, the marginalized, the hungry, the elderly, and the unborn. By contributing to our appeal, you help support local efforts to serve all of God’s people with compassion, dignity, and respect, in solidarity with the Church.

*Programs and ministries funded include:*

Catholic Charities  
LiFE Office  
St. Elizabeth Catholic  
Community Center

## FORMING AND SUPPORTING CLERGY

The Diocese of Rockford is blessed to have 9 young men attending seminary and preparing for priestly ministry, and another 23 men studying to be ordained to the permanent diaconate. In the past year 67 men attended summer discernment retreats! Your prayers and generosity help form the next generation of priests and Church leaders. Your gift also provides needed health care and pension support for our 36 retired priests who have faithfully served our diocese.

*Programs and ministries funded include:*

Vicar for Clergy Office  
Permanent Diaconate Program  
Seminary Education  
Vocations Office  
Priest Health Care & Pensions

## PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL AND PASSING ON THE FAITH

Your generous contribution to the Diocesan Appeal funds programs, ministries and evangelization efforts that ensure the joy of our faith is passed on to future generations. Our diocese helps prepare leaders of religious education programs for more than 25,000 of our faithful, provides programming for adults, and important resources for our 105 parishes to encourage encounters with Christ for people of all ages. In our Catholic schools, the inspiration of Jesus Christ can be found daily in our classrooms, prayers, worship, witness, and service. This unique education process prepares our students to respond to God’s plan and live their lives for the glory of God, in joyful service to all.

*Programs and ministries funded include:*

Youth Ministry Office  
Campus Ministry Office  
Catholic Education Office  
Adult Faith Formation Office  
Hispanic Ministry and  
Regional Ministries  
Divine Worship Office  
Bishop Lane Retreat Center  
Diocesan administrative  
resources and services  
for parishes, and more

