

Bishop's Appeal 2026 – FAQ's

1. What is the Bishop's Appeal and where does my donation go?

The Bishop's Appeal is a direct appeal asking the people of the diocese, to make a gift to support the mission and ministries of the Diocese of Green Bay. These ministries reach many different people. Young people learn about Jesus in our parishes and Catholic schools. Men receive training and formation to become deacons. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal helps us build vibrant parishes and share the gospel throughout northeastern Wisconsin. The Bishop's Appeal kicks off in February.

2. What impact does my gift have?

Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal helps Catholic Charities reach out to those in need by providing financial health resources. Catholic Charities also offers adoption and pregnancy counseling to birth and adoptive parents, guides individuals experiencing unplanned pregnancies, and more.

Your generosity brings faith formation to people of all ages. Catechists in our parish faith formation programs and educators in our Catholic schools help our children and teens encounter Jesus thanks to the training and resources they receive from the Diocese.

Within our parishes, your gift helps train and support parish staff, deacons, and lay leaders. It strengthens outreach ministries, adult faith formation, and college campus ministries that accompany young adults in their faith journey. These are just a few of the many ways your gift to the Bishop's Appeal makes a meaningful difference.

This year, we hope to broaden that impact by increasing the number of families and individuals who participate in the Appeal, as well as the total number of gifts offered. Every gift—no matter the size—helps expand the reach of Christ's love throughout our Diocese.

For more information, please visit our website at www.catholicfoundationgb.org.

3. What is the average gift? And how much should I give?

The average gift in 2025 was \$286. Through prayerful consideration, we encourage everyone to reflect on what they are able to share with those who have less. Even the smallest gifts make a meaningful difference because when everyone participates, our collective generosity becomes a powerful light for our Diocese.

4. How can I make a gift?

There are several easy ways to make a gift. In early February, every family will receive a letter from Bishop Ricken inviting them to make a gift. Simply fill out the pledge card and

mail it in the enclosed blue envelope. Gifts may be made in monthly installments from March through December, or gifts may be one-time donations. The pledge card will include options that range from making your gift via credit card, check, electronic withdrawal directly from your checking or savings account, or online at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give.

5. Does my gift pay for any legal settlements?

No, the Bishop's Appeal has never been used to pay legal settlements. Gifts to the Bishop's Appeal have always been used to share the ministries and services of the Diocese of Green Bay with our parishes, Catholic schools and communities throughout northeastern Wisconsin.

6. Does my gift pay the Bishop's salary?

The Bishop's Appeal is an annual campaign that supports the ministries of the diocese. It does not pay for the Bishop's salary. The Appeal does provide support to diocesan ministries which reach out to thousands of people each year. Some of the ministries the Bishop's Appeal supports are Catholic Charities, the Office of Catholic Schools and Faith Formation, *On Mission* magazine, and the Missionary Leadership Institute, to name a few.

7. How much of my gift supports the ministries of the Diocese?

Annually, 91 - 93% of your gift to the Bishop's Appeal supports the ministries of the Diocese of Green Bay. That is 91¢ - 93¢ of every \$1.00!

Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal will help in countless ways. Children and families are able to attend lively, interactive education programs learning the Word of God. Couples looking to grow their family through adoption are supported on their journey. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal makes happy endings possible.

Questions? Please contact Tammy at 920-272-8123 or tdanz@cfgbwi.org