

In addition to the ministries mentioned in the previous pages, your gifts to the Bishop’s Appeal help to fund the following ministries, programs and offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany:

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities’ employees and volunteers serve nearly 100,000 people annually throughout its 15 community-based agencies, with special concern for the poor and vulnerable. The services provided by Catholic Charities are varied as new needs arise and represent a seamless continuum of care to address the needs of children, women and men at all stages of life.

Education

The Office of Catholic Faith Formation and Education
The Office of Catholic Faith Formation and Education is a collaborative effort to provide seamless access to resources for growing in the knowledge and experience of our faith at all stages of the human journey from baptism preparation for parents of infants through childhood and teenage; through young adults on college campuses, marriage preparation, formation of the unbaptized seeking to join the Catholic Church to adult enrichment and lay ministry formation.

The Catholic School Office
The Catholic School Office provides essential support to our Catholic elementary and high schools. This office provides consistent curriculum standards and learning outcomes, professional development opportunities for our teachers and staff, assistance with institutional Middle States accreditation and integration of technology into the learning curriculum.

St. Bernard’s Institute
St Bernard’s Institute is a Roman Catholic graduate and professional school located in the Dioceses of Rochester, Syracuse and Albany offering graduate degrees in theology and continuing education opportunities for those seeking personal enrichment and a deeper understanding of the convictions of faith.

Pastoral Services

Apostolates and Ethnic Ministries
This program provides pastoral support to the Vietnamese and Korean Apostolates as well as the Spanish speaking communities.

Campus Ministry
Campus Ministry is the official presence of the Church on each college/university campus. There are many dimensions to this ministry. The faith community consists of students, faculty and staff on each campus.

Communications Office
This office helps to promote and inform the Catholic and

non-Catholic community about the mission of our diocesan ministries and programs. The Communications Office also produces “Table of the Lord”, our diocesan weekly televised mass for the home-bound.

Capital Region Ecumenical Council
The Council promotes common worship among all faiths and provides educational outreach in ecumenical and inter-religious matters of faith, tradition and custom.

Ecumenical Commission
The Commission facilitates ecumenical and interfaith collaboration with other faith communities throughout the diocese.

Parish Services
The Office of Parish Services provides resources that can be used by the diocese, parishes, and individual Catholics who want to strengthen their ministries and nourish their faith life.

Pastoral Health Care
This program provides ministerial support to hospitals and health care facilities in the diocese.

Pastoral Planning
The Office of Pastoral Planning is responsible for ensuring the presence and vitality of the Church and planning for the future of our fourteen county diocese.

Prayer and Worship
The Office of Prayer and Worship provides services to parishes in preparing programs for worship, organizing diocesan choirs and providing educational programs for parish leaders on liturgy, prayer and music.

Scouting
The Diocese of Albany provides spiritual support services and programs to the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls and Junior Catholic Daughters of America.

Tribunal
The Tribunal responds to the needs of people as they prepare to enter into marriage as well as those who are troubled by marital discord. Additionally, the Office of Canonical Services gives advice and counsel to the Bishop, agencies or offices and to parish personnel in matters of canon law.

Youth Recreation
The Youth Association provides a wide array of athletic programming for children throughout the diocese.

Religious Personnel Development

Consultation Services
The Consultation Center provides professional counseling and mental health services to individuals and groups.

Initial and Ongoing Formation
Initial and Ongoing Formation includes formation for deacons which provides the theological education for those discerning a call to the diaconate and the Kateri Institute, for those discerning a call to lay ministry.

Permanent Diaconate
The Permanent Diaconate Office provides the ongoing spiritual formation and theological educational programs for ordained deacons.

Vicar for Clergy
This office provides personnel support services and administrative oversight to the priests of the diocese.

Vicar for Religious
The Vicar for Religious provides liaison services between the Bishop of Albany and religious communities.

Vicar for Vocations
The Vocations Office provides discernment, educational programs and support for men and woman who are called to a life in ordained or professed ministry.

Support Services

Architecture and Building Commission
The Architecture and Building Commission provides technical assistance to diocesan parishes who are engaged in capital building projects.

Archives Office
This office oversees the diocesan archives and provides historical information to parishes, individuals and diocesan offices.

Real Property
The Real Property Office maintains the Pastoral Center, provides advice and assistance to the diocese and our parishes in regard to real estate matters, and oversees all acquisitions, sales or leasing of property.

Cathedral
Our diocesan Mother Church, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, receives partial funding from the Bishop’s Appeal to support general operations and diocesan wide liturgies and celebrations.

Chancery Operations
Chancery programs provide financial management and accounting support services to the varied ministries, programs and parishes of the diocese. Bishop’s Appeal allocations to the Chancery also support the Bishop’s Office.

Contingencies
This fund is utilized to meet unexpected or emergency requests for funding from diocesan ministries, programs or parishes.

Stewardship Office
The Stewardship Office conducts the annual Bishop’s Appeal and coordinates the majority of diocesan fundraising initiatives, including increased offertory programs and capital campaigns for parishes.

Information Technology
This office provides comprehensive computer and information technology assistance to parishes, ministries, programs and offices of the diocese.

Office of Human Resources
The Human Resources Department serves employees by developing and implementing personnel policies, overseeing the compensation and benefits program, providing support, advice and consultation on all employment issues and the hiring of new personnel.

Extra-Diocesan Responsibilities to the Larger Church

The Holy Father
The diocese makes an annual contribution to support the ministries and charitable works of the Holy Father.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
The USCCB is the episcopal conference of Catholic bishops in the United States. The purpose of the USCCB is to unify, coordinate, encourage, promote and carry on Catholic activities in the United States, to organize and conduct religious, charitable and social welfare work at home and abroad; to aid in education and to care for immigrants.

The New York State Catholic Conference
The New York State Catholic Conference represents the Bishops of New York State in matters of public policy. The role of the Conference is to seek justice, fairness and charity for all, with a particular emphasis on the poor and vulnerable.

His Mercy
Endures Forever