



# Stewards of His Gifts

## F.A.Q: Diocesan Services Appeal

### **W**hat is the Diocesan Services Appeal?

The Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA) is the annual fundraising campaign for the five-county Diocese of Palm Beach in which the faithful are asked by our Bishop to give generously. With those contributions, the Diocese can continue to support the many aspects of our larger Church, including the 53 parishes and missions, and 19 schools throughout Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. The DSA is the primary source of funding for the Diocese, providing more than 70 percent of the annual operating income. Without this appeal, the Diocese simply could not carry out its pastoral ministry and programs.

### **W**ho benefits from my contribution to the DSA?

There are many beneficiaries of our DSA contributions. The funds remain within the boundaries of the Diocese and help our Church help others. From our youngest to the elderly, our Diocese is there to ensure that all life is held precious, respected and nourished — physically, emotionally and spiritually. This may mean direct financial assistance to a struggling parish, support of a mission school, or funding an outreach program for the poor and needy.

### **W**hy should I support the DSA when I already give weekly to my parish?

We know that our weekly parish offertory contributions support the administration of the parish together with all of its good works. It is much the same for the DSA, but on a much larger scale. As Catholics, we are called upon to share our blessings not only with members of our own parish community, but also with our needy brothers and sisters throughout our five-county Diocese. Unlike most dioceses where parishes are taxed for a portion of offertory donations to run the diocese, the Diocese of Palm Beach relies solely on the DSA campaign to fund its

operations, for the most part, leaving your offertory donations totally for parish budgets.

### **H**ow many programs, ministries and services are funded by Diocesan Services Appeal?

Some of the ministries, programs and services supported by the 2012 DSA include: Catholic schools; youth and young adult ministries; the Office of Vocations; education of seminarians; ongoing formation of priests; multicultural offices; religious education and spiritual development; marriage and family life; communications; senior housing; Catholic Charities and its 16 program and ministries including respect life, prison ministry and substance abuse addiction. In addition, the DSA supports the central administrative offices of the Diocese of Palm Beach.

### **H**ow can I support the Diocesan Services Appeal?

There are numerous ways to give to the 2012 DSA. You may make a one-time gift, or better yet, give generously through a pledge that could then be paid monthly. In these difficult times, many donors spread that payment over several months. You will receive a letter from Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito, which will contain all the necessary information and forms. Similar information will also be available at your parish. You can also make online donations by visiting us at [www.diocesepb.org/dsa](http://www.diocesepb.org/dsa), and clicking on "Opportunities for Giving." For questions, please call the Office of Development at 561-775-9590.

### **I**s there a minimum I need to donate?

There is no minimum and all gifts are gratefully received. The goal is for all Catholics to prayerfully consider a donation in accordance with the gifts God has given them.