

Why is the Catholic Services Appeal Important?

Individuals, families, parishes, and schools benefit from the work of Archdiocesan agencies and offices. Below is a small sample of the many works supported by the Appeal over the last year.

- Developed and maintained a monthly podcast series “*What’s New in ArchLou*,” highlighting the people and ministries of the Archdiocese of Louisville.
- Held safe environment training workshops or provided emergency video options for 3,144 staff and volunteers who work with children or youth.
- Provided liturgical direction, formation and resources to all parishes.
- The number of seminarians continues to rise. There are currently 19 men discerning a life in priesthood. In June 2024, 5 men were ordained into priesthood.
- Provided training, support, formation, and networking opportunities among those who minister to, with, and for young people (adolescence through young adulthood). Worked with parishes and other agencies to empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, to draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Church, and to foster the personal and spiritual growth of each young person. Provided consultation and resourcing for parish-based Confirmation preparation, youth ministry, and young adult ministry, and local youth and young adult-serving apostolates.
- Coordinated the preparation and electronic mailing of *The Catholic Connection*, a monthly electronic newsletter sent to more than 30,000 households.
- Catholic Charities of Louisville's (CCL) Immigration Legal Services (ILS) program served over 2,100 clients in 2023. ILS provides legal assistance to low-income immigrants and refugees facing obstacles to family unity. CCL is one of nine agencies in the U.S. with a cooperative agreement with the U.S. government to formally resettle refugees. In the Catholic tradition to "welcome the stranger," ILS plays an essential role in making sure this vulnerable population is protected from unscrupulous practitioners and is afforded proper legal and human rights, which both affect one's human dignity.
- Published a regular monthly section of *The Record* in Spanish – *Vida Catolica* – that is bulk-shipped directly to parishes with Hispanic populations.
- Mailed *The Record* newspaper to over 57,000 households each week.
- Provided days of reflection, weekend retreats, conference opportunities, and other faith sharing events to college students.
- Assisted parishes across the archdiocese with facility maintenance, planning and real estate.
- Offered 63 catechist certification classes (retreats, workshops and classes) for 939 attendees (teachers, parish catechists, principals, parish catechetical leaders, and others in ministry).
- Provided an average of 9,000 instances of Food Pantry interactions through the Sister Visitor Center.
- Welcomed over 2,200 donor households into the 2024 Salt & Light Giving Society for the Catholic Services Appeal.

A full listing can be found online at: www.ArchLou.org/case-for-support/