## ADVANCING OUR SOUR LIKE good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." —1 Peter 4:10.







## ASSISTANCE FOR SEMINARIANS AND RETIRED PRIESTS

The Annual Catholic Appeal provides essential support for seminarians preparing for the priesthood, helping to fund their formation.

In 2025, three seminarians are to be ordained to the priesthood in our diocese, the culmination of five or six years of preparation.

This year, a total of 12 seminarians are in various stages of priestly formation.

The ACA also offers vital support for retired priests, supplementing their pension when necessary. They have dedicated their lives to serving the People of God at parishes across the diocese and now look to the community to help sustain them after retiring.

The normal retirement age for a priest in our diocese is age 75. However, many continue to participate in the life of the Church as long as they are able to, celebrating Masses and more.

Like the rest of the community, retired priests face escalating costs in housing, food, medical care, and prescription drugs. Through the ACA we help them to meet these needs.

A retired priest described the sense of security he feels after serving in various parishes for 44 years.

"I'm so grateful to discover that, in our retirement years, Cardinal McElroy and the diocese have our back."

## **Our Response as Stewards**

**REFLECT** — On the many gifts you have received from God, including your financial blessings.

**PRAY** — About how God wants you to use the gifts He has given you.

**RESPOND** — By supporting the mission. You can give at your parish or online at **sdcatholic.org/giving.**