

Dear Friends,

We would like to invite parish leaders to spend some time in prayer, discussion, and discernment about applying for an Outreach Grant. Please note that along with giving much-needed items like food and other necessities, an outreach ministry can also be one that seeks to raise awareness, advocates for marginalized populations, aids in accessibility or cares for our environment.

We are able to give up to \$40,000 total, and we are offering two types of outreach grants to congregations in the diocese.

- 1. Ministry Outreach Grants (up to \$2,000)** are for ongoing ministries. These grants will be offered to support and strengthen an ongoing outreach ministry within the parish by providing funds for resources, equipment, supplies, accessibility, or awareness-raising activities. To apply for an outreach grant for an ongoing ministry, [click here](#). Online and printable versions are available.
  
- 2. Development Outreach Grants (up to \$5000)** are for new ministries. These grants will be given to parishes beginning a new outreach ministry initiative in the congregation. *Note: two or more parishes may jointly apply for an outreach grant for a new ministry.* Grants will be given to support a new outreach initiative by providing funds for resources, equipment, supplies, accessibility, or awareness-raising activities. To apply for an outreach grant for an ongoing ministry, [click here](#). Online and printable versions are available.

### **Additional Information about Outreach Ministry Grants**

**When can you apply?** We will accept applications from January 1 – February 29, 2024.

**Are there application requirements?** The parish must be current with its diocesan assessment and other financial obligations.

**Can a parish apply for both grants?** Parishes may apply for both types of grants, but only for one from each category.

**When will you know if you are receiving a grant?** Parishes will be notified no later than March 28, 2024, if they will receive a grant.

**Will there be follow up?** We will follow up with you six months after receiving a grant. A member of the Parish Support Team will contact you to learn how the funds were used, and the status of the ministry that was funded.

## How might an outreach grant work in the life of a parish?

1. **For ongoing ministries:** Perhaps there is an outreach ministry in your congregation that involves service and giving material goods to people in need. A grant could assist in the purchase of additional supplies for distribution. A grant could also assist the parish in making the outreach opportunity better known via print, social media, or with distributed information. Perhaps an area in the physical plant of a parish is designated for storage of items to be given away. Does that area need new shelving or some other type of improvement to assist with the operation of the ministry? Are there people who use the services of an outreach ministry that may require the services of a language interpreter? Perhaps a grant can assist. Be creative!
2. **For new outreach ministries:** Maybe it is the case that a parish has been contemplating a new type of outreach ministry. Perhaps this ministry will involve direct service. Maybe it will focus on care for the environment, advocacy for justice, or providing food, clothing, shelter, or other types of tangible support. A grant in this category could assist in the costs that may be associated with getting started: learning about the ministry, promotional or information materials, training that may be needed, supplies, etc. This type of grant should assist with a new venture – an outreach ministry that the parish feels called to engage in either by itself or in partnership with a local organization/another parish.

Please contact Canon Scott Leannah if you have any questions, and may God continue to bless your ministry to God's people in your corner of the vineyard!

Parish Support Team,

The Rev. Matthew Buterbaugh

The Rev. Dr. Miranda Hassett

The Rev. TJ Humphrey

Canon Scott Leannah

The Rev. Melesa McEwan Skoglund

Ms. Janice Pauc

Ms. Marlene Udovich