

# 2019 ACA ANNUAL SUMMARY



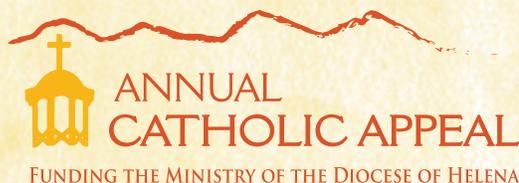
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the  
CALLING  
to  
FULLNESS  
of  
LIFE  
in CHRIST



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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I mark the first anniversary of my time here with you as your Bishop I have a great deal of gratitude for the many ways you've participated in the life of the Church during these difficult and uncertain times.

Your gifts to our Annual Catholic Appeal have supported creative and inspiring ministry, expertise and services needed by our parishes as well as generous outreach and sharing among the people of God.

Enjoy the stories and notes of gratitude on the following pages. They are for you and because of you!

Thank you for responding to Christ's invitation to embrace the **Calling to Fullness of Life in Him.**

In Christ, I am

Most Reverend Austin A. Vetter  
Bishop of Helena

• IN FAITH • \$753,000 GOAL • \$736,633 RAISED

Catholic University, Washington DC.....	\$3,000.00
Journey .....	\$4,890.89
Lay Ministry Formation .....	\$5,869.07
Legendary Lodge.....	\$82,166.93
Permanent Diaconate .....	\$7336.33
Priests' Continuing Formation.....	\$48,908.89
Priests' Retirement & Clergy Benefit .....	\$359,480.32
Prison Ministry—Discovery Weekends.....	\$2,934.53
Seminarian Formation.....	\$127,163.11
Vocation Awareness Promotion.....	\$4,890.89
Youth, Young Adult and Adult Catholic Formation .....	\$89,992.35

**LAY MINISTRY FORMATION**

Immaculate Conception in Polson with Sacred Heart Mission in Ronan, St. Michael in Conrad and St. Teresa in Whitehall were each offered funding for their Family Catechesis programs after their traditional grant funding source was unable to support them this year.

**LEGENDARY LODGE**

The 2020 camp season, including Leadership Camp, was held virtually throughout the summer. The online curriculum served all ages and was widely viewed throughout the Diocese of Helena. In partnership with this initiative were families who were able to donate the registration fee that had already been



paid for anticipated 2020 camps that had to be canceled. Thank you!



In August our Legendary Lodge family said thank you and goodbye to caretaker Ron Burnett. We'll miss you, Ron and Velma. Soon after a warm welcome was offered to Craig Tredik who will now oversee the caretaking of our beloved summer camp. Welcome Craig and Diane!

**SEMINARIAN FORMATION**

We welcomed three additional Seminarians this fall. John Cooney, Riley Helgoe and Brett Rotz joined our current seminarians; Dillon Armstrong, Matthew Christiaens, Tyler Frohlich, Kaleb Mitchell and Kyle Tannehill

Promotion provides opportunities in a retreat setting for college and university students to discern their vocation.

**Carroll College:** Women's and Men's retreats were held on Jan.

24th-26th. The men were at Legendary Lodge (52 participants) and the women (79 participants) were seven miles away at Camp Utmost. Conversations centered on discipleship, discernment and responding to God's calling in the lives of the students. For both retreats, people shared about following Christ as a woman or man and what that journey has looked like over time – either as a married person, consecrated celibate, or someone still discerning after finishing college.

On Feb 21-23, a discernment retreat was held at Sts. Cyril and Methodius. Sr. Mariana Thayer and Sr. Maria Caeli Parmeter, Nashville Dominicans serving in the Archdiocese of Seattle presented along with Bishop Vetter, Cody and Anna Tredik and Fr. Marc Lenneman. Emphasis was placed on how to form a discerning heart now as a college student so that Christ's calling can be first heard and then responded to.

Thank you so much for the support to help college students discern their vocations. It is greatly appreciated. *Blessings in Christ, Fr. Marc Lenneman, Chaplain, Carroll College, Diocese of Helena*

**Montana Tech:** On March 4, 2020 the MTech Catholic Campus Ministry held a Vocations Panel discussion in the Copper Lounge in the Student Union Building. The Panel consisted of Fr. Patrick Beretta as Moderator, Fr. Craig Hanley to represent Priesthood, Deacon Bernie and Helen McCarthy to represent the Diaconate. Sister Mary Agnes Hogan representing Consecrated Single Life, and Nick and Kate McGree representing Married Life.

There were over 50 people in the audience who were fully engaged in the discussion. Many participated in the Q & A portion of the evening. After the Panelists talked about their Discernment process that ultimately ended with the Vocation they represented, the

at St. John Vianney Seminary for Spiritual Formation, Philosophy and Theology. Thank you for supporting these men in their discernment and formation for Priesthood. See page 10 for Seminarians in Service.

**VOCATION AWARENESS PROMOTION**

Vocation Awareness



MTech Catholic Campus Ministry  
Together We Are Family

audience was full of questions. Led by Fr. Beretta, the panelists were able to answer about 20-25 questions before time ran out.

After the Panel event, a reception was held and most of the crowd stayed and asked more questions and discussed the discernment process with each other. Many of the attendees asked for more information regarding the different Vocations that were represented. Most also said they would attend another event like this if it were offered. *Seaneen Prendergast, Montana Tech Catholic Campus Ministry Director and Fr. Patrick Beretta, Chaplain*

**YOUTH MINISTRY AND FORMATION**

They say that there are two good days to plant a tree: 1) 25 years ago; and 2) today. Those who donated to the Annual Catholic Appeal were planting a tree that has born fruit during this global pandemic.

No one knew what 2020 would bring. Because of your generosity, foresight, and hope for the future, Youth Ministry and Formation had the financial resources to quickly adapt strategies to continue our mission to love, serve, and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with young people.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, every flagship program in our ministry was or is currently being adapted, not canceled. We continue to provide our regular support services for parishes, ministries, and schools. In addition, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry created - often from scratch - or contributed to the development of innovative ministry programming, which will remain accessible online at no cost to any young person, their family, or parish-based youth ministry. This includes:

- Virtual CYC Convention
- Wednesday Virtual Youth Nights
- Online Summer Programming
- Virtual Leadership Camp Week
- Webinar: Ministry When You Can't Gather
- Justice Outreach Project Prayer Service & Living Rosary
- Catholic Youth Coalition Board



Simply put, these programs are opportunities to share our faith with young people and environments where they can encounter the Lord. Every week, in our programs, we witnessed young people growing closer to Jesus. The fruit of our ministry happens only through the grace of God and your continued generosity. Thank you for planting a tree. *Kevin Mollm, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Manager*

• THROUGH LOVE • \$416,000 GOAL • \$412,094 RAISED

De La Salle Blackfeet School—Browning .....	\$25,000.00
Catholic Social Services of Montana .....	\$59,000.00
<i>Adoption Services, Project Rachel, Supportive Aid to Birthmothers</i>	
Guatemala Mission .....	\$117,381.33
Montana Catholic Conference .....	\$75,000.00
Priest and Parish Emergency Assistance and Capital Improvements .....	\$57,712.49
Superintendent of Catholic Schools' Office.....	\$78,000.00

Tomás la Union. Your continued support of our Guatemala Mission was even more vital this year because of its impact on an already impoverished people. On behalf of the people we serve in Guatemala through our Mission, thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of our Mission. *Deacon Michael Seipp, Guatemala Mission Director*

**MONTANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**  
Your generous support of the Annual Catholic Appeal helps the Montana Catholic Conference advocate on behalf of the most vulnerable. Whether it's in Helena or Washington D.C., thanks to you, the Catholic Church's voice is present standing up for human life and the dignity of all. *Matt Brower, Director, Montana Catholic Conference*

**PRIEST AND PARISH EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**  
Four Parishes and 1 Priest received funds for various emergency needs. The four parishes in alphabetical order are: Guardian Angel Mission, Power, St. Anthony, Missoula, St. Mary, Stevensville and St. Matthew, Kalispell.

Thank you so much for assisting us with funds for replacing our furnaces. Sincerely,  
*Guardian Angel Parishioners*



Following a devastating fire at St. Matthew Parish in Kalispell the Annual Catholic Appeal offered a matching grant to help raise funds to restore the Church. Thank you so very much for your generosity in our time of need and God willing we will meet our Renewal goal! *Fr. Roderick Ermatinger, Pastor and David Hergesheimer, Finance Council Chair and Charles Harball, Pastoral Council Chair*



DLSBS is hosting a live streamed all-school mass on TODAY, Thursday, October 15th at 2pm. Parents/Guardians can join our school mass through the Little Flower Parish Facebook page, and students will join through a Google Meet link that will be provided to them.



**DE LA SALLE BLACKFEET SCHOOL**  
It was with great appreciation that we received the generous contribution that is derived from the diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal and the generosity of the people of Western Montana. This was especially true as we confront the rebuilding after the fire that occurred on January 5th in the administrative trailer. This original residential trailer housed the administrative offices of the bookkeeper, the counselor, some auxiliary personnel and president. It is our hope to have a replacement ready for the 2020-21 school year. This has given us an experience of the unsettled situations of some of our students, including having access to technology to live stream all-school Masses available on our Facebook page and a Google Meet link. We anticipate a time when we will join hands and pray the Our Father together once again. Hopefully, in the meantime, we all can remain patient. *Brother Dale Mooney, President, De La Salle Blackfeet School*

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**



Catholic Social Services of Montana is so very grateful for your support of this ministry. Your gift enables us to offer the option of adoption to expectant mothers. This couldn't happen without you!! Thank you! *Twila Costigan, Executive Director*

**GUATEMALA MISSION**

As we have encountered in the United States, the pandemic has impacted not only our Guatemala Mission but all of the people of Guatemala – public transportation was halted, markets were closed, stores were closed, businesses suspended operations, all resulting in employees being furloughed or released. The economic and social safety nets we take for granted in the United States are either diminished or nonexistent in Guatemala particularly in the rural areas served by our Guatemalan mission. The pandemic has intensified the level of poverty in the areas surrounding the Mission. Public transportation is a key and sometimes only method, of traveling to a place of employment. When public transportation was suspended jobs were lost resulting in significant impacts to family income and in some cases families were separated. During this time Clinica Maxeña experienced increased usage due to the lack of family income and suspension of travel. Families could not travel to the government clinics or could not afford the “for profit” clinics. Clinica Maxeña provided much needed and urgent medical care.



The Guatemala Department of Education suspended “in school” operations, including our Mission school La Asunción. Students were sent home including those living in the dormitories and they were provided with remote education. For families with internet access, classroom instruction was provided via the web. For families without internet access, classroom material and lessons were provided by paper copy delivered to their homes by the school faculty. In addition to delivering school work, the faculty often delivered food baskets providing much needed nutrition for the families. Delivering school work and food to the families is no small feat in the mountainous region surrounding Santo



• WITH HOPE • \$831,000 GOAL • \$818,125 RAISED

Bishop's Office and Pastoral Outreach .....	\$268,998.87
Campaign Expenses .....	\$120,000.00
Campus Ministry	
Bozeman, Butte, Dillon, Helena, and Missoula .....	\$85,000.00
Catholic Cemeteries .....	\$21,030.82
Catholic Missions in the Holy Land .....	\$1,750.00
Delegate for Religious .....	\$978.18
Diocesan Communications, Newsletter & Technology ...	\$119,337.68
Diocesan Liturgical Commission .....	\$4,890.89
Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Support and Planning.....	\$24,454.44
Historical Preservation .....	\$22,987.18
Human Resource Services .....	\$48,908.89
Rebates to Paid Over Goal Parishes .....	\$25,000.00
Safe Environment/Protecting God's Children.....	\$41,083.47
Tribunal .....	\$24,454.44
Vatican Apostolic Ministries .....	\$9,250.00



**BISHOP'S OFFICE AND PASTORAL OUTREACH**

Bishop Vetter's Ministry and Pastoral Outreach are funded by the Annual Catholic Appeal. As we celebrate his First Anniversary in our Diocese we give thanks to God for Bishop's leadership and care among us. His livestream Masses and video messages, including the reading of children's stories, have been a blessing for many as we look for signs of hope in our difficult circumstances. He now invites each one of us to be a Witness to Hope with him and the Church throughout the world. Please keep him in your prayers and be assured of his prayers for you!

**CAMPUS MINISTRY**



**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY:** The words of the students are most important and speak to the incredible impact that the ACA has on supporting and providing funding to our ministry. This has been an extraordinary year! The lessons learned from this experience I pray will stay with each of us the rest of our lives. These students have

shown me on a daily basis, that our faith is the most important aspect of our lives and will get us through any-thing! Without the support of the ACA, this would not be possible. We are and will always be tremendously grateful for the support of ACA donors. Thank you! *MaryShaun Mize, Campus Ministry Coordinator, Resurrection Catholic Campus Ministry for Montana State University (RCCM)*

**SHELBY:** Being new to this community I had no idea what to expect from a group like this on campus. I worked a lot with youth groups in the past back home in Florida and was missing that sense of belonging and home that I felt from my old parish. Finding RCCM has dramatically changed my social and spiritual life, my core group of friends has expanded 300% since last year and I'm so grateful to RCCM for that. It also allowed me the opportunity to get more involved in the community and volunteer which was definitely something I missed from my home parish. Everyone I have spoken with and worked with has been so warm and inviting towards me and my ideas that I couldn't ask for anything more from a support system like RCCM. To me RCCM is more than just a youth group or standard congregation, it truly is a family and I thank God every day for bringing this community into my life. It is reassuring to know that because of how tight knit this group is I could call on any one of these people, in my time of need, and they would be there for me. That's truly what makes this place so rare amongst the demographic of the current world.

**KASEY:** Joining RCCM was the best decision that I made this year. I have made a lot of close friends that feel more like a family to me. Through RCCM, I feel closer to God than I have in a long time. I am so thankful for the wonderful people that helped show me what it truly means to be Catholic.

**JAKE:** In this extraordinarily difficult semester, RCCM has been such a bright light. Our Tuesday night Masses and dinners have consistently been my most refreshing escape each week from the stresses of our school, nation, and world. The opportunity for prayer, confession, and Mass every week is absolutely amazing, and I feel very blessed to have formed such strong relationships with so many people this year. The way our group of students are always there for each other is very inspiring to me, and I hope I can hold

on to such beautiful friendships throughout my life.

**MICHAEL:** RCCM is part of what makes Bozeman home for me. As a college student, I am especially grateful to have a community of people that help me grow in my faith. Campus ministry has given me incredible friendships, opportunities to serve others in our community, and a constant reminder of the gift that is my Catholic faith. Thank you to everyone who has supported our group financially, through actions, and through prayer. Your contribution has made more of a difference than you can imagine!

**BEN:** RCCM has truly been the most stable part of my life especially this year! I am so lucky to be part of a community who cares and supports everyone who they encounter and are so motivated to be a part of their community and spread the love of God. I am so grateful that we were able to have a retreat this semester. I believe it really helped us grow as a family. I am so glad that I am part of such a wonderful ministry and I am very excited for what the future will bring. Thank you to all who help support and fund our ministry we are truly grateful and God bless!



**UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA:** Thank you for your generous support of our work with students at the University of Montana! The ACA helps to fund the campus ministry program here at Christ the King in Missoula, where Fr. Kirby Longo and a FOCUS team both started work in July. Although this has been an interesting year to begin a ministry, we were blessed by great weather that allowed us to actively engage with many students on campus in a safe, socially-distant outdoor setting. Throughout the fall semester at the University of Montana, we were able to host barbecues, hikes, ice cream socials, and most importantly, small groups where students could make friends and study Scripture together. Overall, we were able to meet over 60 students who were not previously involved in campus ministry, with 25-30 of them attending small groups on a weekly basis. We have been able to introduce many UM students to the beauty of the Church, and many have chosen to return to Mass, adoration, and confession after spending time with the missionaries, Fr. Kirby, and other

## DONATIONS BY PARISH FOR 2019

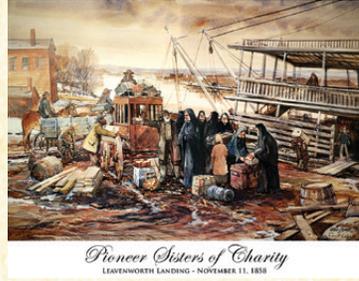
Parish	Goals	Paid	% Particip.	Over Goal Rebates
109 Holy Rosary, Bozeman	\$94,400	\$96,295	29.84%	\$189.50
150 Holy Family, Three Forks	\$12,900	\$17,435	33.66%	\$680.25
158 Resurrection, Bozeman	\$61,000	\$71,365	46.50%	\$2,591.25
162 Big Sky Mission	\$15,900	\$11,730	74.42%	
163 Our Lady of Pines, Yellowstone	\$12,100	\$3,790	57.89%	
165 St. John Vianney, Belgrade	\$50,300	\$71,730	34.97%	\$3,214.50
<b>Bozeman Deanery</b>	<b>\$246,600</b>	<b>\$272,344</b>	<b>35.85%</b>	<b>\$6,675.50</b>
203 St. Theodore, Avon	\$4,000	\$7,640	75.00%	\$910.00
204 Anaconda	\$52,500	\$22,475	21.38%	
208 St. Catherine, Boulder	\$7,500	\$7,470	16.46%	
211 Butte Catholic North	\$56,900	\$37,887	25.84%	
213 St. Ann, Butte	\$58,500	\$47,984	31.20%	
214 St. John, Butte	\$25,200	\$12,260	30.23%	
219 Holy Spirit, Butte	\$35,700	\$22,890	38.59%	
223 Immcft. Cncpt., Deer Lodge	\$30,200	\$26,710	53.64%	
224 St. Rose, Dillon	\$24,600	\$17,830	37.08%	
236 Madison County Community	\$18,000	\$21,325	36.89%	\$665.00
254 St. Teresa Avila, Whitehall	\$15,300	\$11,395	36.99%	
<b>Butte Deanery</b>	<b>\$328,400</b>	<b>\$235,866</b>	<b>30.69%</b>	<b>\$1,575.00</b>
310 Little Flower, Browning	\$13,700	\$20,159	24.58%	
319 St. Joseph, Choteau	\$12,800	\$12,050	37.08%	
321 St. Michael, Conrad	\$17,700	\$13,696	33.86%	
322 St. Margaret, Cut Bank	\$13,600	\$13,779	40.00%	\$44.75
326 St. William, Dutton	\$7,400	\$5,580	57.58%	
329 St. John, Fairfield	\$11,200	\$7,940	23.38%	
333 St. Anne, Heart Butte	\$1,000	\$1,499	350.00%	
346 St. William, Shelby	\$14,000	\$9,878	41.57%	
348 St. Thomas, Sunburst	\$5,700	\$2,405	31.58%	
352 St. Francis, Valier	\$10,100	\$14,845	43.08%	\$1,186.25
<b>Conrad Deanery</b>	<b>\$107,200</b>	<b>\$101,830</b>	<b>32.44%</b>	<b>\$1,231.00</b>
401 St. Helena Cathedral	\$173,900	\$268,368	28.07%	\$9,446.80
402 St. Mary, Helena	\$91,500	\$91,671	38.00%	\$34.20
427 Sts. C & M, East Helena	\$68,700	\$63,561	43.02%	
432 St. Joseph, Harlowton	\$9,900	\$10,700	63.83%	\$200.00
434 St. Thomas, Helmsville	\$5,800	\$11,650	53.85%	\$1,462.50
451 Holy Cross, Townsend	\$21,500	\$16,715	56.98%	
455 St. Bart, White Sulphur	\$6,200	\$6,725	44.74%	\$131.25
460 Our Lady of Valley, Helena	\$56,700	\$51,565	35.87%	
470 St. Jude, Lincoln	\$2,700	\$3,055	60.00%	\$88.75
<b>Helena Deanery</b>	<b>\$436,900</b>	<b>\$524,010</b>	<b>35.76%</b>	<b>\$11,363.50</b>
503 Swan Valley, Condon	\$2,800	\$1,650	36.36%	
506 Saint John Paul II, Bigfork	\$70,800	\$59,297	43.64%	
520 St. Richard, Columbia Falls	\$42,500	\$36,056	34.58%	
528 Our Lady of Mercy, Eureka	\$15,900	\$13,670	43.12%	
535 St. Matthew, Kalispell	\$122,400	\$96,015	35.85%	
536 Risen Christ, Kalispell	\$40,000	\$46,335	56.39%	\$1,583.75
537 St. Joseph, Libby	\$22,400	\$18,695	32.88%	
542 St. James, Plains	\$11,800	\$7,285	44.44%	
543 Immaculate Cncptn., Polson	\$31,500	\$27,365	27.60%	
544 Sacred Heart, Ronan	\$11,800	\$8,740	34.09%	
549 St. William, Thompson Falls	\$13,800	\$10,865	44.90%	
553 St. Charles, Whitefish	\$55,400	\$32,838	44.19%	
<b>Kalispell Deanery</b>	<b>\$441,100</b>	<b>\$358,811</b>	<b>39.33%</b>	<b>\$1,583.75</b>
605 Living Water, Seeley Lake	\$6,100	\$18,841	100.00%	\$3,185.25
607 St. Ann, Bonner	\$11,400	\$9,470	48.72%	
625 Flint Creek Catholic Community	\$7,300	\$12,765	78.95%	\$1,366.25
630 St. John Baptist, Frenchtown	\$21,400	\$11,989	36.00%	
631 St. Francis, Hamilton	\$64,300	\$54,895	37.45%	
638 Christ the King, Missoula	\$67,700	\$82,305	25.11%	\$1,460.50
639 St. Anthony, Missoula	\$57,700	\$43,875	44.86%	
640 St. Francis Xavier, Missoula	\$107,000	\$81,881	27.30%	
645 St. Ignatius Mission	\$18,600	\$20,928	28.44%	\$232.80
647 St. Mary, Stevensville	\$31,600	\$28,163	32.92%	
661 Blessed Trinity, Missoula	\$37,900	\$44,165	55.21%	\$1,566.25
669 Spirit of Christ, Lolo	\$8,800	\$8,796	72.09%	
<b>Missoula Deanery</b>	<b>\$439,800</b>	<b>\$418,072</b>	<b>34.45%</b>	<b>\$7,811.05</b>
<b>Parish Totals</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,910,932</b>	<b>34.97%</b>	<b>\$30,239.80*</b>
<b>Other Gifts</b>		<b>\$55,920</b>		
<b>Outstanding Pledges</b>		<b>\$18,281</b>		
<b>Unfunded</b>		<b>\$14,867</b>		
		<b>\$2,000,000</b>		

\* Rebates in excess of \$25,000 paid by Diocese of Helena

students in the ministry. With your help, the Catholic parishes have become the focal point of many students' experiences in Missoula as students, a foundation of faith that they can build on for years to come. We are truly grateful for your support! *Andy, FOCUS team member, University of Montana Catholic Campus Ministry at Christ the King*

### DELEGATE FOR RELIGIOUS

Thank you for your charitable donation in honor of the Sisters of Charity 162<sup>nd</sup> Founder's Day. Your gift will be placed in the SCL Retirement Fund. We are most grateful for your generous and kind spirit. *Constance Phelps, SCL, Community Director*



### RESURRECTION CEMETERY ASSOCIATION: Many hands, or a big

truck, make light work. A new (used) truck was purchased for St. Mary Cemetery in Missoula. This truck replaces a 1973 two-wheel drive dump truck. Since opening up 300 more plots for sale at the very top of the cemetery it was necessary to have a four-wheel drive dump truck that was capable of maneuvering the hilly terrain in the cemetery. The old truck had to be towed or pushed up the hill by a 1984 four-wheel drive truck to dig a grave on the hill. This practice was hazardous at times depending on the winter elements. The Dodge truck is equipped with a Boss V Plow to plow the roads into the cemetery in winter months. Mike Hamlin, sexton, is grateful for the extra help. Thank you!



### HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

The Diocese of Helena has many needs for the appropriation of the ACA funds. *Historic St. Mary's Mission* is honored to be included in the historic preservation designation. Thank you for supporting the preservation efforts of the historic site as we continue to share the unique history of the beginnings of Catholicism in Montana. *Colleen Meyer, Executive Director, Historic St. Mary's Mission, Inc., Stevensville*



Electronic document preservation will archive past issues of the Montana Catholic and capture Sacramental records, currently documented only in parishes, that were celebrated in our parishes and missions throughout the past 20 years. Thank you for helping to archive the history of our Diocese and our most sacred encounters with Christ!



### REBATES PAID TO OVER GOAL PARISHES

Rebates to parishes that pay over their Annual Catholic Appeal goal were offered as an incentive to increase the participation of the parish membership. The 2019 ACA had 20 parishes paid over goal. These 20 parishes raised an additional \$200,000 over their goals! They received a combined rebate of \$30,239.80 (complete list of rebates to right) to be used for local initiatives, charities or investments. Since its inception rebates *paid to over goal parishes total \$93,515.*