



January 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin the 2021 God's Gift Appeal, I offer my gratitude to you, the pastors, lay leaders and volunteers, who give so much of your time and talent toward the God's Gift Appeal. Your leadership educates the faithful about the valuable services and programs supported by the God's Gift Appeal. You also play a significant role in helping our brothers and sisters understand their own need to return a portion of their treasure in thanksgiving for what God has given them.

I am thankful for the generosity shown toward the 2020 God's Gift Appeal. However, based on the percentage of Catholic households who participated, there is still a great need to educate the faithful about the call to stewardship and the unity between the diocesan Church and the individual parishes.

The promotional materials for the 2021 God's Gift Appeal bring us one step closer to a successful appeal. **It is you, the clergy and faithful in the parishes, who will be most effective in communicating the theme of serving one another through stewardship.** Thank you for sharing the message of grateful stewardship in your parish community.

This year, our God's Gift Appeal theme is: "*Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope*". Let this be a reminder to us that we have an opportunity to share in the gift of Stewardship, which is a true call to discipleship. As we begin this year's God's Gift Appeal, may the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

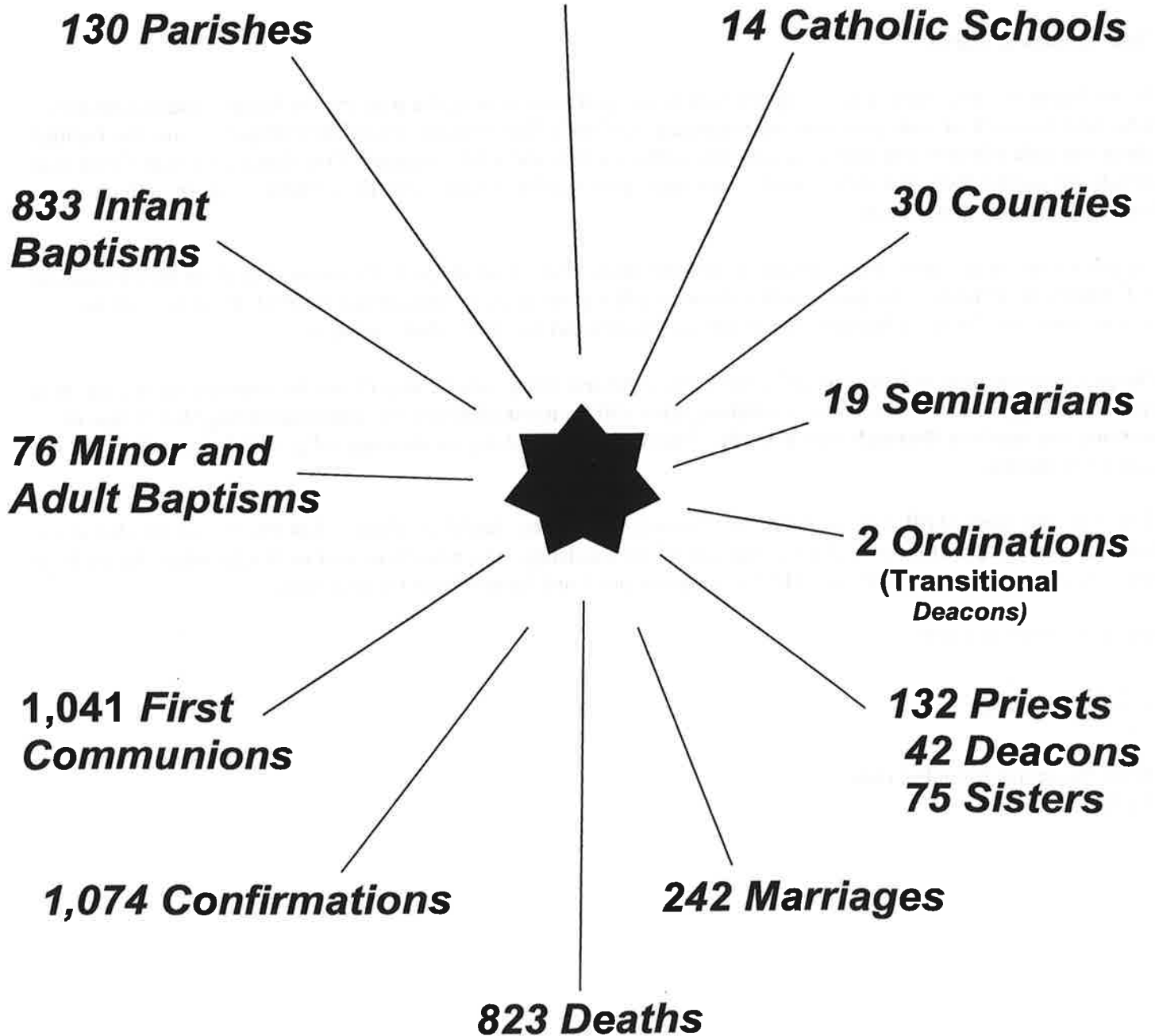
Sincerely yours in Christ,

†Most Reverend John T. Folda  
Bishop of Fargo

# INTRODUCTION

*Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope*

**73,657 Catholics**



Source: \*2020 Official Catholic Directory