

Together as Catholics

WE BRING HEALING TO THOSE AROUND US

2024 ANNUAL
CATHOLIC

Appeal





“We all beat the odds. We’re happy and we’re making it.”

IZABEL (right)
Court-appointed advocate for foster kids

Once a foster child herself, now reunited with her family

(left) Izabel’s mom



WATCH IZABEL'S STORY

Together as Catholics...



“The real presence of the Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist compels us to bring his healing presence to the world around us. The Appeal helps us ensure that the saving mercy of Christ reaches our brothers and sisters.”

+JAIME SOTO
Bishop of Sacramento

...kids can reach their full potential

Izabel is devoted to ensuring a positive support system for foster kids now and for their future. As a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), a program administered with compassion and dedication by **NORTHERN VALLEY CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICE**, Izabel gives kids the voice they need in court to have a positive path in life.

Once in foster care herself, the severe trauma a child goes through is all too familiar. Today she’s reunited with her parents, has a family of her own and is focused on becoming a lawyer. NVCSS gives her the opportunity to advocate in court for children with stories like hers.



“Foster youth have been my heartstring in the service that I do. We have to make sure these kids are well taken care of, happy and have a family connection.”

KAREN SCHAEFER
CASA Regional Manager
Northern Valley Catholic Social Service

“We are a testament to what financial donations can do.”

Izabel had a rough time overcoming past traumas. I just want to thank NVCSS for helping us with rent, helping us with housing, helping us with finances at certain times. Once we had those necessities we could think about reunifying with our children.”

JESSICA
Izabel’s mom
Works today as a substance-abuse counselor

Together as Catholics...



“As Catholics the Appeal helps all of us be a Church of and for the poor: to fulfill our responsibility to care for others through compassionate action and meaningful prayer.”

MIRIAM SAMMARTINO
Director of Catholic Charities
and Social Concerns
Diocese of Sacramento



...moms can
make ends
meet

Nia has access to basic necessities including diapers for her baby girl through one of more than 130 partner agencies of

SACRAMENTO FOOD

BANK & FAMILY SERVICES. As costs for food and essentials continue to rise, funds from the Appeal are crucial to SFB&FS in its mission to provide individuals and families with hope for a path out of poverty.



...women
have a
safety-net

Many of the most vulnerable among us find a deep connection and moments of joy at **WELLSPRING WOMEN'S CENTER.**

The doors open weekday mornings to women needing respite from harsh circumstances. Events like karaoke are not just about hitting high-notes but finding a voice, building confidence and breaking barriers.

“Partnering with parishes that help so many in our community allows us to fulfill our mission that much more.”

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
OF YOLO-SOLANO

...life-saving
programs
can thrive

Yugi is currently unhoused and does what he can to make life easier for those living on the streets of Vallejo. He assembles meals twice weekly as a volunteer at St. Catherine's Parish in Vallejo. **CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF YOLO-SOLANO** partners with the parish to ensure funds are there for the 450 meals that are prepared and distributed with compassion and respect.

Together as Catholics...



“It’s Christ working through us that really makes a difference in someone’s life. All we have to do is care.”

DEACON SERGIO DIAZ
Sacred Heart Parish,
Sacramento



Catholic Schools provide access to innovative education combined with faith-based values to students in our diocese.

TEN SCHOOLS are located in economically-challenged neighborhoods where fundraising is difficult. The Appeal helps bridge the gap between the need for tuition assistance and available funds.

...at-risk students stay in Catholic School



...parishes can do more

WITH THE 25% PARISH SHARE: *Thirteen new ministries were started in the last five years.*

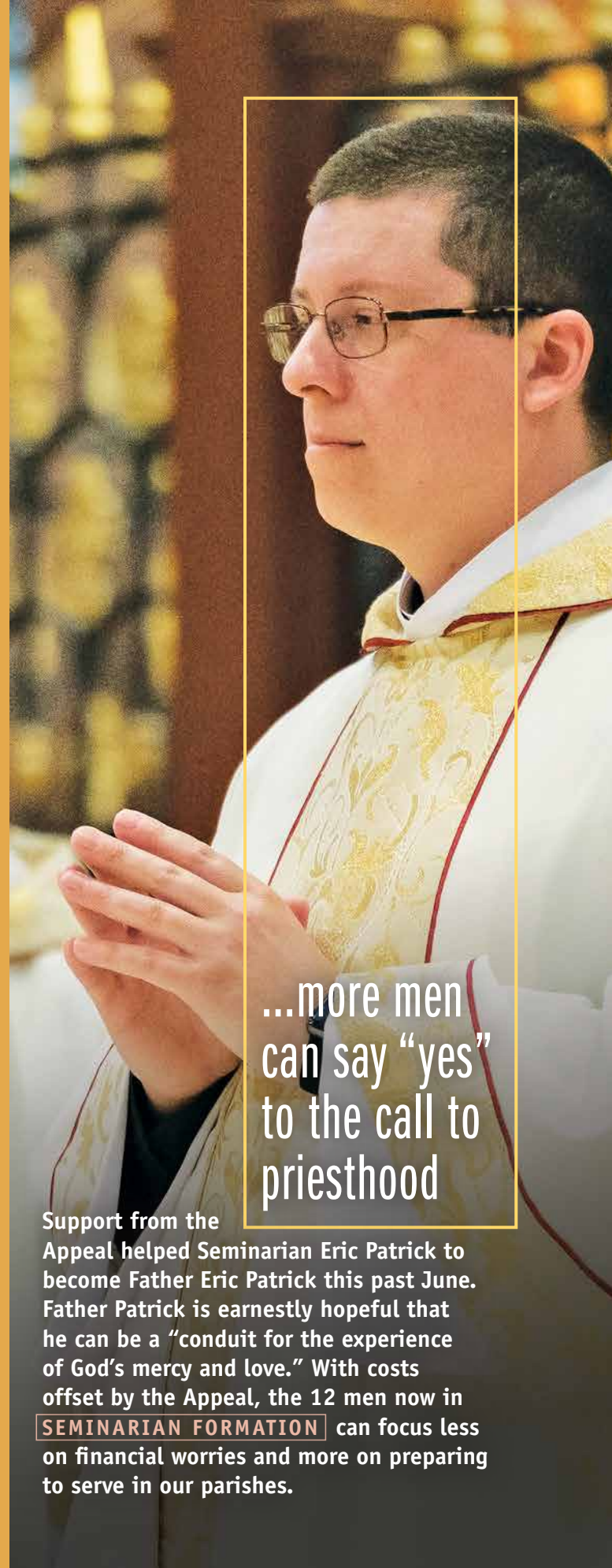
FOR INSTANCE:

HOLY FAMILY, WEED helps fire survivors as they reclaim their lives and livelihoods; **ST. ANTHONY, MT. SHASTA** started a soup kitchen; **OUR LADY OF GRACE, WEST SACRAMENTO** started its St. Vincent de Paul ministry; **ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, VALLEJO** delivers meals to unhoused men and women.

Our gifts help people

WHO ARE

mentally ill
homeless
disaster survivors
immigrants
elderly
developmentally-disabled
incarcerated
working families
refugees
at-risk youth
the unborn
pregnant women
hungry
single parents



...more men can say “yes” to the call to priesthood

Support from the Appeal helped Seminarian Eric Patrick to become Father Eric Patrick this past June. Father Patrick is earnestly hopeful that he can be a “conduit for the experience of God’s mercy and love.” With costs offset by the Appeal, the 12 men now in **SEMINARIAN FORMATION** can focus less on financial worries and more on preparing to serve in our parishes.



“I really think that everyone has something to give.”

When Jesus was literally dying on the cross, he found the strength to turn to the thief being crucified next to him and minister to that person. So often we have all kinds of excuses not to reach out to those next to us.”

DEACON KEVIN STASZKOW
St. Lawrence Parish
North Highlands



WATCH APPEAL VIDEO



25% goes back to your parish

MORE THAN 100 PROGRAMS PROVIDE

Counseling

Emergency food

Shelter and clothing

Permanent and transitional housing

Job training

Pregnancy counseling

Post and prenatal care

Independent living skills

Mentoring

Parenting skills

After-school care

Refugee resettlement

Citizenship and immigration services

Jail ministry