



For Immediate Release

**Media Contact:**  
Angela Flood  
AKF Strategies  
(703) 216-9259  
akfstrategies@gmail.com

## **Sixth Annual #iGiveCatholic Breaks Records for Amount Raised, Number of Donors Nearly \$13M Raised in Support of Catholic Organizations Across the U.S.**

**New Orleans, LA (December 10, 2020)** – In a year that has seen an overwhelming need for the ministries and services of Catholic institutions across the U.S. in response to the global pandemic, the [#iGiveCatholic](#) Giving Day raised nearly \$13 million from more than 48,000 donors on [#GivingTuesday](#), smashing previous records. At a rate of 24.7 gifts per minute, 48,273 donors in all 50 states gave \$12,703,973 to benefit 2,600 Catholic parishes, schools, and non-profit ministries through #iGiveCatholic. Donations also came from people in 12 other countries in support of these U.S. Catholic organizations. In 2019, #iGiveCatholic raised \$7.4 million from approximately 23,000 donors.

“We are overwhelmed by the generosity of so many people across this country and throughout the world,” said Cory J. Howat, President of #iGiveCatholic. “These gifts will be used to meet the spiritual, physical, and educational needs that exist every year but are especially acute during this time of global suffering. We are extremely grateful to [Our Sunday Visitor](#), our national sponsor, for their support and belief in what can be accomplished for the Church through #iGiveCatholic.”

More dioceses and ministries, large and small, participated this year than in any previous year and were gratified by the experience – and the results. In the [Diocese](#) of Fort Wayne-South Bend, [Our Lady School](#) with its 99 students participated for the first time this year hoping to raise funds for much-needed technology upgrades. “When we thought about participating in the past, it always seemed so overwhelming,” said school principal Beatrice Royal. “But our school and parish community pulled together to make it work. When you can articulate what you need, do not be afraid to ask for it and turn the outcome over to God. We followed this method and our results were amazing.”

Mercedez Rassi, Director of Stewardship and Development for the [Diocese of San Angelo](#), a mission diocese, said the funds raised this year through #iGiveCatholic will be especially helpful to a community that has been devastated by the oil crash resulting, in part, from the pandemic. “Last year, we raised \$2,200, and this year we received \$145,000. We are so grateful for the generous response from our donors.” Gifts to [Catholic Charities](#) of Odessa accounted for nearly \$55,000 of the diocese’s total. “The demand for our food assistance program increased dramatically throughout the year because of the pandemic,” said Executive Director Sara Aguilar. “Funds we received through #iGiveCatholic will go a long way toward ensuring that Catholic Charities can continue to meet this basic need for so many in our community.”

In the [Archdiocese of Washington](#), Joseph Gillmer, Executive Director of Development, said the archdiocese nearly tripled its overall fundraising through #iGiveCatholic this year. “One of our most notable success stories comes from the [Kidane-Mehret](#) Ethiopian Catholic community, which raised \$40,000 this year, after garnering only \$1,000 in 2019, in hopes of building a church. Most of their gifts were small dollar donations. It’s amazing what can be achieved when you’re not ashamed to ask people to support a cause that you – and they – believe in.”

For more information about #iGiveCatholic, or to view the full list of results (sortable by archdiocese/diocese, organization, total gifts or total dollars), visit [www.iGiveCatholic.org](http://www.iGiveCatholic.org). Next year’s Giving Day is set for #GivingTuesday, November 30, 2021.

**[Editors Note: See #iGiveCatholic ‘Thank You’ video]**

[MORE]



###

**About #iGiveCatholic:** #iGiveCatholic, the U.S. Catholic Church's Giving Day, is a national crowdfunding initiative that provides parishes, schools, and nonprofit ministries the opportunity to connect with their current donors and establish relationships with new donors. The goal of #iGiveCatholic is to inspire the Catholic community to come together as faithful stewards and to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving back. For more information visit [www.iGiveCatholic.org](http://www.iGiveCatholic.org).

**About Our Sunday Visitor (OSV):** As the leading Catholic publisher in the United States, OSV provides products and solutions to over 90% of Catholic parishes and serves every Catholic diocese in the country. Founded in 1912 by Father John Francis Noll, the company continues its central mission: To Serve the Church. OSV provides a wide range of products and services to help individuals, families, parishes and dioceses as they move to strengthen and grow their mission and their individual Catholic faith. From weekly and monthly news publications, to software solutions, fund-raising, consulting services, curriculum products and publishing, OSV provides real value to Catholics as they grow closer to Christ. As a not-for-profit Catholic company, OSV has been supporting the needs of the Church for over a century and will continue to listen to customers' needs today and tomorrow. Learn more at [www.osv.com](http://www.osv.com).