

## STEWARDING YOUR LEGACY

Sharing & Growing Your Gifts

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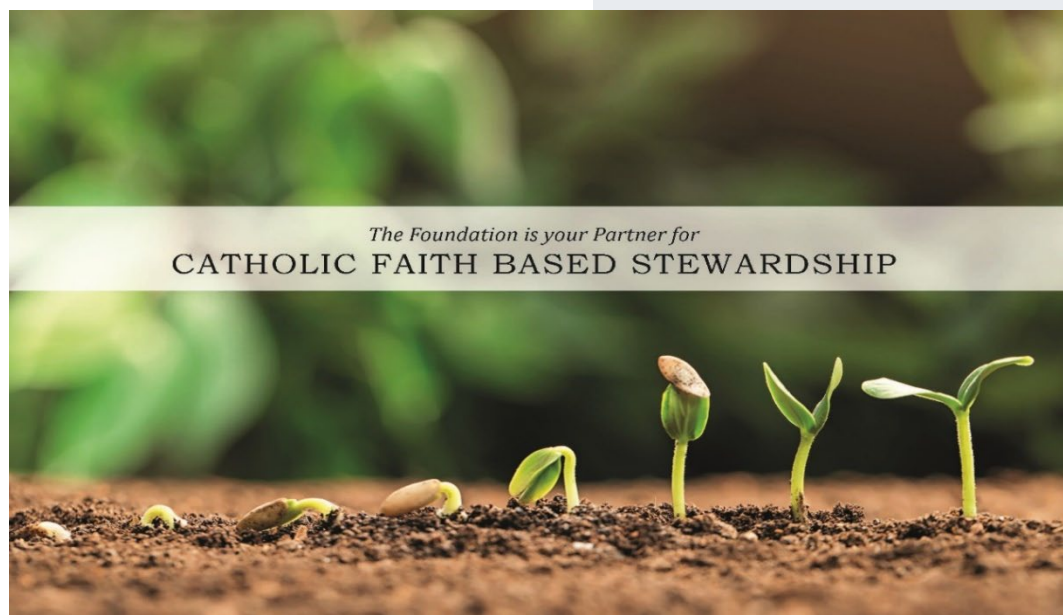
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## HUMAN, SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL & PASTORAL FORMATION

The seminarians of the Diocese of Raleigh play a vital role in the life and future of our Diocese. As future spiritual leaders, they bring a fresh and youthful energy to the community, infusing it with their passion for Christ and their commitment to the Gospel.

By answering the call to discern and pursue a vocation, seminarians inspire others to explore their own relationship with God and to consider how they can contribute to the mission of the Catholic Church. Through their studies, prayer, and service, they become well equipped to guide and nourish the faithful, providing spiritual guidance, celebrating the sacraments, and serving as witnesses to Christ's love in the world.

In recognition of the upcoming ordination of Deacon Nicolas Rapkoch on June 3, 2023, let us join together to support and pray for him and all of our seminarians as they discern their vocations and prepare to become the future spiritual leaders we need in our diocese.

## GIVING THANKS



*Earlier in May, Bishop Zarama and staff from The Foundation met with Priests and donors from the Fayetteville Deanery. This month the venue for lunch was the quaint Pine Crest Inn in Pinehurst.*

*As always, Bishop Luis enjoyed meeting with Donors from the area to express his love & thanks to them for their ongoing support of the Diocese of Raleigh.*

## HOW DOES THE DIOCESE FINANCIALLY SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS?

From our earliest days of life to our final moments on earth, receiving the comforting grace of the Sacraments from a priest has been our experience and that of our loved ones. It is only the priest, who acts in persona Christi, who can confect the Most Holy Eucharist and thus bring us the source of summit and Christian Life.

We are very blessed in the Diocese of Raleigh to have 14 seminarians in formation, 1 of whom (Deacon Nicolas Rapkoch) will be ordained to the priesthood next month on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Currently funding for all costs associated with Seminarian formation comes from three sources:

- The Bishops Annual Appeal, which funds the work of the Vocation's office and general seminarian expenses,
- Interest and income from 12 endowments, which are managed by The Foundation and restricted to Seminarian education, and
- The Seminarian Partnership Program.

**The Seminarian Partnership Program** is an annual donor-directed scholarship fund that directly benefits seminarians studying at 5 seminaries across the country. This fund allows individuals, parishes, and groups, to contribute directly to the cost of Formation.

Please prayerfully consider a gift to the **Seminarian Partnership Program**. Your generosity will support these young men to grow in their intellectual and spiritual formation as they answer God's call to serve.

To learn more about the Seminarian Partnership Program, or to make an online donation, please visit our site by clicking [here](#).

You may also reach out to Donna Ashcraft, Director of Development, via email at [Donna@FoundationDOR.org](mailto:Donna@FoundationDOR.org) or by phone on (919) 568-1067.



On Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, Cong Viet Le & Ross Thomas Williams, were ordained as Transitional Deacons in a beautiful ceremony at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, Raleigh. In the presence of family members, fellow parishioners, and friends, Deacon Cong Viet Le and Deacon Ross Thomas Williams took their last step before their ordination into the Priesthood.

Join us as we pray for Deacon Cong and Deacon Ross:

*For the servants of God, Cong Le and Ross Williams, who have been ordained Deacons, and for their salvation,*

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

*That God who loves mankind, will grant them a pure and blameless diaconate,*

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

*"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus.  
When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

St. John Vianney, Patron Saint of Parish Priests

**DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS – LINKS ARE BELOW!**

