THE GOOD SHEPHERD CAMPAIGN 2026

FOR THE *Life of the Church!*

Frequently Asked Questions

Why should we give to the Good Shepherd Campaign?

While it is very important to support your parish, it is also important to remember the vital role that the Archdiocese of St. Boniface plays in the life of all its parishes. The diocesan tax is not enough to support the efforts towards the seminarians and to bring in priests. The sustained formation of our seminarians by the Good Shepherd Campaign is of inestimable value for our entire community of faith. The mission of the Diocesan Centre is to respond to the spiritual needs of Catholics in our churches, by offering them pastoral support. The Diocesan Centre also provides essential administrative resources to parishes.

What do we do if it's a lot to ask of a family right now?

An individual's gift should be determined in prayer to God for guidance. We only ask that your parishioners consider making a donation that reflects their financial capacity. Don't forget that a donation can be pledged over several months. Every donation is important, no matter the amount! We understand that some will not be able to give as much to the Good Shepherd Campaign this year, but others will prayerfully discern that their circumstances allow them to do more for the collective good of our Church.

How do seminarians contribute to their formation?

Seminarians pay tuition fees for their bachelor's degree in philosophy. Seminarians recruited from other countries hold this bachelor's degree before enrolling at St. Peter's Seminary.

What is the annual cost of seminarian formation?

On average, the cost is $45,000 per seminarian per year; This includes tuition fees, accommodation, food, health insurance, books, and a monthly allowance for personal needs. In addition, the Archdiocese pays two-thirds of a priest's salary during his mentorship and two return trips for international seminarians to visit their families. In 2025-2026 we have eight candidates at various stages of the formation journey. Two are sons of our soil here in Manitoba, three are originally from Vietnam, two hail from Congo and one is coming to us from India through the secular institute called Voluntas Dei. This means that looking into the future, most years will see one or two ordinations to the priesthood.

How many new priests have there been since the beginning of the Good Shepherd Campaign?

Among the fruits of the past Good Shepherd Campaigns, there are ten priests. Father Peter Tran was ordained on May 31, 2025. Father Jean-Marcel Kabongo was ordained in 2024, Fathers Serge Buissé and Paul Nguyen were ordained in 2022. Father Christian Mutombo was ordained in 2021. Fr. Jean-Baptiste Nguyen and Fr. Brian Trueman were ordained in 2020. Fr. Peter Le Van Ngu was ordained in 2019, while Fr. Joshua Gundrum and Fr. Vincent Lusty were ordained in 2017.

How many parishes and chapelries are there in the Archdiocese of St. Boniface?

In total, there are 85 parishes and chapels. On average, priests serve one parish in Winnipeg or two to four chapels and rural parishes.

Do we have enough priests?

We still have work to do. Of the 50 priests who are active in our 85 parishes, chapels and missions, only 20 of them are incardinated in our archdiocese. The other 30 come to us for the most part from abroad, but also from religious communities.

How much does it cost to bring in a priest?

When you consider immigration fees, legal fees, travel to come, salary for eight weeks of enculturation, welcome allowance which often goes towards winter clothes, language courses in some cases, and driving lessons, it cost about $20,000. The Archdiocese is working at bringing four new priests from abroad in the next 4 months.

Archidiocèse de
Saint-Boniface
Archdiocese