

# Serving those who Serve



**SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE ARE CATHOLIC MILITARY PRIEST-CHAPLAINS.** They are the last line of spiritual defense for the men and women who fight our wars. They bless our troops with the healing power of the sacraments and good counsel. And they need YOUR SUPPORT.

About 250 Catholic chaplains now serve on active duty. They minister to Catholics in the armed forces and the nation's military academies. Another 250 Catholic chaplains specifically serve patients in the nation's 153 Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Centers. All told, 1.8 million Catholics and their families depend on these approximately 500 priest-chaplains for spiritual sustenance.

## Priest-Chaplains are in SHORT SUPPLY . . .

Despite increased demand, the ranks of active-duty Catholic priest-chaplains have dropped from 400 around the time of 9/11/2001 to about 250 due to priests reaching retirement faster than they can be replaced.

Catholics make up roughly 25% of the military, but only 8% of military chaplains are Catholic. Often, our young Catholic servicemen and women turn to other denominations for pastoral care due to a lack of Catholic priests.



## The Call to Evangelize Active-Duty Young Adults

remains a particular focus for the AMS. Its Office of Evangelization supports priest-chaplains, lay leaders, and ministry coordinators in meeting the pastoral needs of this young generation, those who need to hear the Word of God proclaimed boldly and authentically.

To provide these young men and women on their life's journey, often in times of great spiritual need, with an encounter with Jesus Christ and His Church through the ministry of the AMS is to fulfill our call to "be ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us." 2 Corinthians 5:20



## The Largest Geographical and Only Global Archdiocese . . .

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio presides over the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS). He and his four auxiliary bishops travel the world spending 65% of their time visiting their flock, all AMS expense. The AMS offers catechesis and faith formation to servicemen and women and their families as well as maintaining over 2.5 million sacramental records dating back to 1917.



## But More Seminarians Are on the Way . . .

thanks to the support of our bishops, religious superiors and increased awareness and discernment opportunities, more young men are now entering seminaries to become priest-chaplains through the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, which splits the cost of seminarian education between a home diocese and the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS).



## Funding the Mission of the AMS Depends on You . . .

the AMS owns no parishes or schools or physical buildings besides the chancery seat of the Archdiocese in Washington, DC.

*This vast Archdiocese receives absolutely no funding from the U.S. military or government agencies and has no parishes to provide weekly sources of funding.*

*The Archdiocese depends solely on generous donations from the general public, from current & retired priest-chaplains, and from private grants.*



**COLLECTION FOR THE  
ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES**