

**Mission Board Members  
And Term Expiration Year  
July, 2008 - June, 2009**

- Wally McMasters, Chair - 2009
- Mary Breiner - 2011
- Rev. Jay Von Handorf - 2010
- Carolyn Rynkowski - 2010
- Rev. Terrence Hoppenjans - 2009
- Dr. Carol Cottrill - 2011
- Rev. Bob Damron - 2008
- Jane Chiles- 2011
- Rve. Chuck Niehaus, S.J. 2009
- Sister Gayle Brabec, B.V.M. - 2010
- Sister Diane McGuirt, O.P. - 2009
- Marjorie Greishop- 2011
- Vicki Wenz- 2009
- Vivian Woolley - 2010

- Ex-Officio Members*
- Ruslyn Case-Compton
  - Deacon Jim Paris
  - Deacon Bill Wakefield

**The Mission Board reviews requests and makes funding recommendations to Bishop Gainer. Each region has two representatives on the Board. The Board also has two at-large members.**

**STAFF**

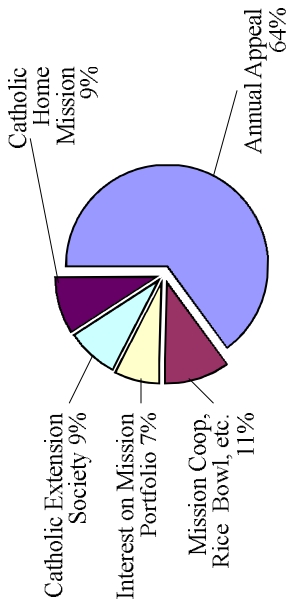
*Ruslyn Case-Compton, M.A.  
Secretary for Social Services*

*Jill Heink  
Grantwriter*

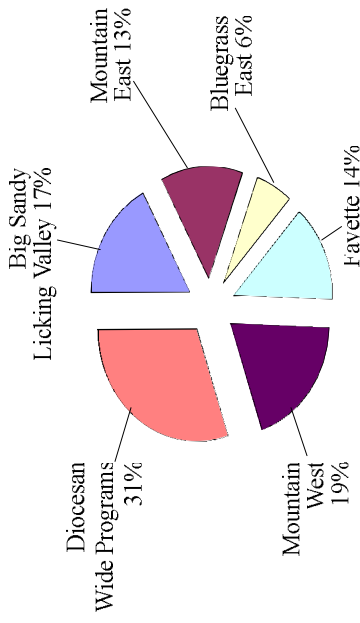
*Deacon Bill Wakefield  
Secretary for Stewardship*

*Trish Whipp  
Stewardship Administrative Coordinator*

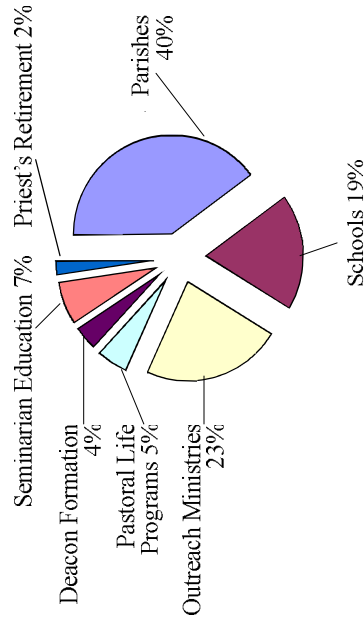
**Total Funds to Distribute - \$1,426,585**



**Funding Distributed by Deanery**



**Total Funds Distributed - \$1,426,585**



**Appalachian Mission Assistance Program**  
1310 West Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40508  
Phone: 859-253-1993  
Fax: 859-255-1134

**APPALACHIAN  
MISSION  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM  
OF THE  
DIOCESE OF  
LEXINGTON  
FUNDING REPORT  
2008-2009**

The Appalachian Mission Assistance Program (AMAP) provides funding to parishes, schools and outreach ministries in the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky. These organizations operate in some of the poorest counties in the nation. Many could not survive without AMAP support.

AMAP funds come from private donations, Catholic Extension Society, USCCB Committee on Catholic Home Mission and other fundraising efforts.

In 2008 - 2009  
 The Appalachian Mission  
 Assistance Program (AMAP) funded  
 24 Parishes & Missions  
 5 Schools  
 10 Social Ministries  
 3 Newman Centers  
 as well as  
 seminarian education,  
 deacon formation,  
 religious education  
 and  
 programs for  
 youth, couples and families.

### OUR LADY OF MT. VERNON

The history of Our Lady of Mt. Vernon (OLMV) begins in 1950 with Rev. Ralph Beiting, who celebrated Mass in private homes and in a concession store owned by Mom and Pop (Robert) Reynolds until a church was built in the early 1960s. Volunteers from this and many other states built the present church entirely of local natural materials. The church architecture was designed to express openness, welcome, inclusiveness and to inspire members to go out and spread the good news of Christ. The stained glass windows depict the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

OLMV's heritage, according to its founder, Rev. Beiting, is "the spirit, the openness, the design (of the church) and the encouragement of people to get involved." Indeed, all its members are actively involved, are welcoming and are open to people of all faiths.

The Catholic community of OLMV expresses their mission as being "Servant Leaders in Rockcastle County." The parish is small, with fewer than 15 households, but

OLMV serves the community in many substantial ways: outreach to the poor, emergency assistance with food, rent and utilities, hosting volunteers to help low-income families repair their homes and operating Micah's Nursery to help needy mothers with young children.

Assistance from AMAP helps OLMV meet the challenge of paying day-to-day expenses and OLMV continues to promote stewardship and seek further support to live out its mission as the presence of the Church in this part of Kentucky.



### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

St. Francis of Assisi School (SFA) in Pikeville, KY was founded in 1953 by the Sisters of Divine Providence and was originally housed in the two rooms in the church basement. The school has grown over the years and is now located in its own building, with four classrooms, a library, art room, science room and cafeteria. Sixty-nine students attend SFA in grades K-6. The school has a wonderful reputation in the area for its overall excellence and values, and families of many faiths support and attend the school. Since many families in this area struggle to make ends meet, funds from the AMAP program help provide tuition assistance for children whose families could otherwise not afford to send them to SFA.

Following the example of St. Francis of Assisi, the school has a special interest in nature and has incorporated the study of the local environment into science classes. The

school even received a grant from Eastern Kentucky PRIDE for the 2005-06 school year to install a wetland behind the school. The wetland is a "vernal pond," meaning that it retains water for part of the year and dries up in the hot summer months. The wet-dry cycle prevents fish from becoming established so that the wetland serves instead as a habitat for amphibians, crustaceans and insects. Students learn by making regular observations about wildlife in the pond, and they even wade in at times to get a closer look.

This type of hands-on science is a life-long learning process that encourages understanding and respect for God's creation. Through the efforts of dedicated teachers and parents, St. Francis School is preparing its students to make wise decisions all through their lives about using Kentucky's natural resources.



notes that it's not uncommon to meet adults who never even started high school. "Although people here have great intelligence, many did not grow up around anyone who finished school. So they sometimes have little knowledge of the benefits of education." When adults do take GED classes, many are discouraged at how difficult it is to transform their oral language skills into written language skills. "Their ears are tuned for local expressions of speech, not "standard" English," she explains. It's a real struggle for most of the adult students to comprehend through reading after a lifetime of learning through listening. It's especially difficult for them to master the grammar and spelling skills needed to write effectively. The Life Center provides encouragement, friendship and prayers to help their students stay motivated and on-task.

As part of her interest in the natural environment, Sister Gayle offered gardening space at the Life Center. She also helped establish a local program through Heifer International that helps families obtain live-stock. Recently the Center was expanded via a straw bale addition. Her goal is to invite school groups to visit the Life Center and learn about straw bale building, the garden project and other programs at the Center. Funds from AMAP help with the purchase of teaching materials and pay for some travel costs.

### THE LIFE CENTER

Sister Gayle Brabec, BVM, founded The Life Center in 1998, deep in the Daniel Boone National Forest just outside of Frenchburg Ky. The mission of the Life Center is to nurture sustainable economic development in this rural area through continued efforts at literacy, gardening and other projects that encourage care of the environment. Sister Gayle tutors children in the local school system, adults in the General Education Development (GED) program and conducts weekly tutoring sessions at the nearby state prison. In Menifee County, over 40% of the adults did not finish high school. Sister

