

# STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME



**A**merican Samoa, an archipelago of seven islands in the South Pacific and the only United States territory south of the equator, is located over 500 miles closer to New Zealand than it is to Hawaii. Over 97% of the territory's population lives on the largest Island, Tutuila, leaving the small number of residents in the outlying Manu'a islands to be served by one catechist and one priest, who visits monthly to celebrate Mass and to bring sacraments to the faithful. Despite these limited resources, the residents of Manu'a are growing in faith, with more becoming interested in being baptized and welcomed into the Church.

Your generosity has helped sustain this invaluable ministry to the faithful in the isolated environment of the Diocese of Samoa-Pago Pago. By supporting the Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA), you continue a tradition of support for mission dioceses in the United States dating back to 1924.

Support CHMA and strengthen the Church at home.

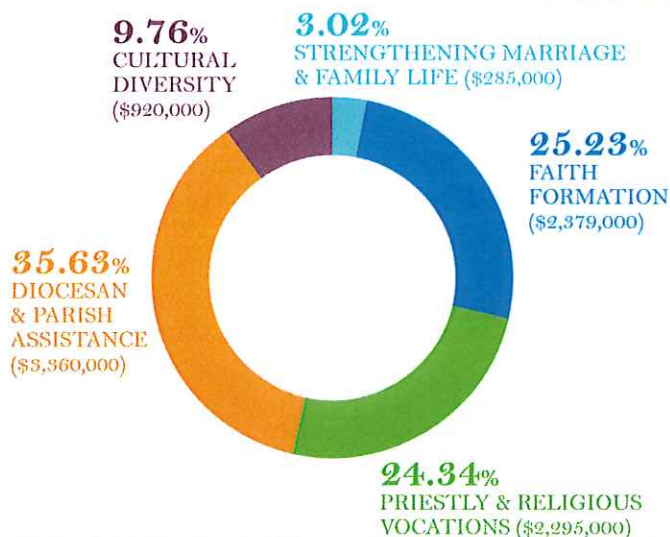
For more information about the Catholic home missions, visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

## What Is a Home Mission Diocese?

Home mission dioceses are those dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass and the other sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and lay people. Right now, over 40 % of dioceses are considered home missions.

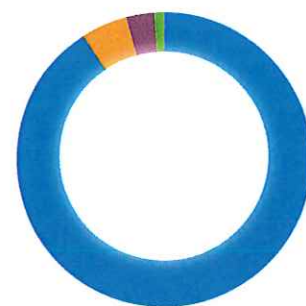
## WHAT DOES YOUR GIFT FUND?

### 2018 FINANCIALS



• Grants and Donations:	\$9,656,709
• Program Costs:	\$569,822
• Promotions and Fundraising Expenses:	\$280,078
• Administrative Expenses:	\$85,008

**Total Expenses: \$10,591,617**



### CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

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