

Diocese of Palm Beach Launches Horizons of Hope Foundation to Expand Access to Catholic Education Through New Federal Tax Credit Program

The Diocese of Palm Beach is launching the Horizons of Hope Foundation, a newly established nonprofit organization that will serve as the Diocese's Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) and administer the recently enacted Education Freedom Tax Credit program, creating new opportunities for families to access Catholic education.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, the federal Education Freedom Tax Credit will allow taxpayers to receive a nonrefundable, dollar-for-dollar federal tax credit of up to \$1,700 annually for cash contributions made to certified Scholarship Granting Organizations. Unused tax credits may be carried forward for up to five years. Contributions to the Horizons of Hope Foundation will directly fund scholarships that help eligible students attend Catholic and other qualifying private schools.

The creation of the Horizons of Hope Foundation represents a significant milestone in the Diocese's commitment to making Catholic education more accessible and affordable for families throughout Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee counties. Through this initiative, the Diocese seeks to strengthen its Catholic schools, increase enrollment, and ensure that more students have the opportunity to receive an education rooted in academic excellence and Gospel values.

"The Education Freedom Tax Credit represents a transformational opportunity for Catholic education," said Bishop Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez. "The Horizons of Hope Foundation will allow generous individuals to invest directly in the education of children whose families desire a Catholic education but may not otherwise be able to afford it. This initiative reflects our commitment to forming young people in faith, knowledge, and service while ensuring that Catholic education remains within reach for more families."

For more information, contact Laura Lewis, the inaugural Chief Executive Officer at LLewis@DiocesePB.org or 772-231-2363.