



Assisting people in need

*** **PASTOR'S INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE** ***

(AFTER THE GOSPEL)

PASTOR (or designee):

Today we join with all parishes in our Diocese for the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal.

The Appeal is dedicated solely to the social mission of the Church here in Northern California. Not everyone can work on the front lines of charity. By supporting the work of people who can, the whole Catholic community extends our hand to those who need help.

Let us reflect for a moment on how the Appeal helps our parish to help others.

DIRECTOR OR VOLUNTEER in the parish ministry funded by the 25% share:

Share **one 2-minute** story of a **specific** person or family served by a parish ministry or action funded by the parish share of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

- What brought the person to the parish?
- What was the person's situation?
- What was the parish able to do to help the person?

(TIP: Limit the story to two minutes by writing a maximum 300 word script ahead of time.)

This is only one example of the people and families our parish was able to serve because of **your** continued generosity to the Annual Catholic Appeal. **Thank you!**

Whatever you give helps our parish to alleviate suffering here in our community.

Catholic Charities in our diocese rely on the Appeal for funding that allows them to respond to the greatest need in our communities. Let's watch just one example of how supporting the Appeal recently made a profound difference.

PLAY THE VIDEO

PASTOR:

It's now time for each of us to consider our individual commitment to support our brothers and sisters. I want to emphasize that funds from the Appeal can only be used for the purposes described, namely Catholic Charities, Tuition Assistance at Catholic Schools, and Seminarian Education.

INVITE PARISHIONERS TO MAKE A GIFT

PASTOR:

There are envelopes in the pews. I ask those sitting at the ends to pass down the envelopes and pencils. If one adult in each household will take one, we will fill it out together.

(Pause)

As the envelopes and pencils are being passed, please remember that our goal is that everyone participates – so please do what you can.

Some of you may have already filled out an envelope that you received in the mail. Please bear with us.

Let's "walk through" the envelope together:

The pledge form is on the inside top of the envelope. If you prefer to make your donation online, hover your smartphone over the QR code to connect to the online donation page.

- **Step 1: Prayerfully consider your gift.** I encourage everyone to consider an ongoing monthly gift or 10-month pledge. For instance, a commitment of \$25 a month provides \$250 over a ten-month period.

All gifts are important. Please record your gift and do what you can.

- **Step 2: Next, complete your information** – please clearly print the parish name, your name, address, and phone. (*pause*)

If you are giving a cash donation and prefer not to give your name, it is OK to leave the space blank but please be sure to print our parish name.

- **Step 3: Next, fill in your method of payment.**

If you are giving cash, please place it in the envelope so we can record it as a parish contribution to the Appeal.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR PASTOR:

While you are allowing time to complete the envelopes, fill out your own envelope. It is important to repeat this at each Mass.

Announce the collection of the envelopes:

Thank you for your patience with this process. At this time, I ask the ushers to collect the envelopes. Please place your sealed envelope in the collection basket. Then together we will offer our gifts to God in gratitude for His many blessings and in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in need.