



Archbishop's Appeal 2018 Parish Manual

Archdiocese of Regina

Thank you for assisting with the Archbishop's Appeal Campaign

Please call our office, 352-1651 – ext. 210 if you have any questions

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19th Archdiocesan Archbishop's Appeal Goal - \$1.6 million

Funds will be allocated in 2019	
Pastoral Ministry Grants	\$1,131,100
<i>Allocations within the Pastoral Ministries are disbursed based on need and approved by the Finance Council.</i>	
Health Care Chaplaincy	\$145,000
Youth Ministry	145,000
Education of Priests & Seminarians	185,000
Permanent Diaconate Formation	126,000
Priest & Moderator Placement & Travel	96,000
Ecumenism	62,000
Lay Ministry Formation and Evangelization	67,000
Social Justice/Refugee Support	69,000
Valley Native Ministry	40,000
Catechetics	41,000
Aboriginal, Non-Aboriginal Relations Community	35,000
Martha House	25,000
Visitation House	25,000
Vocations/Stewardship/Liturgy/Spiritual Direction	25,100
Catholic Health Ministries	19,000
French Pastoral	22,000
Indigenous People Ministry	4,000
Partnership Ministry Grants	\$109,000
<i>Allocations are disbursed based on the total raised and approved by the Finance Committee.</i>	
Catholic Family Services	\$50,000
Santa Maria	25,000
University Chaplaincy/Campion College	15,000
Archdiocesan Youth Camps	15,000
Friends on the Outside	4,000
Cathedral Preservation Fund	\$20,000
Special Programs & Projects	\$99,500
<i>Allocations are disbursed based on the total raised and grant applications received. These grants are approved by the Finance Committee.</i>	
Parish Incentives (Rebates)	\$62,200
Total Allocations	\$1,421,800
Total Appeal Costs (Fundraising & Administration)	\$178,200

Parish Goals

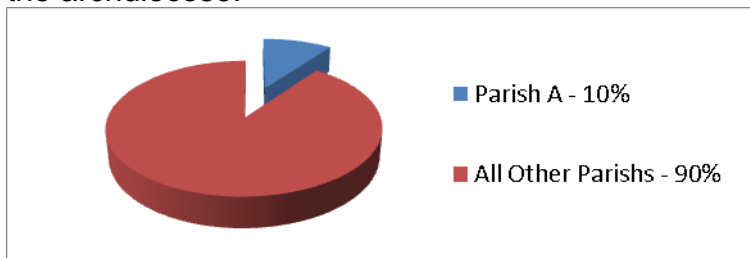
Every parish in the Archdiocese of Regina is provided with a financial goal for the Appeal Campaign. Even though the total Appeal Goal is \$1.6 million for 2018, we have calculated the parish goals based on \$1.4 million with plans to raise the difference through other methods.

The goals are calculated using a formula based on:

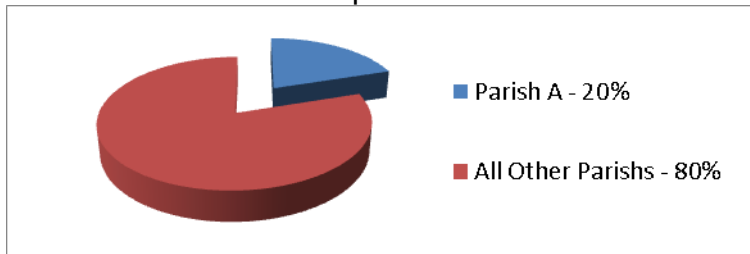
1. Your parish percentage of the total parish **households** in the archdiocese (Households number provided by parish in Annual Report – Pastoral Section)
2. Your parish percentage of total parish **revenue** in the archdiocese
3. Those 2 percentages are averaged and then applied to the goal of \$1.4 million to determine your percentage of the total Archbishop's Appeal goal.

Parish Goal Example:

Parish A's **number of households** is equal to **10% of the total number of households** in the archdiocese.



Parish A's **revenue** is equal to **20% of the total revenue** in the archdiocese.



We then calculate the average of 10% (households) and 20% (revenue), which is 15%.

Parish A's goal is 15% of the total archdiocese goal - \$1.4 million X 15% = **\$210,000**. Don't worry, no parish has a goal that big, we used those numbers strictly as an example!

Parish Rebates

At the end of the campaign, parishes that surpass their goal will be given a rebate cheque for 80% of their overage. For example:

- *Parish X has a goal of \$50,000 and receives gifts of \$75,000*
- *80% of the overage (\$25,000) = \$20,000 and will be returned to parish X*
- *Parish Rebate cheques will be provided in the year following this campaign.*

Frequently asked questions - **Parish Goals and Rebates**

Please contact our office at 306.352.1651 X210 if you require additional information.

1. When we updated our Archbishop's Appeal parish list this year, we removed many parishioners that no longer attend our parish. However, our goal did not go down as a result of that. Why?

The Parish list that you update for the Archbishop's Appeal is used **only** for the **mailing list** for the Archbishop's Appeal. Your 'households' value that we use in the formula to calculate your parish goal is the value that **your** parish provides in the **Annual Report - Pastoral Section** completed by your parish each year. We use the number from the report submitted in the year previous to the campaign. I.E. For the 2018 campaign, we are using the number from the report you submitted at the beginning of 2017.

2. If our parish's number of households did not change from last year, why did our parish goal increase this year?

There are several factors that affect your Parish Goal:

1. your parish number of households
2. the total number of households in the archdiocese
3. your parish revenue
4. the total revenue in the archdiocese
5. the total Archbishop's Appeal goal for the year

Even if your parish household number did not change, the total number of households in the archdiocese may have decreased or increased. This will cause your parish percentage of the number of households to increase or decrease, resulting in a higher/lower parish goal. Please refer to the Parish Goal Example on the previous page for more details. These principals also apply to **parish revenue** and **archdiocesan revenue** in the same way discussed concerning households.

3. Our parish surpassed our Archbishop's Appeal goal but did not receive a rebate cheque. Why?

In order to save on processing costs, the Archbishop's Appeal Office will not be issuing rebate cheques for amounts less than \$25. However, your rebate amount will be applied to your parish Archbishop's Appeal donations for the next Archbishop's Appeal campaign. Rebates less than \$5 will not be paid out.

Kit Contents

- 1) Parish Gift Listing
→ provided only if your parish already has gifts deposited for the 2018 Campaign
- 2) Parish list in alphabetical order
→ for your records – Please use this list to ensure you write the DonorID on all gift cards that are completed in your office.
- 3) Blank Gift Cards
→ for donations submitted by parishioners without gift cards - please use your parish list to ensure you write the DonorID on all gift cards that are written out.

→ for parish envelope gifts or Appeal monthly giving at your parish, you do not need to submit a completed gift card, please contact the Archbishop's Appeal office for more information
- 4) Parish return envelopes
→ to be used with blank gift cards if necessary
- 5) *Archbishop's Appeal* brochures
→ extras for your parish
- 6) Transmittal Forms
→ to be used when submitting gifts to the Archbishop's Appeal Office
- 7) Archbishop's Appeal DVD
→ to be shown to your parishioners
- 8) Thermometer Poster
→ to keep your parishioners updated on your campaign progress
- 9) Archbishop's Appeal 2018 Parish Manual (this manual) with your parish goal listed on the cover
→ for your reference, please contact our office if you have any questions
306-352-1651 ext. 210
- 10) Rebate Cheque
→ if applicable

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Pastor/Parish Administrator/Associate Pastor

As with any project undertaken by the parish, the prime motivator is the Pastor, Parish Administrator or Associate Pastor. Parishioners look to their priests for leadership, guidance and support. For this reason, *Archdiocesan Archbishop's Appeal* requests the active involvement of the Pastor, Parish Administrator or Associate Pastor.

Responsibilities:

- consider your own gift to the Appeal
- attend the Appeal Kickoff Event
- recruit Appeal Chairperson and assist the chairperson to recruit other volunteers
- speak positively about the Appeal from the pulpit at mass and at parish meetings
- attend parish meetings regarding the Appeal
- include an Appeal Thank you letter to your parishioners along with their tax receipt sent from your office

2. Parish Appeal Chairperson / Recruiter

The Parish Appeal Chairperson should be a well-respected member of the parish who is committed to the goals and objectives of the program.

Responsibilities:

- consider your own gift to the Appeal
- attend the Appeal Kickoff Event
- assist the pastor in all aspects of the Appeal and work with the priest to determine your parish strategy to raise Appeal funds
- provide leadership and training to volunteers contacting parishioners
- speak positively about the Appeal
- chair all parish meetings regarding the Appeal
- keep parish informed of progress (use Thermometer Poster from parish kits)
- ensure video is shown in your parish and put on your parish website if applicable
- utilize the announcements, bulletin inserts and Prayers of Intercession from the Parish Manual

3. Parish Appeal Secretary

Responsibilities:

- consider your own gift to the Appeal
- attend the Appeal Kickoff Event
- submit gifts to the Appeal Office
- speak positively about the Appeal

4. Team Captains

Large parishes may wish to recruit Team Captains to organize their individual Appeal. Team Captains are asked to assume responsibility for the successful completion of the Appeal within an assigned portion of parishioners in your parish. Each captain should possess leadership qualities and organizational skills.

Responsibilities:

- consider your own gift to the Appeal
- attend the Appeal Kickoff Event
- assist the Appeal Chariperson in recruiting volunteers
- personally contact all assigned parishioners
- be enthusiastic and promote the Appeal

5. Volunteers

Responsibilities:

- consider your own gift to the Appeal
- attend the Appeal Kickoff Event
- personally contact all assigned parishioners
- report all donations and monies received from donors
- be enthusiastic and promote the Appeal

Income Tax Receipts

Please ensure you inform your parishioners if their Appeal amount is included on their parish income tax receipt. Thank you.

Parishes are responsible for issuing income tax receipts for all Archbishop's Appeal donations processed in your office. Once your parish deposits your parishioner cheques and cash and sends us one parish cheque for the total, your parish will be responsible to issue the income tax receipt to each parishioner for the Appeal gift amounts. Any parishioner gift that you deposit will be income tax receipted by your office. The Appeal Office will continue to issue income tax receipts for the gift amounts we process in our office. These will include:

- parishioner personal cheques deposited in our office
- credit card donations
- pre-authorized payment donations

To aid parishes in the process of creating income tax receipts, we have created a 3-part gift card.

Pink copy to be retained by the parishioner

Yellow copy to be retained by your parish office for your records and can used to create the tax receipts for the gifts deposited by your parish. **Please remember to create Income tax receipts only for those gift card amounts deposited by your office. (Box 1 & 2 on the Transmittal Form). The Appeal Office will create income tax receipts for all donations in Box #'s 4, 5 and 6 of the form.**

White copy sent to the Archbishop's Appeal Office along with the Transmittal Form.

Submitting gifts to the Archbishop's Appeal Office

Of note:

During the campaign, please forward all gifts promptly to our office so our records and totals will be up to date. This also allows us to process credit cards gifts received in a timely manner.

In order to give your office an opportunity to submit 2018 gifts received in late December we keep our books open until **January 15, 2019.**

After this date, gifts received in our office will go toward the 2019 campaign.

Please provide the Name and DonorID for every gift submitted. Please use the Parish list we have provided in your parish kit as reference. Even if it takes some additional time on your part, it will be more efficient overall. Our office processes thousands of gifts each year and searching for DonorID's in our database prior to posting these gifts is extremely inefficient.

If you receive a donation from a parishioner on your Parish List (provided in your Parish Kit) that does not include their gift card:

Please complete a blank gift card (provided in your Parish Kit) with:

Date

Name

DonorID (from the parish list provided in your Parish Kit)

Gift amount

In this situation, please **only** include their mailing address if there is a change to it. (This saves us from having to verify whether or not there is an address change)

If you receive a donation from a parishioner not on the parish list we have provided:

Date

Name

Complete mailing address and phone number (if available)

Gift amount

In this situation, their full address and phone number will help us determine if they already exist in our database. Our goal is to ensure we have no duplicate records in our database. Even if the parishioner attends more than 1 parish, they only require 1 record in our database.

Post dated cheques made out to the Archbishop's Appeal, auto debits, and credit card donations are processed in our office. Please list them on your transmittal form in the appropriate box. More details are provided in the Transmittal Form section below.

We require a name for each gift received to allow us to personally thank our donors. Thank you for your cooperation.

Every gift received (other than gifts received via parish envelopes in your Special Collection box or through monthly giving at your parish) should be accompanied by a gift card. *Please contact our office to discuss the most efficient way for your parish to submit Archbishop's Appeal gifts via parish envelopes or Appeal monthly giving. A completed gift card for each gift received via parish envelopes is not required.*

Ensure Archbishop's Appeal gift money submitted to the Archbishop's Appeal is on a separate parish cheque. Please do not include Archbishop's Appeal gifts with other payments such as assessment, other special collections, or insurance payments to the Archdiocese of Regina – Finance Office. The Archbishop's Appeal has a bank account separate from the Finance Office in the Archdiocese of Regina.

Address your envelope to the **Archbishop's Appeal Office**, rather than the Archdiocese of Regina.

Transmittal Form

Gifts submitted to the Archbishop's Appeal Office should be accompanied with a Transmittal form. This allows for better record keeping for both your parish and the Archbishop's Appeal office.

Box 1 – Total parishioner gift donations with gift cards

This box should equal the total of all cash plus parishioner cheques made payable to your parish. Please ensure all gifts included in this Box include a gift card.

If you receive a donation from a parishioner on your Parish List (provided in your Parish Kit) that does not include their gift card:

Please complete a blank gift card (provided in your Parish Kit) with:

Date

Name

DonorID (from the parish list provided in your Parish Kit)

Gift amount

In this situation, please **only** include their mailing address if there is a change to it. (This saves us from having to verify whether or not there is an address change)

If you receive a donation from a parishioner not on the parish list we have provided:

Date

Name

Complete mailing address and phone number (if available)

Gift amount

In this situation, their full address and phone number will help us determine if they already exist in our database. Our goal is to ensure we have no duplicate records in our database. Even if the parishioner attends more than 1 parish, they only require 1 record in our database.

Box 2 – Total parishioner gift donations received via parish envelope or monthly giving

If you receive a donation through the Archbishop's Appeal envelope in your Special Collection boxes or through Appeal monthly giving at your parish:

Please contact our office to discuss the most efficient way for your parish to submit those gifts. A completed gift card for each donation received via parish envelopes or Appeal monthly giving is not required. We do require a list of all donors which includes their name, DonorID and donation amount.

If the donor is not on your parish list, please provide complete mailing address & phone number in order for us to determine if they are already in our database. In this situation, their full address and phone number will help us determine if they already exist in our database. Our goal is to ensure we have no duplicate records in our database. Even if the parishioner attends more than 1 parish, they only require 1 record in our database.

Box 3 – Total of Box 1 & 2 – amount of Parish cheque submitted

Add Box 1 & 2 to determine the total for the parish cheque included with the transmittal.

Please do not include submissions to the Archbishop's Appeal with other payments such as assessment, special collections, or insurance payments to the Archdiocese of Regina – Finance Office. The Archbishop's Appeal has a bank account separate from the Finance Office in the Archdiocese of Regina.

Box 4 – Total amount of all current dated parishioner cheques made payable to the Appeal Office, rather than your parish.

Even though we encourage all current dated parishioner cheques to be made payable to your parish, some parishioners will make them payable to the 'Archbishop's Appeal' or something similar.

Box 5 - Total amount of all one-time parishioner gift donations of credit cards to be processed immediately by the Appeal Office

Please ensure credit card gifts are sent to our office in a very timely manner, so they can be processed as per donor's request.

Box 6 - Total amount of all post-dated payments (also called pledges). May include credit cards, auto debits, post-dated cheques to be processed by the Appeal Office

This box should equal the total of all post-dated payments via credit card, auto debit or cheque. If a person provides a pledge that will be paid over a number of payments, the total pledge amount is added in.

If a person is providing an on-going payment, then the total up until Dec 31st of the current year is added in. Amounts deposited after Dec 31st will go toward the campaign in the next calendar year and will be listed on your Parish Gift list for that next year.

Box 7 - Total of Box 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 – Total amount of Transmittal form

Mailing to the Archbishop's Appeal Office

Address your envelope to the **Archbishop's Appeal Office**.

Submit the following to our office (our address is on the Transmittal Form):

- the white copy of the Transmittal Form
- the white copy of the completed gift cards
- cheque(s)

Keep the yellow copy of the Transmittal Form for your parish records.
The yellow copy of the gift card is for your parish office use.

Suggestions for a Successful Campaign

- ⇒ having supportive and enthusiastic priests, parish ministers, and volunteers
- ⇒ getting started right away in the fall
- ⇒ using the announcements and intercessions from this Parish Manual
- ⇒ providing parishioners with regular updates about how your campaign is proceeding – use the Thermometer Poster provided in your Parish Kit.
- ⇒ inviting a speaker who has been touched by ministries that are supported by the Archbishop's Appeal campaign to your parish
- ⇒ hosting an Archbishop's Appeal fundraising event
- ⇒ volunteers personally contacting parishioners to request their financial support

Success Rates for asking for donations (Uniting in Faith Campaign presentation)

Direct Mail: 1 – 5%

Phone and mail: 15 – 20%

Home visits: 50%

Home visits (peer to peer): 75%

Based on feedback from parishes, here are some suggestions:

Recruit enthusiastic, informed volunteers

Parishes that have the active support of the priest(s) and campaign volunteers are more likely to be successful in reaching their parish goal.

How Do I Get People to do a Job? – Ask them.... Few people will volunteer their services. This does not mean that they don't want to be involved. Statistics on volunteers show that out of every 100 recruits, 87 were personally approached while 13 responded to a general appeal.

Approach recruiting as an opportunity to emphasize the personal:

- "I am interested in what you can do for the parish."
- "I know that you are respected by parishioners."

You do not need to recruit the same people who have always done the job. People need and enjoy change and growth. Don't be afraid to challenge someone's comfort level.

What Do I tell them?.... Be clear about the task you are asking them to do and be sure it has a definite beginning and end. Tell each person how their task fits into the big plan. People want to understand things that they are a part of, and they work best when they know that others are depending on them.

Let them know that their help is valued and appreciated. If they feel that you are "just looking for people," they will feel easily replaceable and less responsible for doing a good job.

Start early

Start your Appeal right away. One parish has had success by offering an 'Early Bird' draw for those that send in their completed gift cards before a certain date.

Keep your parishioners informed

Use the announcements and intercessory prayers listed at the end of this manual to keep the appeal on parishioner's minds and use the Thermometer poster included in your Parish Kit.

Talk about the Archbishop's Appeal in your homilies

Use the Weekly Parish Resources section provided at the end of this manual.

Personal contact with parishioners

If your parish has enough volunteers, personal visits to homes are the most effective way to contact your parishioners and request their gift. Phone calls can be effective as well.

Example:

Hi! My name is _____. You received an envelope from the Appeal Office. Can we count on your support this year? If the parishioner agrees to contribute, you can offer to pick up their envelope or they can put it the collection basket at church or mail it in to your parish.

Important Dates

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| September 22, 2018 | Announce the launch for Archbishop's Appeal fall campaign to parishioners. Gift cards and envelopes will be mailed to homes in the coming week |
| Oct – Dec 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Show video during mass.➤ Use the announcements and reflections provided in the Weekly Parish Resources section.➤ Keep your parishioners up to date using the Thermometer poster in your Parish Kit.➤ Please send gifts to the Archbishop's Appeal office promptly. |
| January 18, 2019 | Deadline to submit gifts and transmittal forms. Submissions received after this date may not be included in year-end totals, rather posted in current year. |

In order to give your office an opportunity to submit 2018 gifts received in late December, we will keep our books open until **January 18, 2019**.

After this date, any gifts received will go toward the 2019 campaign.

Weekly Parish Resources

- Pulpit Announcements
- Bulletin Announcements
- Prayers of Intercession
- Homily Guide

The following weekly parish resources are included to keep the *Archdiocesan Archbishop's Appeal* on the minds of your parishioners.

Weekly Pulpit and Bulletin Announcements / Prayers of Intercession

We recommend parishes have weekly pulpit announcements during the Archbishop's Appeal to inform parishioners on details of the Appeal needs and update them on the campaign progress.

The following weekly bulletin announcements, intercessions and reflections are designed to keep the *Archbishop's Appeal* on the minds of your parishioners.

Sunday prior to Campaign Mail out – September 30, 2018

Pulpit and Bulletin Announcement

We are very pleased to announce the start of the 19th *Archbishop's Appeal*. Our theme for this year's campaign is ***Be Joyful in Hope***. You should begin receiving information and donation cards in the mail this week. We encourage you to spend time offering thanks to our God and Father for all He has given, and prayerfully consider how you might express your gratitude in support of the good works of the church in the Archdiocese of Regina.

Bulletin Reflection – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Num. 11:25-29|Jm. 5:1-6|Mk. 9:38-43,45,47-48

Today's readings lead us to reflect on the gifts we have been given, and the source of those gifts — God.

In the first reading and in the gospel, we hear of men who raise objections when they see others participating in God's mission. Moses' followers were appalled when they noticed that two men who were not among their company had been given the gift of prophecy. Surely prophesying was not their place. And, in the gospel reading, Jesus' disciples objected to men who were casting out demons in Christ's name.

In both cases, the objectors were assured that the men had been given gifts from God, and their decision to use those gifts to serve God's kingdom was indeed a good thing.

The readings serve to remind us that every one of us has been given great gifts, and we are called to recognize those gifts, to receive them gratefully, and to use them in service of

God and neighbor. When we do this, we participate in Christ's own mission of loving service. He came to give Himself for us, and He has given us many gifts so that we can join Him in His earthly mission, using our gifts to proclaim His truth and serve one another.

What gifts has God given you? How are you using them? Do you find yourself caught up noticing the gifts others have been given and wondering about their proper use of them? Or, do you rejoice in the gifts God has given you and others, doing your best to participate in the mission of the Church, serving God by giving yourself and your gifts back to Him in gratitude for all He has given you?

[Source: Adapted with permission from Catholic Stewardship Consultants. www.catholicsteward.com]

Prayer of Intercession

As we are about to launch the Archdiocesan Appeal this week, may we recognize our God given gifts and be imbued by grace to share them with others, knowing that by this act, we are helping to build Gods' Kingdom in the world. Let us pray to the Lord.

Week One - Launch of the Appeal, October 7, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

The 2018 Archbishop's Appeal Campaign has officially begun! You should have already received information on this year's Appeal as well as your personal donation cards. Giving is one means we have of both growing the Church and deepening our spiritual lives. Your gift to the Archbishop's Appeal assists in building the Kingdom through mission work, adult and youth education and social outreach to the poor, the isolated and the infirm in our communities. Our financial goal this year is 1.6 million dollars. You are invited to prayerfully consider how your household might help us to reach this goal and carry on our Christian mission.

Bulletin Reflection - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gen. 2:18-24| Heb.2.9-11|Mk.10.2-16

It's no secret that married life isn't easy. Most of us are living proof of that. It takes a great deal of commitment and constant self-giving love to truly live out the vocation.

Christian marriage is not confined to the love of spouses and children, but the love of spouses is a witness, a mission to carry out the love of Christ for everyone. The love of Christian spouses is expected to spill over to the larger family of God.

Just as married life requires such loving commitment and self-sacrifice, Christian discipleship, the vocation to which every one of us is called, requires that we give of ourselves in loving service, committing our lives to Christ forever. We give of our time, our talents, and our treasure as a way in which we return thanks to God for His love of us.

The Archdiocesan Appeal is one of the many ways we return to the Lord a portion of all that he has given us through the good works of the Archdiocese. Through the beneficiaries of such good works, we give a return to the Lord for his love and gifts to us.

Looking at what our wants are and what we have on hand, it is not an easy task to decide to share, especially when we think we need such things, when faced with economic difficulty and a society that encourages us to live selfishly - to want more and more things, to look out for ourselves before others, etc. Indeed, it is a higher calling to live for the Lord, to give rather than to want, and to lovingly put others first, but it is a life full of joyful rewards and in this, we will find true fulfillment!

[Printed with permission: source www.catholicstewardship.com]

Prayer of Intercession

That we may see the wealth this world offers as gifts God has given us, opening for us opportunities to invest true wealth in God's kingdom by sharing these unreservedly through the Archdiocesan Appeal. Let us pray to the Lord.

Week Two - October 14, 2018

Pulpit Announcements

Our financial goal for our Archdiocesan Appeal is \$1.6 Million. This amount will help the Archdiocese finance the different pastoral programs and invest in the future of the church through endeavors such as the youth program and the education of clergy and seminarians, deacons and lay apostles. Please prayerfully consider supporting the Archdiocesan Appeal this year.

Bulletin Reflection - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 7:7-11| Heb 4:12-13| Mk 10:17-30

Listening to Jesus' words in today's gospel: "*It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God,*" many of us sat back in our seats and breathed a sigh of relief. We are not rich, and thank God. It must be easier for us to enter heaven. Right?

But the fact is, whether we are wealthy according to the world's standards or not, Jesus' words are meant for every single one of us. We are all very rich. God has given us innumerable gifts – our time, our talents, our treasure, our very lives are gifts from the Lord. We have so much, and as Christ's disciples, we are called to give it all to the Lord – to use our time, our talents, and our treasure to serve God and build His kingdom.

Living a life of stewardship as a Christian disciple requires giving 100 percent of ourselves. It means living our lives for the Lord and giving all we have and all we are to serve Him. This is not an easy task. It is radical but it's richly rewarding.

At the end of today's gospel, Jesus exclaims, "*Truly, I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and fields, but with*

persecutions, and in the age to come, eternal life." Have you given all that you have to serve the Lord?

One of the ways to give to the Lord and thus follow and serve Him is through the Archdiocesan Appeal. In giving part of our material treasures to the Appeal, we are helping build God's Kingdom here in our Archdiocese. It is a difficult task, being faced with subtle persecutions from all sides.

One of the areas supported by the Appeal is the youth program, engaging young people in the Archdiocese and encouraging them to get involved in events designed to reflect our Catholic Christian values in spiritual and outreach activities. Through the youth program, we are committing to the Lord the next generation of workers in the Lord's harvest. By our gift to the Archdiocesan Appeal, we give of ourselves for the sake of God's Kingdom. [Source: www.catholicsteward.com – Printed with permission]

Prayer of Intercession

For the grace to see the wealth of this world as gifts from God and as opportunities for us to invest true wealth in God's kingdom by sharing generously through the Archdiocesan Appeal. Let us pray to the Lord.

Week Three - October 21, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

Today the gospel invites us to achieve greatness, not by material gain or influence or power over others, but by the awareness of our lowliness to which we depend on God for everything. What we have are God's gifts and are meant to serve the needs of others. Only through service to others can we truly reach the greatness that the Kingdom of God requires. In giving to the Archdiocesan Appeal, we join the many souls in their best effort to reach the greatness of life of which all are called to achieve.

Bulletin Reflection - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is. 53:10-11|Heb. 4:14-16| Mk. 10:35-45

Many of us often find ourselves seeking the recognition of the world. Like James and John in today's gospel, we'd like to occupy a place of honor, to earn the respect of others, to be the best at what we do. These are the things the world tells us are important, and so we strive to attain them.

Yet, in today's readings, the Lord calls us to bigger and better things. We are called to strive for greatness in His kingdom, not by looking out for ourselves but by loving and serving others – truly seeking nothing in return.

Jesus reminds us, "*The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.*" And so we follow suit.

Our lives as Christian disciples should entail constant loving service, following the example of Christ and showing those around us Christ's love. It is a much more worthy call

than the life that the world calls us to – seeking honor, power and prestige in the here and now.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI put it perfectly: *“The world promises you comfort, but you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness.”*

God has provided us with talents, time and treasure at our disposal. All these are opportunities and means for us to work for the greatness in the Kingdom of God we were all called to achieve. One of the many opportunities that we readily have is our treasure. This is a resource invaluable to keep things moving for it is intended for the world. Yet this material resource has eternal value when utilized for service and for the good of others in this world. In giving our material resource to the Archdiocesan Appeal we invest in the eternal value of our monetary resources through the good works the Archdiocese of Regina is committed to do for the spread of the gospel in its many forms and expressions. In sharing our financial resources generously, we are also fulfilling the greatness we are called to achieve aside from the other services and activities we do for others.

So, when we consciously share our time, our talent and our treasure, generously for the good of others, this absolutely leads to the greatness that the Lord promises in scriptures, a life eternally united to Him, the selfless servant par excellence! *[Adapted from <http://www.catholicsteward.com> – Printed with permission]*

Prayer of Intercession

We pray for the grace to consistently seek to serve others in everything that we do, and be generous givers to the Archdiocesan Appeal, knowing that the good works of the Archdiocese are an extension of giving ourselves in service of the Kingdom of God in our world. Let us pray to the Lord.

Week Four - October 28, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

We are now on the fourth Week of the Archdiocesan Appeal Campaign. For all those who have already given, thank you very much. For those who have not decided to give yet, please prayerfully consider making a donation this year.

Bulletin Reflection - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 31:7-9|Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

In today's gospel, we learn an incredible lesson about what happens when we act out in faith, even amidst opposing people.

The blind man (Bartimaeus) called out to Jesus, because he knew that Christ could heal Him, and He believed that Christ would. He had faith. And even when people around him tried to hush him, the man was not deterred. He continued to cry out with courage and conviction.

In turn, Jesus gave the man his sight back, and the gospel tells us that the man then

followed Jesus "on the way."

Christian discipleship begins with a faith response to Jesus. He has called us to Himself, and we must choose how we will respond. We must take ownership of the faith He has blessed us with and choose to live in faith, to live for Him — even when we face opposition.

We give Jesus our lives. We live boldly and courageously, giving our time, talents and treasure to serve Him, in the myriads of opportunities God gives us every day because, like Bartimaeus, we believe!

One of the myriads of opportunities the Lord gives us to boldly and courageously live our faith is by giving to the Archdiocesan Appeal in as many ways as we can, monetarily, or by spiritual contribution, offering time to pray our devotional prayers every day for the 8 weeks of campaign. With our gifts, we are investing in the continuous building of God's Kingdom in our part of the world for our generation and for the next. By generously giving of yourself you follow the Lord as boldly and courageously as Bartimaeus whose boldness of faith in Jesus led to the healing of his blindness, and by his clear sight he followed the Lord to Jerusalem and beyond.

[Adapted from:

<http://www.catholicsteward.com> – Printed with permission]

Prayer of Intercession

Let us pray for the healing of all material and spiritual blindness in us, and for the outpouring of grace to express boldly our faith in Jesus by our generous contribution to the Archdiocesan Appeal that supports the pastoral programs of the Archdiocese catering to those who ardently seek to know the Lord more and to commit themselves to serve the gospel in their lives. Let us pray to the Lord.

Week Five - November 4, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

On this 5th Week of our Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Campaign, Jesus reminds us that our love of God is reflected most profoundly by the love and service which we extend to our neighbour. By our support of the Archdiocesan Appeal, we will enable the various pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese to continue extending the love of God to those in need. Your gift will ensure that the sick, and the elderly receive quality pastoral care, that our youth will find support and care in the midst of their struggles, and that our outreach to the poor at home and abroad may continue to bring the love of God others.

Bulletin Reflection – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deut 6:2-6|Heb 7:23-28|Mk 12:28-34

The Shema prayer found in Deuteronomy formed the core of Jewish identity and spiritual life. Recited at the start and at the end of each day, it was a prayer that Jesus' opponents rightly expected any prophet of God or Messiah to be familiar with. This is the reason for their testing question "Which commandment is the greatest?"

We are not told whether they were pleased or confounded as Jesus began reciting this ancient proclamation of faith "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." We do know that Jesus next words would have certainly caught the attention of all gathered.

Rather than simply reminding his audience that love of one's neighbour was also part of the Law, Jesus deepens and transforms their understanding of their relationship with God, and their identity as a people. Any possibility of separation between one's identity as a child of God, and the way one relates with others is removed.

This is the purpose and goal of the incarnation. The Word becomes flesh precisely so that we will see, and be drawn into participation with, the love of God in real and concrete ways. For the Christian, feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, and all our other works of mercy, are more than mere acts of charitable social service. These are the ways in which the Christian incarnates God's love in their own flesh and encounters God's love in the flesh of another.

Today let us be courageously and generously opened to God's invitation to discover his great love in the poor, the forgotten, the lonely and the sick. And let us remember that the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal provides us the means of expanding our influence. While we may not be able to touch the lives of all those in need; our generosity makes it possible for our mission work to the poor, our pastoral care of the sick and our comfort of lonely to reach beyond our own limitations so that all members of our human family might encounter the love of God through Jesus Christ and His Church.

Prayer of Intercession

That we might come to better know the love of God through loving and serving our neighbour and that our generous contributions to the Archdiocesan Appeal might help to extend the reach of our works of mercy to all members of our human family. Let us pray to the Lord.

Week Six - November 11, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

In addition to donation cards, the Archdiocese of Regina has also provided parishioners with a brochure that contains a list of the ministries and organizations that are supported through your gifts to the Archbishop's Appeal. You are invited to take time this week to select a few of those organizations and remember them in your personal prayers. Reflect on the men, women and young people with nothing but joy and hope in their hearts helping run these programs and those who are served by their efforts. Please consider how you might honor their efforts and their needs through your support of the Archbishop's Appeal.

Bulletin Reflection - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 17:10-16| Heb 9:24-28| Mk 12:38-44

Today's gospel offers us a great lesson in the stewardship way of life. Mark tells us that Jesus sat and watched as many people put money into the treasury. And while he

watched many wealthy men give enormous amounts of money, it was one widow who gave but two small coins that caught His attention. At first glance it seems clear that she did not give as much as the many wealthy people. Yet, Jesus assured the disciples, "she gave the most" because while the others were giving out of their surplus, she was giving of her first fruits. She was giving everything she had. For her, the gift was a sacrifice.

She stands as a great example to us. We are called to give our all. We give not because we have extra left over like many of the wealthy people in today's gospel, we give – of our time, our talents, and our treasure, because we want to express to God how grateful we are for all He has given us.

How well do our commitments of time, talent, and treasure express our gratitude to God? Are we giving because it's easy, because we have a surplus to give from, or are we giving because we are grateful for God's many gifts, and, therefore, offering our whole selves back to Him?

When we give a portion of God's gift of treasure to us in the Archdiocesan Appeal we give like the widows in the scriptures, who gave freely from their need. We are sure God will multiply our humble gift enough for the needs of those who minister to His love in our Archdiocese. God doesn't count numbers, only a grateful heart.

[Adapted from www.catholicsteward.com – with permission]

Prayer of Intercession

For God's blessings upon all those who give of themselves serving the Church in various ministries and apostolates in fulfilling her mission in the Archdiocese of Regina and upon all who support them with grateful hearts. We pray to the Lord.

Week Seven - November 18, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

As our Archbishop's Appeal draws to a close, we would like to take this time to thank all those who have contributed to the ongoing mission of the Church in the Archdiocese of Regina. ***(You may wish to highlight your parish's own collection goals with these or similar words; "With your help, our own parish has been able to collect \$XXXXXXX towards this year's campaign.")*** If you have not already done so, there is still time to make a contribution, as donations will be accepted until the end of December. Any donation, large or small, will assist our Archdiocese in continuing Christ's mission of imbuing hope to everyone born out of God's Mercy through the sharing of God's Word.

Bulletin Reflection 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dn 12:1-3| Heb 10:11-14, 18| Mk 13:24-32

Today's readings draw our attention to the final judgment. The end will come. "Heaven and Earth will pass away," and "about that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father," we do know, though, that it will come. And each one of us will stand face-to-face with our creator. Will He be pleased with how we've lived,

and with what we've done with the many gifts He's given us?

Today's Gospel message is about the End times, and it offers us a great opportunity to reflect on the meaning of our lives. We know that we were not created to live our lives on Earth forever. We were created to live for God, to live in unity with Him. Our lives in heaven will consist of perfect unity with God; our whole being will be centered on loving and praising Him. Yet, there is no reason for that to wait until we've entered eternal glory. In fact, it cannot wait. While we look forward to the day when we will greet the Lord, while we know that heaven is our home, that eternal glory is our goal, we are *charged* to live in the present. God has placed us here for a reason. He has a mission for each one of us, and He expects us to make good use of the time He has given us on Earth — to praise Him in the way we live our lives, to unite ourselves with Him in the sacraments, and to show forth His glory by serving others in His name.

Our support to the Archdiocesan Appeal is our hand multiplied and extended in service to others in spreading the good news of salvation through the pastoral ministries this supports when our physical presence is not possible. The Appeal is a channel to which we fulfill what Jesus said about the measure on which we will all be judged on His return in glory, "*Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me.*" (Mt. 25:40)

Prayer of Intercession

We all know that what we have are the means and opportunities to prepare for that day Christ comes in glory at the end time. May God's grace of wisdom fill us to share what we have with the less fortunate through our support of the Archdiocesan Appeal. Let us pray to the Lord.

After the Campaign - November 25, 2018

Pulpit Announcement

On Behalf of Archbishop Donald Bolen, the Archdiocese of Regina and all of the ministries and organizations we fund and support, we would like to thank everyone for their prayers and for their help in the various ministries of the Archdiocese. Thank you for your financial support to this year's Archbishop's Appeal. If you have not already done so, there is still time to make a contribution, as donations will be accepted until the end of December. Your contributions, regardless of size, will ensure that the mission of Christ will continue and that the Church of Christ will grow to touch the lives of others, making the peace and grace of Christ known throughout the Archdiocese of Regina.

Bulletin Reflection - The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King

Dn. 7:13-14 | Rev. 1:5-8 | Jn. 18:33-37

Today we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. He is the greatest king there is, yet He does not sit on a golden throne. He hangs on a cross. As the King of Kings, Jesus shows us what true greatness is. It is loving and serving one another, giving ourselves in love for one another, and using the gifts God has given us to glorify Him.

In today's gospel, Jesus tells us, "*For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.*" The truth that everything in this world, even our lives, belongs to God. We owe Him our dignity. He shared with us the image and likeness of Himself. Thus, each human being is equally and uniquely precious to God. In other words, no one among God's people should be disrespected, discarded, demeaned or exploited because of their limitations and failures. Rather, the least and last should be especially treasured. Therefore, each individual's gifts and talents are meant to be shared for the benefit of everyone. We Christians are expected to be living witnesses to this truth. But this truth is not easily taken in. Selfishness dominates our agenda for action. Yet the gospel says that it is to this **truth** – that everything belongs to God that we owe him absolute obedience. Christ came into this world to be the witness of this reality. It is our privilege to listen to His voice and follow Christ as King.

Thank you very much for contributing to the Archdiocesan Appeal. God who owns everything needs our generosity to make it possible for the pastoral ministries to work for the growth of the Kingdom in the Archdiocese of Regina.

[Source:www.catholicsteward.com] With adaptation]

Prayer of Intercession

For all of us Catholics in the Archdiocese of Regina that we may be living witnesses to the Truth of what Christ our King preached and lived for by sharing our talents and gifts in gratitude, knowing that these are from God and are meant to benefit everyone and for the advancement of God's kingdom in the world. Let us pray to the Lord.