



Assisting people in need

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

(AFTER THE GOSPEL)

PASTOR (or designee):

Today we join with all the other parishes in our Diocese for the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal.

The Annual Catholic Appeal is dedicated solely to the social mission of the Church here in Northern California. Together as Catholics, *giving through the Church* is how we can do something out of love for the sake of the other. At Mass we say “in Him, through Him, all happens through Him.” The Appeal is a way we can ALL give through the Church to help our neighbors and friends in a powerful way.

Let us reflect for a moment on how we give through the Church in our own parish.

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 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 the suffering here in our community.

Now let's witness how *Together as Catholics* we are truly making a difference in the lives of our neighbors and friends.

PLAY THE VIDEO OR AUDIO

PASTOR:

It is now time for each of us to consider our commitment in support of the critical needs of our brothers and sisters in Northern California.

INVITE PARISHIONERS TO MAKE A GIFT

PASTOR:

There are commitment 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 to increase participation – 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.

We're going to "walk through" the envelope together:

The pledge form is on the inside top of the envelope.

- **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 is a space to complete your information – please clearly print the parish name, your name, address, and phone. (*pause*)

If you 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 is the space for your method of payment.

If you are giving cash, please place it in the envelope so we can record it as a parish contribution and properly thank you for your generosity.

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 would ask the ushers to collect the Appeal commitments. 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 service to those in need.