

A Message from Fr. Richard, C.P. . . .

BOUND TOGETHER IN HOPE

When we are asked to contribute to the well being of others, we are often curious as to exactly how our gift will be used. This is a fair and appropriate curiosity on the part of any donor. I take this opportunity to remind us all what a gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal accomplishes for the Gospel. The Appeal funds:



*****Catholic Communications** : Your gift supports information sharing and Daily Mass through Catholic Television, the Diocesan Website, and the Catholic Light.

*****Social Services** : Catholic Social Services around the Diocese has experienced a dramatic increase in the number of people and families seeking assistance since the start of the pandemic. With the second wave of the virus already making itself felt in our region, those requests will almost certainly increase even more. Your gift helps us to respond with compassion.

*****Social Justice Grants** : These have been especially important in helping food pantries and family outreach take place across our Diocese. Your gift helps to feed the poorest of the poor.

*****Parish Life** : Our Office of Parish Life is devoted to the needs of our faithful and our parishes, especially in its assistance to Faith development for our children as well as for adults. This office has, in a singular way, met the challenge of developing virtual faith development for parishes during this time of limited person to person education. Your gift helps to advance the opportunities for learning in this strange new world we live in.

*****Clergy Support** : Your gift helps to prepare our younger clergy for ordination and provides appropriate and compassionate care for our senior priests who have given themselves to our spiritual care over their many years of service.

*****Catholic Education** : We all have memories of our Catholic School System of old. When I was in eighth grade in 1962, my entire bill for the year was \$8.10. We all know those days are gone for a great many valid reasons. Your gift helps to maintain the Catholic Schools we continue to maintain in an effort to provide a well rounded Catholic education for those who wish to have it for their children. Your donation helps to make this possible.

As you pray about and consider your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, please know that you are touching the lives of a great many people from infants through to our most senior members. When we all pull together, great accomplishments are possible and they all help living in HOPE to emerge.