A logo with a gold cross and a wave

Description automatically generated

**Announcement Weekend: February 10 & 11**

**Talking Points for Pastors**

The following talking points are provided to assist you with introducing the ways the Annual Diocesan Appeal serves as an opportunity to come together in mission to make a crucial commitment to support the work of our diocese.

* Every year, we come together as one Catholic community to support the Annual Diocesan Appeal. The annual appeal theme – One in Hope, One in Mission – serves as a powerful reminder that the annual appeal is an opportunity for all Catholics in our diocese to join together as one in mission to make a shared commitment to support the work of the diocese. This commitment serves the needs of our diocese’s parishes, schools, and people as well as providing hope and care to our neighbors in need.
* I am so grateful for our <PARISH NAME> family. Together we are creating a caring parish community that shares its resources with those in need of God’s love.
* As this year’s Annual Diocesan Appeal begins, I encourage each of to prayerfully consider your gift to the appeal.
* In the coming weeks, I will ask each of you to generously support the ministries of our diocese.
* Many of you may have already received a letter from Bishop Bonnar about the appeal, and I ask, if you have not done so already, to read through it closely and reflect on how you can help further the work of our Church and support the impactful ministries and programs of our diocese.
* For those who did not receive a letter from the Bishop in the mail this week, in the pews are information packets. Also, on the bulletin cover, or on the pledge cards you will see the QR code that gives you access to the 2024 appeal website. All you need to do is open your camera on your phone, hover it over the QR code, and then you should see a notification on your phone. Tap on that and you will see the 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal website.
* From the website, using the “Make a Gift” link, you’ll be able to make your ongoing monthly gift or a one-time gift.  
  + *In preparation for this part of the presentation, you will want to tape the QR code on the backs of the seats or pews. You don’t have to do every seat and you can spread them out – you will just want to make sure people can see them easily from where they are sitting.*
  + *At this time, if you are doing a livestream Mass as well, the digital usher puts up the website on the livestream so people can see the address.*
* If you are having issues with the QR Code, or are joining us virtually, you can access the same page by typing into your internet browser: DOY.org/appeal.
* Or if you prefer to make your gift by check, you may do so by completing a pledge card.
* So, at this time, *(if you desire)* we would like to pause for about five minutes so anyone who has not yet given can use their phones to access that QR code and complete their gift. If not willing to do this during the homily, ask them to do so before the end of the day!
* If you have already given, thank you very much.
* Thank you for taking the time to fill out the online form and for supporting this year’s appeal, for all your care and prayers for the people of the diocese, and for the impact your support is making in the lives of others throughout our communities.
* For those who completed a pledge card,…
  + You may place them in the offertory basket during the collection..
* Ministries that provide aid to those in need, support to the young men in their studies to become future priests, communities where our youth in our Catholic schools and parish programs can grow spiritually and academically, and so much more.
* I want you to know the real difference in what the Annual Diocesan Appeal is doing and the impact it’s making on the lives of others. That is why I endorse the appeal and why I hope you will as well.
* If you have any questions about the appeal, your gift, or how to give, I encourage you to visit the appeal website at DOY.org/Appeal.
* Finally, I ask, regardless of your ability to make a gift or pledge, to continue to pray for the success of the Annual Diocesan Appeal, for those who have volunteered their time and talents in furtherance of its mission, and for the countless individuals and families among us who rely on the appeal for material and spiritual sustenance.