



Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish,

In reflecting on these past many months, I remain humbled by how you, the faithful of our parish, have come together and kept our parish moving forward in God's service. Your prayers, participation, and sacrificial financial support are an act of love. Thank you!

In this time of Lent and almsgiving, there are so many in need and so many truly worthy causes that you can support. With this letter, I focus on the important cause that is the 2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Our own parish owes a debt of gratitude to the Bishop's Annual Diocesan Appeal which also helps to support many of our own parish ministries and the services that we depend on the diocese providing.

You have likely received a letter and brochure from Bishop Knestout regarding the 2021 Appeal. I would ask you to please take a moment to reflect on all the ministries the Appeal supports and prayerfully consider a new gift or increasing your gift if you have contributed previously. While you are prayerfully contemplating your gift, please also consider giving online to help decrease the administrative burden of the appeal. Whether you received a letter by mail or not, [you can learn more and make your donation here](#).

Our parish and our diocese are important to you and to the many served and brought to Christ – thank you for reflecting that in your level of giving.

If you have any questions at all about the Appeal, or how to adjust your online giving, please reach out to Bill Lee (development@stauva.org) at the parish office for assistance.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Fr. David Mott, O.P.
Administrator

2021 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Diocesan Target: \$3,749,911.

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Target: \$ 78,020.00.

THE CASE FOR SUPPORT

Empowering the Next Generation \$796,000

- Seminarian Education \$400,000
- Campus Ministries \$165,000
- Reengagement with the Eucharist \$100,000
- Segura Educational Initiative for Children \$81,000
- Distance Learning Network \$50,000

Providing for Those in Need \$1,275,000

- Fuel and Hunger Fund \$475,000
- Pastoral Support \$350,000
- Retired Priests \$300,000
- Saint Francis Home \$100,000
- Home Mission Grants \$50,000

Building Catholic Communities \$1,197,911

- Parish Sharing \$997,911
- International Priests \$100,000
- Patrimony Restoration \$50,000
- Clergy Formation \$20,000
- Developing Lay Leadership \$20,000
- Liturgy and Worship \$10,000

Fees and Administration \$481,000

The Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond continues to conduct the Appeal in the most cost-effective manner possible while realizing the highest impact. As the scope of the Appeal has grown and the number of activities has increased, so too have the resources needed to conduct this effort. These resources include critical operational aspects such as mailing, printing, database management, pledge processing fees, salaries and banking. The 2021 Appeal administrative costs represent a decrease of \$63,000 from the 2020 Appeal. This means that more of the funds raised for the Appeal will go to the Case for Support ministries.