



THE DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO
Renew Faith • Build Communion • Inspire Hope
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

April 3, 2020

Dear Brother Priests,

In light of these very challenging times I have postponed this year's "Bishop's Annual Appeal" until a later and still undetermined date. Many factors made this a necessary decision including the guidance of healthcare professionals to stay at home until at least April 30th and the subsequent impact that will continue to have on being able to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and the Sacraments, and most importantly the reality of the financial distress being experienced by our people and our parishes.

In addition, I want you to know that our Diocesan Offices stand ready to assist you during this time in any way we can. I am committed to do all that we can to help our parishes remain as financially stable as possible through this extraordinary time. Our "Bishop's Annual Appeal" Team will monitor the situation and will recommend to me a new timeframe based on when we return to some level of normalcy in the world, our country, and here in our Diocese.

I also want you to know that we will soon have a direct online mechanism available, in partnership with "Our Sunday Visitor" (OSV) which will be accessible through our diocesan website. This mechanism will be available for "online" giving for each individual parish, whether it now has the capacity to do that or not. We hope to activate this early next week; more information will be forthcoming. It is my hope that this will help all our parishes to continue receiving much of your regular offertory support as well as special assistance from our generous people, even in these challenging times.

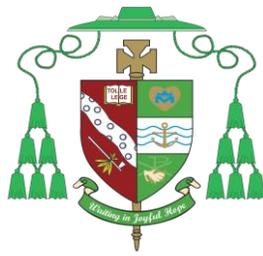
Finally I remind you that in the "Diocesan Guidelines and Resources" that we distributed last week, in the section entitled "Finances and Human Resources", our Diocesan CFO, Mr. Edward Carey is ready to assist our parishes in any way we can. I encourage you to review that section, and to be in touch with Edward if you need this assistance.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions concerning any of these matters, please contact Mr. Tom Dowdall, Diocesan Director of Stewardship and Development, or Mr. Edward Carey, Chief Financial Officer for the Diocese.

Asking that we all continue praying for one another, and joining you in asking God's blessings upon us all as we enter into this grace-filled Holy Week, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley
Bishop of Kalamazoo



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