



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

The theme of the 2020 Annual Appeal is "Shining the Light of Christ." As disciples, we are individually called to radiate the love of God in our work, our relationships, our service and our giving (cf. Mt. 5:16). As a Catholic faith community, our common worship, hospitality, pastoral care and ministry reflects this love to the wider community. By sharing our time, unique talents, and personal treasure, we participate in shining the light of Christ ever more brightly.

Next weekend we will view the DVD of the Annual Appeal. This past week I met with our Pastoral and Finance Councils concerning the appeal as there is an urgency for us as a parish family to participate and support the many ministries that the appeal serves. I will speak more on this when we actually have our commitment weekend March 7 & 8.

In the meantime, I believe that the Cardinal will have sent letters to all whom have pledged in the past, and I personally thank you so much for supporting those who are so less fortunate than ourselves.

This appeal helps:

- * Provide Shelter and Education to unwed mothers as well as immediate and ongoing prenatal healthcare*
- * Feed the hungry*
- * Shelter the homeless and victims of domestic violence*
- * Educate our future priests*
- * Care for aging priest who have served us so many faithful years*
- * Bring the Gospel to our parochial grammar / high schools and college campuses around the Archdiocese and I can personally testify to that and the positive impact that it has upon our future generation*
- * Provides Youth and Young Adult Retreats at the St. John Paul II Youth Center*

A big change this year is that once we go over our goal 100% of the funds come back to the parish. (In prior years it was 62%).

As I mentioned, I will explain this further in detail in March. In the meantime I ask that each household prayerfully reflect and pray that God will help you discern a gift to help the most vulnerable and your parish family at the same time.

Please join me in supporting the missions and ministries that impact the lives of our sisters and brothers on a daily basis as we seek to radiate the light of Christ upon them.

Will you prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2020 Annual Appeal?

*Peace and Blessings,
Fr. Leo*