

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS 2011-2012 APPEAL**

### Weekend #1

- You will receive your invitation to participate in the 2011-2012 Bishop's Annual Appeal this week. We have an opportunity to commit our support to diocesan programs and ministries that no one parish could provide on its own. Our theme, "We, though many, are one body," (1 Cor. 10:17) appropriately recognizes our unity as the people of God to work together for the betterment of all. Our goal is 100% participation. No gift is too small. Please join our effort.
- The 2011-2012 Bishop's Annual Appeal supports over 30 ministries and the people they serve to provide spiritual, educational and social needs in our Diocese. You will receive a letter this week inviting your participation. We seek your prayerful consideration and a gift from all, as you realize that "We, though many, are one body," (1 Cor. 10:17).

### Weekend #2

- Last weekend you heard an audio appeal in support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please take time this week to consider how your support of the programs and ministries can transform lives and build our faith through your sacrificial gifts. Every gift, regardless of size, builds the fabric of our parishes, schools, and ministries upon which so many of our members depend. "We, though many, are one body," (1 Cor. 10:17) allows us to realize that together we are greater than any one of us separately.
- In these difficult economic times, it might be easy to ignore our responsibility to the poor, the sick, the elderly, the disabled and those in crisis. However, the Bishop's Annual Appeal calls those of us who have the capacity to help by making an even greater sacrifice than ever before. "We, though many, are one body," (1 Cor. 10:17)) challenges all of us to make a meaningful pledge this week to help meet our diocesan and parish goals. Please consider increasing your gift this year to meet the special needs of our time.

### Weekends #3 and 4

- During the past couple of weeks, we have invited each of you to prayerfully consider a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal and many of you have pledged your support. We thank you. If you have not made a gift or a pledge, please make a difference today by finding a pledge card and \*\*[mailing it to the Office of Stewardship and Development or placing it in the collection basket]. Pledge cards are available in the Parish Office or by contacting \_\_\_\_\_, the Parish Coordinator for the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Every gift makes a difference and we are aiming for 100% participation.

- As we approach the mid-point in our Appeal for support of the Catholic Church in Northwest Missouri, we reach out to each and every family who has not yet made a pledge or gift. We urge you to be generous as you consider the many ministries that the Appeal supports—training of men to be deacons and for the priesthood, sharing the faith through education, meeting the needs of the homeless and hungry, and reaching out to college students. We thank those that have responded and urge those who have not to do so as soon as possible.
- All families in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph have felt the pain and uncertainty of the recent turmoil in our economy and markets. We reach out to those who have the means to help to increase hope in our people through the Bishop’s Annual Appeal. We seek to help the most needy, to educate our children, to nurture family life and marriages, and to help the recently imprisoned adjust to society. God calls us to reach out and the BAA gives us the means to do so.
- As you prayerfully consider your pledge to this year’s campaign “We, though many, are one body,” (1 Cor. 10:17), consider the times when you might have needed the help of another and you received it. The Catholic Church in Northwest Missouri provides this type of help and relies on your sacrificial giving to make it happen. Be Christ for others . . . . . pledge a generous gift to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal.

#### In-Pew Weekend

- Thank you to everyone who has joined our campaign by making a pledge to ensure that “We, though many, are one body,” (1 Cor. 10:17). For those who might have yet to pledge, we have placed pledge envelopes in all pews this Sunday. Please use these envelopes to help us meet our financial goal to enable the Catholic Church in Northwest Missouri to be a beacon of hope to those in need.
- We thank all who have pledged or given to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal. If you are still considering your ability to join the Appeal, please realize that we all benefit by the programs and services that the Appeal supports. Educating children in Catholic Schools, training of future priests in seminaries, reaching out to the poor to provide housing and food for their families, and helping ensure healthy marriages are all direct benefits of your gift.
- As you consider your gift to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal through the envelopes found in your pew this weekend, please ponder:
  - Do I accept that everything I am and have is a gift from God?
  - Have my gifts back to God reflected my gratitude?
  - How can I get closer to God and achieve better peace of mind?
 We urge you to pledge by using the in-pew envelopes and \*\* [return them to the Diocese or to the Parish Office.]

## ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (to clean up the Appeal)

- Thanks to the \_\_\_\_\_ families who have contributed to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. So far we have received \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in pledges and contributions. We are trying to achieve 100% participation; \_\_\_\_\_% of our families has made a contribution or pledge thus far. Remember 50% of what is collected over our parish goal will be returned to our parish to use as we see fit.
- As the Holidays approach, we give thanks to God for all His blessings to us and our families. We especially thank the \_\_\_\_\_ families who have shared their financial resources toward our parish's goal for the Bishop's Annual Appeal. We are grateful for your listening to our call to give and we know that you feel a sense of accomplishment in sharing your blessings with others in the family of the Church in Northwest Missouri.
- We have been challenged this fall to believe that "We, though many, are one body," (1 Cor. 10:17. Through your support you have helped the entire Catholic Church of Northwest Missouri and the people of our region. By providing education, help for the poor and adult faith formation, we enrich our community in ways unknown. If for some reason you were unable to pledge or contribute, \*\* please [contact the Parish Office or Parish Coordinator to obtain a pledge envelope.]

