



**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time C**  
**February 10, 2019**

**Our Catholic Appeal is  
 Next Weekend  
 Goal \$349,088**

Our Catholic Appeal Sunday is the way the 90+ parishes of our nine counties fund the administration and ministries of our central office. We are a diocesan church family of almost 4,679,000 Catholics. The overall goal for the whole diocese is \$15 million.

Each large parish is assessed about 19% of its offertory income from the previous fiscal year. I say “assessed about” because parishes with lower income are assessed less than 19% and parishes with high income are assessed more than 19%. Ascension is assessed 19% of its offertory income.

**This year, our assessment is \$349,088—  
 a 5% increase from last year.**

The 5% increase in our assessment is partially due to an increase in offertory and partially based on the fact that we did not have to give as much money to the school as previously. Parishes with schools receive a deduction in their assessment for money given to operate their school.

**Seven Levels of Giving in 2018**

**Corpus Christi Society: \$10,000.** These are Catholics who give **\$10,000** or more to Our Catholic Appeal. Last year, we had one family give \$13,000 and one gift of \$10,000 totaling \$23,000.

**Spes Christi Society (Hope of Christ): \$5,000-\$9,999.** 3 families gave at this level, totaling \$15,000.

**Lumen Christi Society (Light of Christ): 2,500-\$4,999.** 23 families gave at this level totaling \$66,300.

38 parishioners gave **\$1,500-\$2,499**, totaling \$67,630.

51 parishioners gave **\$1,000-1,499**, totaling \$57,056.

132 parishioners gave **\$500—\$999**, totaling \$83,628.

294 parishioners gave **\$101-\$499**, totaling \$77,994.

247 parishioners gave **\$99 or less**, totaling \$15,406.

While *all* gifts are appreciated, we always need a good number of major gifts to reach our goal. If you can be a major donor this year by giving a major gift of \$1,000, please consider doing so.

By this stage, all of you who are registered and have previously given to OCA would have received a letter from me from the diocese. If your pledge amount was incorrect, I apologize (we are dealing with 700-800 names and pledges). In such a case, please contact Anne Dorros at the Parish Office.

This year, our assessment is up 5%. If you are in a position to increase your gift this year by 5% or more, please consider joining me in doing so. Each year, we find ourselves in a different place financially. If we are blessed financially, please know the best way to say “Thank you, Lord” is by supporting his work here on earth.

**A word to non-registered parishioners**

Some people who come to the parish—sometimes for years—choose not to be official or registered parishioners. That is their free choice. I would like to assume that non-registered parishioners do enjoy financially supporting our parish. But if they don’t, even though they could, they have made a selfish and greedy decision. It’s like saying: “I’ll let the person with a low fixed income pay my portion.” I would like to think that we have NO ONE in our parish with that mindset.

**A note to winter parishioners**

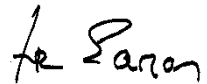
We welcome all our winter parishioners. I know that many of you are registered and play an active part in the parish life, including financially, while you are here—thank you! I realize that most of you have some

form of *Catholic Appeal* in your home diocese. If you are here six months, perhaps you can give 50% of what you normally set aside for the funding of our diocese. If you are only here three or four months, perhaps you might consider sharing with us 25% of what you set aside to help our diocese. Each year, we are blessed to have a good number of winter parishioners help us reach our OCA goal.

If you already gave your gift to the diocese, please take an OCA envelope that will be passed through the pews next Sunday and write on it: 'Sent gift to the diocese' and print your name.

Please be aware that *Legacy Gifts*, *Stock Gifts* and *Matching Gifts* are welcome. You can also use your credit card to give. You can give online by visiting [www.cfocf.org/OCA](http://www.cfocf.org/OCA) and clicking on "Give Now."

Have a blessed week,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Aaron". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "F" and "A".