



# Catholic Services Appeal

~ SO FAITH MAY FLOURISH ~

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your continuing generosity! In addition to your contributions to last year's Catholic Services Appeal, the *Our Shepherds – Our Future* Capital Campaign is 74% of the way to its \$33 million goal. I deeply appreciate your contributions to both efforts.

The CSA and private donations are the only ways that programs and ministries at the diocesan level are funded. Your gift helps to support more than 20 programs including seminarian and deacon formation, Catholic school education, cultural ministries, respect life ministry, Catholic Charities, faith formation of our youth and young adults, and communications including TV Mass and *FAITH Grand Rapids* magazine.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we learned how the Church served the community through these ministries. More than 191,000 people tuned in to the televised Mass on Easter. Catholic Charities West Michigan is serving 250-300 to-go meals at God's Kitchen daily and has kept its Muskegon food and baby pantry open. Our Catholic school leaders and teachers responded quickly to ensure that learning for students continued. Most only missed one day of instruction. These endeavors could not be sustained by any one parish; but together, we are able to provide these ministries through which thousands experience Christ's healing love, mercy, and truth.

Please join me once again in supporting the efforts of our annual Catholic Services Appeal. This appeal is our yearly opportunity to practice stewardship and prayerfully reflect on the blessings that sacrificial giving can bring about in our lives personally and in service to our larger community.

You are witnesses to all the good being done through the mission, message, and ministries of the Catholic Church in our society. As in every age before us, the message of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection holds the key to true happiness and fulfillment. It is essential that we share it with others! Be assured that all contributions given to the CSA are used solely for the purpose of supporting these diocesan ministries and programs.

The enclosed brochure details how your CSA contribution is used. You will also find a pledge card and return envelope for your convenience in giving this year. The 2018-19 diocesan annual report chronicling the ministries supported by your CSA contribution was published in the October edition of *FAITH Grand Rapids* magazine, and may also be found here: <http://bit.ly/GRDioceseAnnualReport18-19>.

Together, let us give witness to the world of Christ's mission and ministry at work, *So Faith May Flourish*.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak  
Bishop of Grand Rapids