

## Dear Friends in Christ,

Have you ever considered that true joy, rather than happiness, is the goal of life? Authentic joy cannot be found solely in ease, riches, or pleasures. For joy accompanies us in fulfilling our purpose as children of God. Christ provides opportunities to experience joy as we grow in knowing, loving, and serving Him. This, in turn, empowers us to be joyful witnesses in today's world.

One way in which we live out our call to be a joyful witness is through the annual Catholic Services Appeal (CSA). This appeal serves thousands throughout West Michigan: making the sacraments possible through seminarian education and the support of our priests; providing a connection through the live broadcast of Sunday Mass; and encountering Christ through the programs of Catholic Charities West Michigan, faith formation and Catholic schools. We never know when someone searching for the Lord is served through one of these ministries and how it may encourage them on their journey of faith.

Once again, I ask for your support. Your contribution is an investment in someone's well-being and in the witness of the Catholic Church in West Michigan. Please consider making a sacrificial gift! You can help fund these important ministries by completing the enclosed pledge card. Thank you for your faith-filled support of our annual appeal!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+D Walkowiak
Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak

Bishop of Grand Rapids

