
March 9, 2008 • Fifth Sunday of Lent

Pastor's Column

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The Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal

At the beginning of Lent, we began the Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) for 2008. This collection, taken up throughout all 99 Parishes of the Diocese, is seeking to raise, as in past recent years, \$2.5 million.

All Parish Households received a "love letter" from me along with a pledge/gift envelope. In the event you have lost your envelope, more are available at the Parish Office and at the Information Table on the Plaza after all Masses.

The \$2.5 million contributed by all the Parishes of the Diocese supports the mission of our local church, the Church of San Diego, through "Education in the Faith," "Priestly Ministry," and "Catholic Charities."

In support of the ACA, the Church of St. Thomas More will contribute \$34,000 as its fair share for 2008. As a benefit to our Parish, the Diocese will return to us all funds collected over and above our goal amount.

This year, as last year, funds received over our goal amount will be directed to the Operational Budget. Last year, \$17,000 was returned to the Parish for our ongoing needs.

As the Diocese of San Diego moves through the "settlement process," the funds collected for the ACA are more important than ever to ensure that the ministry of Jesus continues through "Education in the Faith," "Priestly Ministry," and "Catholic Charities."

Your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal is needed more than ever! Be mindful, as well, that your gift will also benefit St. Thomas More and will help greatly as we move forward with the build-out of our Parish Campus, with the new Church!

If you have not yet made your pledge or given your gift, please do so at your earliest convenience.

The Parish Bulletin gives you a weekly update on the ACA.

My hope is that many more of our Parish Households will feel a responsibility to support the ACA. Be a part of helping the Diocese move forward from the recent, painful past, and be a part of helping our Parish build our Church.

I am asking that every Household make a pledge/gift. No amount is too small. Your gift will help the ministries of our local Church here in San Diego and will benefit our Parish as we continue to make real our dreams.

A reminder for our 127 households that tithe: your tithe includes your gift of the Annual Catholic Appeal. You do not have to make a separate pledge/gift.

I thank you for your generosity!

F. Mike