



## PROMOTIONAL WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2020

### Includes the following:

- Priest/Parish Administrator/Pastoral Life Director Presentation or provided testimonial (*Priest, Pastoral Administrator, Pastoral Life Director is asked to write his/her own testimony about the benefit of having the Appeal in our diocese. The testimony can be shared either during the Homily or after Prayer After Communion*)

We would encourage you to include this in any of your online and social media materials as well.

- Bulletin write-up and pulpit announcement

We have also provided a note below from Detta Smith and the Catholic community in St. Patrick's Parish, McBride, which we would like you to share with your parishioners.

- Universal Prayers – please see below

### Bulletin Write-up and/or Pulpit Announcement (*please adapt as needed*)

TODAY is the PROMOTIONAL WEEKEND for *Called Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving*. Your pledges and donations to **Called Together** truly benefit the parishes, missions and ministries throughout the Diocese of Prince George.

A successful Appeal furthers the mission of our local church and of our parish and helps others in our Diocese with the resources they truly need. We hope that every household in our parish actively participates, a goal that can only be reached with your help. Please consider your support in the coming week. Not everyone can make the same pledge, but if we all offer our sacrifice, we will truly be successful.

Parish Goal: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Pledged to date: \$\_\_\_\_\_

### Universal Prayer:

For our Diocesan family called to support the parishes, missions and ministries of our Church through the Annual Appeal: *Called Together*; that our donations will show our desire to be faithful stewards of God's gift. We pray to the Lord.

For our Diocesan family called to support the parishes, missions and ministries of our Church through the Annual Appeal: *Called Together*; that we will grow in awareness of our call to serve others. We pray to the Lord.

### **Looking forward to next weekend – COMMITMENT WEEKEND**

Next week's Commitment Weekend will likely be somewhat different than in past years. Where it is possible, continue to invite parishioners to complete a pledge form. However, we recognize that you may have to be a bit creative in reaching out to all of your parish.

We would also encourage you to make use of other communication media—social media, your parish website, telephone, bulletins—to continue to support the Appeal and encourage parishioners to actively participate.

### **A note from St. Patrick's Parish in McBride:**

St. Patrick's Parish is located in the Village of McBride which lies approximately 210km east of Prince George.

With no current industry in the community, the population of McBride is shrinking as families relocate to find employment. This has a great impact on the parish.

Also, as the greater community ages, this too is felt at the parish level.

A majority of parishioners are seniors and elders who for many years have shared their time, talent and treasure to support their parish and whose commitment has ensured that the Church doors remain open.

The Church and Rectory are almost 80 years old and, as such, are in need of constant, on-going maintenance.

This small parish community strives to support itself through Sunday donations, fundraising events and by attempting to keep repairs and maintenance costs down by doing as much as possible ourselves.

St. Patrick's Parish benefits directly from the Diocesan Annual Appeal as the subsidy it receives contributes greatly to meeting its budget.

In fact, without this subsidy, it is unlikely that the parish could afford to pay the heating bills, the electricity bills, and the constant maintenance that older buildings require.

It is also probable that without this subsidy there would not be a resident Pastoral Life Director in the parish.

So we say *THANK YOU* to all who generously contribute to the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Without your charity and benevolence, parishes like St. Patrick's McBride would struggle to remain open. May God Bless you!