**COMMITMENT WEEKEND**

September 23-24, 2023

# Commitment Weekend includes the following:

* Pastors speak at all Masses as part of ***Called Together*** (pastors should incorporate a stewardship theme in their homily as part of the Appeal promotion)
* **Post information on your parish website, social media and in any email newsletters you may have** – please consider including the following information:
	+ the appeal@pgdiocese.bc.ca eTransfer address **along with a request for every donor to include their email, parish affiliation, and the amounts going to each of the Called Together and the H&R Appeals**
	+ donations through the Diocese’s home page, where there is a link to the Canada Helps site for credit card donations for both Called Together and our Healing and Reconciliation appeals.
* Please ensure that **blank pledge forms** are available at Mass as part of the ***Commitment Weekend*** wherever this is possible – the template PDF is attached to this week’s WW.
* **Bulletin and pulpit** announcement that includes parish goal and current update
* **Universal Prayers**
* **If you have not yet mailed out any unclaimed envelopes, please do so immediately after the Commitment Weekend and send the invoice/receipt to me.**

# To all pastors and/or secretaries

1. Prepare for Commitment Weekend
2. Where you are able to, please make the following available:
	* Pledge forms and pencils (ensure that they are photocopied and available).
	* Make sure that there is a table set up in the church foyer with Appeal promotional materials. i.e. brochures, pledge forms, envelopes and pencils.
3. Make sure that the greeters/ushers know what your plan is – perhaps you are having them point out where the forms are and what parishioners are to do with them.
4. Many parishes will ask ushers to hand out blank forms and pencils at some convenient point in the liturgy and have the parish priest explain the importance of the Appeal and the need for support.
5. The Pastor should explain the pledge form and encourage people to participate.
6. Pledge forms should be collected by the ushers.
7. If you do not follow this format, it is very important to insure that the ushers provide a blank pledge form to those who have not already one and the parish priest should explain the form to all parishioners to ensure they know how to participate.

# Bulletin Write-up and Pulpit Announcement

On this Commitment Weekend for ***Called Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving,*** and our **B*C Bishops’ appeal in support of Healing and Reconciliation****,* we want to gratefully acknowledge the gifts already made and to encourage all those who have not yet made a commitment to support these very important works of charity.

*C****alled Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving*** is more than just another collection. Christian stewards recognize God as the source of all of our many gifts. We are grateful for these abundant gifts and are eager to give back in appreciation to demonstrate our love for Christ and for one another and to assist those who need our support. Many people in our smaller parishes, missions and ministries rely on funding from Called Together to help support the work they do. All of us share as Christ’s disciples in the mission of the Church. Many thanks to all who completed a pledge form and have moved us closer to our goal as a parish family.

Parish Goal: $ Total Pledged: $

# Universal Prayers

**PLEASE PICK one option (A or B) from Part 1 and include Part 2.**

1. Option A. For our Diocesan family called to support the ministries of our Church through the Annual Appeal: Called Together; that parishes and ministries who will benefit from our donations will be blessed. We pray to the Lord

Option B. For our Diocesan family called to support the ministries of our Church through the Annual Appeal: Called Together; that our commitment will reflect our gratitude for God’s generosity to us. We pray to the Lord.

1. For the BC Bishops’ campaign in support of healing and reconciliation; that our commitment and financial support of this campaign will reflect that we all belong to God’s family, seeking to restore trust and harmony between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.