

**EDUCATION AND PROMOTIONAL WEEKEND**

# SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2023

**Includes the following:**

* Priest Presentation or provided testimonial

(*The parish priest is asked to present his own testimony about the benefits of having the Appeal in our diocese. The testimony can be shared either during the Homily or after the Prayer After Communion. Another person may be asked to speak about the importance and benefits of the Appeal, when necessary. However, support from the parish priest is an important part of this Appeal.)*

* Bulletin write-up that includes parish goal
* A parish-specific pulpit announcement
* Universal Prayer – *please see below*

**Additional Appeal Materials**

If you require additional appeal materials, please contact me at jfowlie@pgdiocese.bc.ca and we will get them out to you. We would also encourage you to reuse packages addressed to parishioners who have moved from the parish or cannot otherwise be sent to them. You can also reprint posters, brochures and pledge forms from the PDF files sent to the parishes. If you need those files sent to you directly or have difficulty finding the files, please let me know.

**Bulletin Write-Up**

Today is the Educational and Promotional Weekend for **Called Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving.** As in the past, your pledge truly benefits the many people in the small parishes, missions and ministries throughout our diocese.

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.

Our Combined Parish Goal: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In addition to our diocesan appeal, the bishops of B.C. have asked us to help support efforts to promote healing and reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples through a separate appeal. The diocese has been asked to pledge $147,000 toward this important work. Over the past two years, we raised $110,000 of that total. We do not set parish goals for this appeal, but look to the generosity of everyone to make a meaningful contribution to support these efforts.

The Healing and Reconciliation Committee has been formed and has begun meeting. Four indigenous members will review and consider how best to use the funds raised in our diocese to support projects that promote healing and reconciliation.

## **Pulpit Announcement** (please adapt as needed)

TODAY is the Education-Promotional Weekend for **Called Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving.**

*(The Parish Priest or his designate is asked to present his own testimony about the benefit of having the Appeal in our diocese. The testimony can be shared either during the Homily (if it’s the parish priest) or after the Prayer After Communion)*

*Please include the following announcement:*

*The Diocesan goal for* ***Called Together*** *is $ 275,000 and our combined parish goal is $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

*One way in which we can live a stewardship lifestyle is through our support to* ***Called***

***Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving.*** *With your support,**you are serving the material and spiritual needs of our diocesan community. Let us remember our Lord Jesus himself calls us to be generous with all the gifts God has given us, to grow them and return them with increase.*

*Thank you to those who have already given their support to* ***Called Together*** *and let us continue to pray for its success.)*

**Universal Prayer**

**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 our participation will reflect our sharing in the mission of the Church. 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 donations will show our desire to be faithful stewards of God’s gifts. We pray to the Lord.

1. For the BC Bishops’ campaign in support of healing and reconciliation; that our generosity will reflect our desire to bring about peace and justice for the Indigenous communities in our province. We pray to the Lord

**Appeal Packages**

Please continue to have the addressed appeal packages available in the parishes through this upcoming weekend. Next week, we would ask that you mail any remaining envelopes out and submit your receipt to the diocese for reimbursement.