



Called Together Diocesan Annual Appeal

Giving · Sharing · Serving

Week One

Kick-Off Weekend: September 19–20, 2026

Instructions for our Kick-off Weekend – There is no video to be presented

A copy of the initial Appeal Update will be sent to pastors with the **parish goals**. It has not yet been updated with donations received after July 1st.

A few things to note:

Every year we have problems with our database program for the generation of envelopes. Please spot check throughout your batch to see if your envelopes are in order or not.

Here are our recommendations for handling any errors you might come across:

- Ensure that the order of the envelopes is correct.
- If you find any misprinted envelopes or envelopes that have an incorrect address or addressee, please try to reuse them wherever possible. We suggest applying a standard mailing label with a correct address overtop the misprint.
- As the envelopes were printed, we noticed that there remain a surprising number that do not have mailing addresses. We would ask that you try and provide addresses wherever possible so that future mailings are correct.
- Envelopes for those who have moved away should also receive a blank mailing label and be used as a spare package for those who may not yet be on the distribution list.
- Envelopes should be held until after the second week of the Appeal. After that time, **please put stamps on the envelopes that have not been picked up and mail them out**. Send the receipt for your postage to the finance office and we will credit your bank account.
- We will likely have additional blank envelopes available after the first week. If you have need for additional bundles, please let us know.

Here are the preparatory steps for this weekend:

1. Add the bulletin write-up in your bulletin—see below.
2. Put out posters and any envelopes for parishioners in foyer.
3. Add the prayer below to your universal prayer.
4. Before the final blessing, please **read Bishop Jensen's letter** from the brochure.
5. **Ask parishioners to pick up their envelope**. If they do not have a personalized envelope they are welcome to take a blank one provided.



Called Together Diocesan Annual Appeal

Giving · Sharing · Serving

Week One

Kick-Off Weekend: September 19–20, 2026

6. Please advise parishioners that those who donate by Interac eTransfer should include a message with the name of your parish that should be credited with the donation. Donors can also include their appeal donor number, which is found on the outside of their envelope. If they do not have a donor number, they should ensure that the message includes their name and address so that we can send a tax receipt.

Bulletin Write-Up *(please adapt as needed)*

Today, along with all the other parishes and missions throughout the diocese, we kick-off the Annual Diocesan Appeal: “*Called Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving.*”

Our appeal is one of the ways in which we journey together as a diocesan family. Your support helps those smaller parishes, missions and ministries throughout the whole diocese that need assistance along the way and it is an important way in which you can practice stewardship and participate in the mission of the Church.

Each parish is encouraged to support the appeal because it raises funds for much-needed projects within your own parish. Every dollar raised above the parish’s share of the diocesan goal is returned to the parish for important projects and unmet needs.

The diocesan goal continues to be \$300,000 this year, still far short of the usual \$400,000 we need to provide full support to help those smaller parishes and missions and various ministries in every part of the diocese which continue to face ongoing challenges for which our support is greatly needed. Last year, we made more than 98% of our goal thanks to your support.

Our Parish Goal is: \$_____ of which \$_____ goes to support ministries throughout the diocese and \$_____ goes to important projects within our parish.

We thank you for your continued and generous help.



Called Together Diocesan Annual Appeal

Giving · Sharing · Serving

Week One

Kick-Off Weekend: September 19–20, 2026

For the pulpit announcement *(please read this letter from Bishop Jensen taken from the brochure)*

The Diocesan Annual Appeal is a practical way of exercising Christian stewardship to benefit a variety of local needs. The Appeal assists smaller parishes and missions in the Diocese that look to us for help to remain viable communities of faith in their localities. It supplies formation services and resources to parishioners across the Diocese and helps provide for the needs of retired priests. The Appeal is an important way that we answer the call to “help carry one another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2).

Our gifts are entrusted to us to imitate God’s goodness by giving of our abundance to those in need. In his second letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul described the spiritual source of this support: “The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God” (1 Cor. 2:9–11). In the act of giving, we receive far more.

This year, the world is increasingly disturbed by wars and economic disruption, but the needs of the Church continue. In the midst of uncertainty, we persevere in the mission of charity entrusted to us by our Lord.

I invite you to join me in this year’s Appeal, so that gratitude to God for His blessings can be expressed in support of the community of faith throughout the Diocese.

+Most Reverend Stephen Jensen



Called Together Diocesan Annual Appeal

Giving · Sharing · Serving

Week One

Kick-Off Weekend: September 19–20, 2026

Universal Prayer

For our entire Diocesan family as we begin our diocesan annual appeal:

may God open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters,

and open our hearts to generously respond.

We pray to the Lord.