

Annual Appeal ^{the 2021}

Catholic Stewardship *in Action*

The 2021 Annual Appeal is underway. Many of you have received a letter from Cardinal Tobin thanking you for your previous donation and encouraging you to donate again this year. The needs for this appeal has never been greater. The global pandemic has affected each of us in different ways.

This Appeal helps and supports many programs and ministries of our local church. The donations collected goes to **4 categories**.

The first is “**Forming Future Priests and Supporting Retired Clergy**”. The appeal supports the education and healthcare of 50 seminarians. It also helps retired priests like Fr. Don. We miss and appreciate Fr. Don who was here for almost 10 years and now is residing at the Atrium in the Allendale Community for Senior Living.

The second category is “**Caring for the Poor and Vulnerable**”. Your gifts support those who need our help the most: the poor, the elderly, the unborn, many hospitals, Catholic charities and ministries like Ministry with Persons with Disabilities and Pro-Life office. All year long our parish continually helps in this category through the Soup Kitchen, Center for Food Action, Angels in Action and Mary’s Purse. Recently our parishioners donated over 250 Christmas gifts to children in need and collected money for our Thanksgiving Charity Actions. And currently we are collecting coats for Mercy House in Newark.

The third category is “**Proclaiming the Gospel**”. This category is about evangelization and international missions around the world. It also supports local multilingual and ethnic communities in our Archdiocese.

The last category is “**Passing on the Faith**”. Your support helps to provide Catholic education (CCD) for 65,000 children and many adults as well as the 20,000 students in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese.

I would like to encourage you to support those programs and ministries. Our goal this year is **\$47,196** which is 10% of our 2019 Sunday collection income. We are asked and obliged to reach our goal by the end of this June. **It is really difficult to ask for money and especially in this time when many of you are struggling too but your gift, large or small will truly make a difference.** Last year over 80 families participated, and we were able to exceed our goal.

Any money raised over our goal will be returned to our parish to assist with our needs. Just like the money that was donated for the previous **Living Stones campaign** several years ago and the almost **\$2,000** from the last Appeal. Those monies and other restricted donations we can use for present and future renovations and improvements around the parish.

Thanks to your offerings and supports we were able **to renovate the sacristy** with new flooring, custom oak cabinets, drop ceilings, lighting, and upgraded bathrooms. All is nice and new now. After any Mass you are all invited to see the sacristy.

My friends, if you did not receive your **Annual Appeal pledge form** in the mail you can find them at the church entrance, or you can visit www.rcan.org/sharing.

Thank you to all who share their talents, time, and financial gifts to the parish and the Archdiocese. Guardian Angel is a wonderful parish because of you!
I really appreciate your understanding and support.