## WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER

In Brooklyn and Queens

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# Annual Catholic Appeal 2020

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Gifts made to the Annual Catholic Appeal provide support to tens of thousands of people in Brooklyn and Queens through key programs, ministries, and services across the Church in Brooklyn and Queens. We are the Church together when we each answer the call of Jesus, who asks us to do good works and share our faith, through a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal.



243 Prospect Park West • Brooklyn, NY 11215-5807 (718) 965-7375 ext. 1602 annualcatholicappeal.org

#### **Our Mission**

For generations, the faithful community of the Diocese of Brooklyn through its bishops, clergy and religious have brought the Lord's charity and love to the aged, infirmed and disadvantaged. Together we continue to be the Church in Brooklyn and Queens as we work in schools, hospitals and provide social services; we build up our parishes and communities; we live our faith through the actions of our good works.

The Annual Catholic Appeal provides us with an opportunity to continue our mission as Catholics to spread God's love and compassion throughout Brooklyn and Queens. Each year the faithful are encouraged to be a beacon of hope to those less fortunate by taking a leadership role in giving to the Annual Catholic Appeal and setting an example of Christian Stewardship for others to follow. Much has been given to us and we give thanks by showing a sincere concern for the mission and work of the Diocese, understanding that we are the Church when we work and pray together.

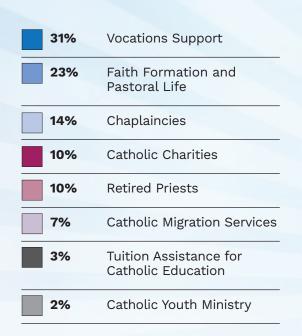
By giving back in charity through the Annual Catholic Appeal, we join together as good stewards in our journey to help make God's Kingdom come. Know that your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal provides for all the ministerial efforts being undertaken in Brooklyn and Queens. Your commitment to join together in faith and to share your gifts in service to all is inspiring.

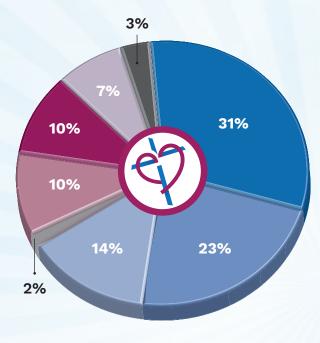
To those who have supported the Annual Catholic Appeal in the past, a very gracious thank you from those whom you have helped and from those whose lives you have changed. Understanding that **We Are The Church, Together**, we are grateful for your partnership in the Lord's work and invite you to answer the call with your neighbors again this year in the mission Christ has given every one of us... that everything we have is a gift from God that should be used to help others.



#### WE ARE THE CHURCH, TOGETHER

#### How Your 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal Gift Will Be Used











\$600,000 Migration **Assistance** 



\$2,050,000 **Catholic Schools** and Faith Formation



\$1,900,000 Chaplaincies in Schools, Prisons, Hospitals and **Retired Priests** 





Your gift allows the Church to share faith and do good works in Brooklyn and Queens.

### The Impact of your Gift



I witness little miracles every day when the young people of the parish remove personal barriers and open-up in the safety of youth ministry allowing them to get to know themselves, each other, and Christ. I have seen many make a transformation and now love participating, volunteering and growing in their relationship with Christ and the Church. I encourage you to support the Annual Catholic Appeal because the funds that you give really make a difference. When I see a transformation in that one young person, I know that your gift has made a huge impact on an individual who needed the support. I have a specific role as a Youth Minister to fill, but it's something that I cannot do without the support our parish gets from the Annual Catholic Appeal. Building a future for our parishes is a team effort, and it's something that we all need to do together. We are the Church, together.

- Christina Penaloza, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at St. Sebastian's Church in Woodside, Queens



The fact is that I wouldn't be a priest if not for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Donations to the Annual Catholic Appeal that support seminarians can feel abstract to donors because you don't always know all of the seminarians personally; they're not always from your parish. But I'm here to tell you the impact you have on the formation of priests through the Annual Catholic Appeal is real and helps in a very, very meaningful way. I'm evidence of that and hopefully, my work as a priest shows my appreciation for what those people who have donated in past years did for me during my formation. I take this opportunity to really give thanks to everyone who donates to the Annual Catholic Appeal for allowing me to realize my vocation. My Priesthood is a beautiful example of the fact that we are the Church, together.

- Fr. Ralph Edel



Giving to the Annual Catholic Appeal is rewarding not just because we're giving to something we believe in and we've seen results from, but to be a part of a generosity of spirit, of giving back to the community, of building a foundation in the world that actually gives people support, hope, education, and comfort. The Annual Catholic Appeal provides the funding to support many ministries that are an important part of our spiritual life.

We're very fortunate to be able to give to the Annual Catholic Appeal. We're called to be good stewards and administrators of the benefits and the gifts we get from God, and so in that context, we try to set aside something that is meaningful to the Brooklyn and Queens community and the Catholic Church.

When we look around and see that our entire parish is united in accomplishing one goal, understanding each one of us has a small part to play by making a donation to the Appeal, it's another sign that we are the Church, together.

– The San Juan Family Parishioners of Sacred Hearts - St. Stephen Parish, Brooklyn