

Please join with me...

CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2018



"Seek first the
Kingdom of God."

-Matthew 6:33

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A Reflection from Donald Cardinal Wuerl



With the eyes of faith, it is possible to envision a better world – one that would reflect the Kingdom of God. The Sermon on the Mount calls us to see a world transformed by faith. Each year the Cardinal's Appeal unites all Archdiocesan parishes and missions, drawing us together to accomplish wonderful works that help change lives for the better. As God's family, we are able in our spiritual, pastoral, educational, charitable and social efforts to make a real difference.

The Cardinal's Appeal is all about helping other people. With your generous support, you demonstrate your faith filled willingness to be a part of this effort and to share in the transforming action of the Church.

Your commitment to the 2018 Cardinal's Appeal will provide for:

- ✠ The formation of seminarians, deacons, men and women religious, and lay leaders in our parishes;
- ✠ Tuition assistance to help students receive a Catholic education, as well as training of teachers and catechists and facilitating college campus ministries;
- ✠ Immediate care for people in need of shelter, medical treatment, mental health services, clothing, food and emergency services;
- ✠ Outreach and assistance to women so they can choose life for their unborn babies, and support of other ministries that promote and defend the dignity of life;
- ✠ Comfort, consolation and the sacraments to the homebound, hospitalized, elderly, sick and dying, including loving care for our retired priests;
- ✠ Support of social development ministries that meet the unique needs of our diverse family of faith; and
- ✠ Evangelization and engagement with our greater community to manifest the kingdom in our midst.

Each year I ask *your* help simply because there are so many in need of *our* help. By joining our parishes and missions together, we can do what we alone are not able to achieve in helping others.

Please consider, from the goodness of your heart and the blessings you have received, a gift that allows us to carry on – together as one, apostolic Catholic Church – work at the service of the Gospel, helping us to see a world transformed by faith.

Faithfully in Christ,

Donald Cardinal Wuerl
Archbishop of Washington

About the Appeal

Since 1969, the generosity of the faithful answering the call to serve God, through the Cardinal's Appeal, has delivered millions of dollars to provide loving care, education and leadership to hundreds of thousands of people throughout our community.



As we begin our 49th year for the Cardinal's Appeal, we reflect on the opportunities to participate in the Church's ministries of teaching, healing, and nurturing as well as the sanctification of human life. Your generosity directly supports acts of charity, service and care that announce the kingdom is being manifested in our days on Earth.



What the Cardinal's Appeal funds

In 2018, we are seeking your support to the Cardinal's Appeal to help provide for:

Education: Tuition assistance for Catholic school students, support for inner city schools and parish religious education programs

Chaplaincies: Support for university campus ministries, hospital chaplains, local prison ministries and the Pope Francis Center (Catholic Deaf Center)

Special Ministries: Support for a variety of social ministries with Black and Hispanic Catholics, young adults and the disabled

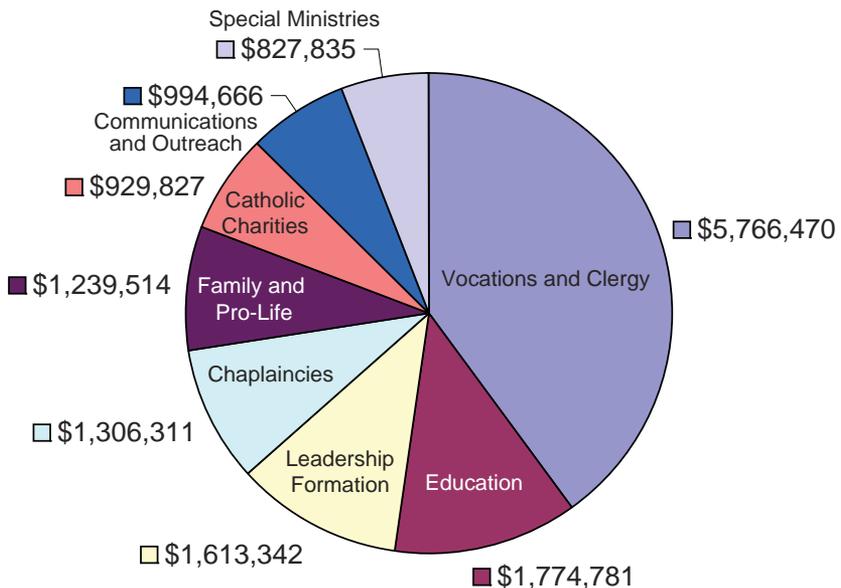
Family and Pro-Life: Support for family life ministries, birthing and care programs, natural family planning, pregnancy aid centers, and other pro-life activities

Leadership Formation: Assistance for lay leadership development and parish outreach efforts

Vocations and Clergy: Support for seminarians, post-ordination educational opportunities, care of elderly and ailing retired priests and funding for the seminaries

Communication and Outreach: Continued production and broadcasting of the TV Mass and enhanced use of traditional and new media tools

Catholic Charities: Support for charitable programs at more than 80 locations, including Anchor Mental Health and the Spanish Catholic Center



Cardinal's Appeal 2018 Goal: \$14,300,000

Seminarians, Clergy, Chaplains

Chaplains serve daily at more than two dozen hospitals throughout the Archdiocese. They visit the sick and dying, bringing comfort and consolation of the sacraments to those in perhaps the most vulnerable and difficult moments of their lives.



The seminary provides the opportunity for young men in priestly formation to answer the call to encounter the Lord and his people through study, prayer, sacraments and apostolic ministry.

One young priest said, "I've thought about the priesthood since I was six or seven years old. I didn't know what it all meant back then, but the idea stayed with me. I am personally grateful for any support that the faithful can provide – whether financial or through prayer – for us seminarians to persevere."



Education

Choosing Catholic Education means a child will receive a high-quality education with daily exposure to the moral and spiritual values of our faith. Many parents make great sacrifices to have this choice, and it is our commitment as the Archdiocese to stand with them. Support from the Cardinal's Appeal supplements tuition, strengthens inner city schools and provides the means to train religious educators and support parish religious education programs.

Pro-Life Outreach Programs

Since 1991, the Birthing and Care Center Program and other similar initiatives have provided medical, financial, emotional and spiritual help to thousands of uninsured pregnant women in the Archdiocese. Some women come to the Center in financial



crisis; some come with high-risk pregnancies; and some come on the verge of having an abortion. The Appeal supports several pro-life efforts by working closely with other diocesan organizations for referrals and outreach in the surrounding Hispanic and African American communities. Further, the Cardinal's Appeal will help the

Center field hundreds of calls for help and shepherd nearly 200 women through their pregnancies.

Special Ministries

The Spanish Catholic Center in Gaithersburg, Maryland, is a hub of activity for families seeking legal immigration counsel, job opportunities, English classes and health coverage for their children. Through the Job Lease program, area employers send representatives to match people with available positions. The Cardinal's Appeal empowers the center's hardworking staff to bring the hope and the love of Christ to families in need. At the Joseph P. Kennedy Institute, the Community Companions program provides parents who are caring for special needs children with precious moments of downtime.

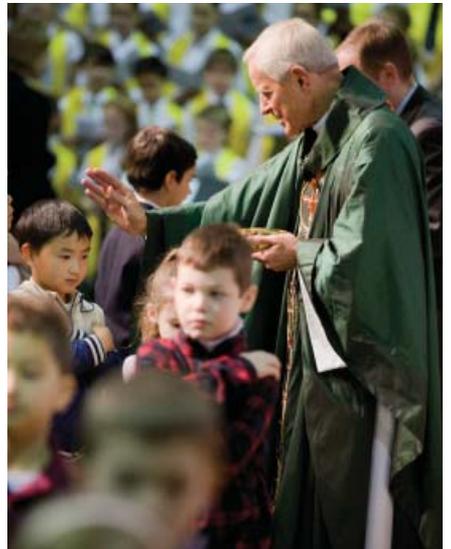
Having a caring place where children can go after school gives parents a much-needed respite and offers the children additional time to socialize and have fun. Appeal donations help fund such things as summer camp, transportation vehicles, and food to help these young people enjoy being kids.





Communications and Outreach

Since 1952, the Archdiocese of Washington has produced a televised Sunday Mass to those who are homebound, reaching more than 6,500 viewers on average across the Washington area each week. It is a vital ministry for those members of our Catholic family who are unable to be physically present with a local worshipping community for the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy. Priests from around the Archdiocese faithfully share the opportunity to participate and serve as celebrants, joined by deacons and choirs from local parishes and schools. Support from the Cardinal's Appeal enables the Archdiocese to use television and other contemporary media to carry a message of caring to people who are isolated and looking for connection with their faith.



Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities assists individuals and families in need, especially those who are most vulnerable. They focus on helping people develop the skills and strength to move from crisis or isolation to stability and growth.

They remain committed to the poor, especially the homeless, immigrant newcomers at-risk and persons with mental and developmental disabilities.



Further, they pride their work on being accessible to those in need through comprehensive, integrated and culturally competent services. We strengthen Catholic Charities through partnerships with other providers, foundations, businesses, individuals, schools, and most especially the faithful throughout our Catholic parishes.

How You Can Help

“There is a lot of good work being done throughout the Archdiocese. It is our responsibility to look outside our own parish and help the Church help those who need it and make a difference in their lives.”

In gratitude for all that Christ has given us and the gift of being able to realize his kingdom, we urge you to consider a generous pledge or outright gift in support of the Cardinal’s Appeal for 2018 through

- † Cash / Check
- † Credit Card
- † Direct Debit
- † Gifts of Stock, Bonds and Mutual Funds
- † Gifts through IRA transfers, Charitable Annuities, Trusts and Real Estate

“Yes, the reward is in Heaven, but those rewards begin with the work we do on earth.”