

Commitment Weekend: Pastor

Role of Pastor

As leader of the parish family, the parish pastor plays an essential role in communicating to parishioners their membership in the universal Church. There is no replacement for the parish priest; no poster, letter, insert or other item can replace the impact of your personal support. As persons of faith and as spiritual leaders of your parish community, your personal request to the people of your parish is crucial. You are the principal motivators.

Reflect on the reasons why you should support the work of the Diocese of Baker. The Church in Central and Eastern Oregon certainly needs the financial support of its Catholic faithful. But more importantly because, as Catholics, we are part of the Mystical Body of Christ, we are called to share with each other the gifts He has given to each of us. In contributing to the Appeal, your parishioners are responding to the call to be active participants within the universal Church.

As a supportive pastor, your role includes the following:

- Make your own commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal.
- Tell the parishioners that you want 100% participation as a demonstration of the parish's commitment to stewardship.
- Evaluate previous years parish results to develop a strategy for meeting your parish goal.
- Exhibit a positive, sincere attitude toward the appeal and its objective.
- Ask parishioners to take a moment to fill out the intention envelope and give them time to do so.
- Presider completes intention at the same time, demonstrating his participation.
- If parishioners have previously given their intention or are unable to give, ask them to write a prayer request on the envelope, or the word: "Amen."
- Demonstrate, or allow the Appeal Coordinator to demonstrate, how to fill out a card.
- Have ushers collect the intention envelopes and bring them to the front of the church.
- Bless the intentions, the parishioners who gave them, and the people who will benefit from the appeal.

Thank you for your prayers, service, sacrifice and continued support for the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal.