

2021 Annual Appeal Update

On Sunday, May 9, 2021, Father Tom Dente our pastor gave an update on the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal at all Masses. Below is a summary of his statement:

Good morning everyone. I would like to ask your attention for a few moments to give you an update on the Annual Appeal, the yearly archdiocesan fundraiser. A few months ago, Fr. John Chadwick did a wonderful appeal at all of the Masses explaining the purpose of the Annual Appeal. (view here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNaHyDzxv1s>). We watched the Appeal video in church (view here: <https://www.rcan.org/video>); you received mailings from both the Archdiocese and myself; and there have been updates in the bulletin.

As a result of all of this, I am happy to say I have some really good news. Our goal is about \$84,000.00 and as of today, we have \$46,000.00 pledged. You might ask, "Is that good news?" Well, yes it is, because we are trending upward significantly. Two years ago, with about the same goal, we raised \$24,000.00; last year we raised \$33,000.00, and this year, so far, \$45,000.00. Some day we want to make our goal, but we are making significant progress, and that is very good news!

Now there is more **good news** and a **challenge**. The more good news is that there is still time to donate or pledge! We are hoping to have most of our pledges and donations in by the end of May, but you can give through the end of the year. Some folks like to wait until the end of the year to do their charitable giving, and that is fine, too. Any offering from now until December 31 will be credited toward our final goal.

Here is the challenge: although our contributions are up, we are currently down in the number of donors. Last year we had 123 families or individuals donate; so far this year, we have 120. We are down three which is not good because **participation** is almost as important as **amount** raised.

So I am hoping and praying that there are at least three more holy and generous folks out there who will sign up for the annual appeal. Four more would increase our number of givers from last year. Even a small donation by an additional parishioner will not only increase our total but also our number of givers. If you are interested, there are envelopes at the doors of the church, or you can visit our website and donate online (view here: www.rcan.org/appeal). If you donate online, you have to select "Notre Dame" from the list of parishes of the Archdiocese so that we get full credit.

Folks, we asked; you gave; and you deserved an update, so thank you for listening. And thank you for participating in the Annual Appeal! If you have any questions please contact the Parish Center during regular business hours, Mon-Fri, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm, 973.226.0979.

God bless you and God bless Notre Dame!