

# BE COURAGEOUS

## Live the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal

September 2019

Name  
Address  
Address  
City, State Zip

Dear (Name):

It is with humble and joyful hearts that we write to you today, the parishioners, our brothers and sisters in Christ of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. We are residents of Inverness and active, participating members of Our Lady of Fatima Parish. One of us a lifelong Catholic and the other a convert since 2002, giving thankful credit to the expert tutelage of Sister Loyola Mathia and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at St. Scholastica. Our marriage, our family and our lives are blessed because Christ is at the center of what we do and who we are.

God's blessings upon us have been many, but none as beloved as the opportunities we have been given to give back to our community, our parish and our local diocesan Church. Our daughters are readers at Mass and we help where we can. We also volunteer at the Community Food Bank of Citrus County, support Blessings in a Backpack – a venture to end childhood hunger, and sponsor initiatives that support the Future Farmers of America and students wanting to attend the University of Florida.

These opportunities are fulfilling, but we know the need for help is sometimes much larger than any one organization can do alone. Both of us were raised by single parents, with little resources to get by. We understand the struggle and are eternally grateful for those who helped us along the way. People we didn't even know touched our lives in such profound ways that we strive to be just like that for others. As Catholics, we believe this is what God has called us to do and we are answering His call. The people we have met, the people we have served and we ourselves have all been brought closer to Christ through these ministries.

We are engaged in Church and community ministry daily, but we also understand there are even more people in need we don't know and cannot reach. With gratitude for our abundant blessings we use the opportunity of the Annual Pastoral Appeal to reach out even further, doing our part to provide the good works of Jesus Christ throughout Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough and Pinellas counties.

We are fortunate to be a part of a wonderful parish and blessed to be a part of this amazing diocesan Church community made up of 80 parishes and missions. When we all come together as one, we can provide within our parishes and help them remain vibrant and strong and reach out beyond our parish boundaries, bringing Christ's love to thousands. Please consider joining us in making a courageous gift of support to the Annual Pastoral Appeal. Your gift has made a difference in the past, and will do so again. Should this letter cross in the mail with the commitment you have already made, please accept our apologies for this letter and our gratitude for your generosity.

Wishing God's blessings upon you and your families,  
Sincerely in Christ,

*Jeffrey & Jennifer*

Jeffrey & Jennifer Grow  
Parishioners  
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church



EVERY GIFT IN FAITH

IS A GIFT OF COURAGE