

# 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 both lifelong Catholics, originally from New York, now settled in Tampa and for the past 22 years it has been a pleasure and truly gratifying to be active members of the faith family of St. Patrick Parish.

God's blessings upon us have been many, but none as beloved as the opportunities we have been given to serve our Church. At St. Patrick, we are Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, readers, greeters, ushers and Arimatheans. During the Advent season, we take part in the organization of the giving tree that helps bring the joy of Christmas to local migrant families and one of our neighboring parishes, as well as needy members of our own parish. We are also active on the parish finance council and in weekly bible study.

These opportunities are fulfilling, and we are able to help our parish do great things. But we know the need for help is sometimes much larger than our parish can handle alone. Several years ago we partnered with Sacred Heart and St. Joseph and coordinated a ministry that today feeds over 200 homeless and needy every other week. Through this joint effort, caring for the homeless has become our passion. As Catholics, 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 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 Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Hernando and Citrus 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,

*Carmelo & Elba*

Carmelo & Elba Meletiche  
Parishioners, St. Patrick Catholic Church  
Tampa, FL



EVERY GIFT IN FAITH

IS A GIFT OF COURAGE

