

Pastor & Pulpit Announcements

January 5 - January 12

Thank You Weekends

Pastor/Celebrant Announcement

With this New Year comes the launch of the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA). Please remember that we always strive for a successful effort here in our parish. This year's theme for the APA is: We are SALT & LIGHT. As baptized individuals, as a parish and as a diocese, by supporting the good works done in the name of Jesus Christ as joyful stewards, we are *Living the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal*.

Participating in APA gives us opportunities to live the Gospel, share our faith and bring God's hope and love to all those we encounter. Please be generous with your gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal for our parish.

Pulpit Announcement

Feeling blessed, we offer great thanks to everyone who generously made a sacrificial gift in the last year to the 2019 Annual Pastoral Appeal. Your faithful support has helped our parish and brought thousands within our diocese closer to God through the ministries, programs, and services funded through APA. We are blessed to have such caring and compassionate parishioners.

January 18/19

Prayer Weekend

Pastor/Celebrant Announcement

I wish to take a moment to thank all of you for your prayer, participation and generosity to our parish. This is a place where we come to seek salvation, where we feel comfortable, yet we understand we have to give of our time, talent and treasure to keep it active and vibrant, and to preserve it for those who come after us.

This year the Annual Pastoral Appeal is themed: *WE ARE SALT & LIGHT, Living the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal*. This is an opportunity to give thanks for our own blessings and courageously continue be a source of hope and life for each other and for people in need, here and now, and the future.

Please pray for the success of the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal. Pray for our parish and our diocese, that those in need of charity, service, formation, and education will be assisted by us with God's promise of love and mercy. Pray that by our witness and courageous response, those in need will know the same comfort and hope that we have in our hearts and lives. In the coming weeks, you will receive an invitation from Bishop Parkes to participate in the 2020 APA. Please review the brochure that is included, which displays the good works of our local Church made possible by APA.

Our parish needs your help, and more importantly, those who benefit from the services and outreach funded through the Appeal need your help. Every gift makes a difference. I ask that you pray about your own participation in this year's APA. Our Commitment Weekend is in three weeks. Please come prepared to help give the hope of Jesus to someone in need through a gift to the Appeal. Thank you, and may God continue to bless you.

Pulpit Announcement

As we pray this weekend for the Annual Pastoral Appeal, remember we are beneficiaries of a rich history, and we give thanks for the hope given to us by the self-sacrifice of clergy, religious, and laity that have come before us. As we pray for the success of our 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal, let's encourage each other to live as missionary disciples and build up our local Church now and for future generations. Our APA reaches beyond ourselves and our parish/mission, and gives hope to thousands through the ministries, programs and services that enrich a Christ-centered way of life. Our APA Commitment Weekend is in three weeks. Please come prepared to participate and stand strong in our Catholic faith.

Pastor/Celebrant Announcement

By now you should have received an invitation from Bishop Parkes to participate in the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal. In two weeks, we join with him and all our sisters and brothers throughout the Diocese to give thanks for what we have received and to give hope to those we encounter.

The Annual Pastoral Appeal provides each of us with the opportunity to touch the lives of others with love and charity. This is a blessing for us AND for those we are able to help. Outreach efforts funded by the appeal help people struggling with homelessness, life and justice issues. It helps provide awareness and assistance for those that encounter racism and celebrates diversity. APA funds the promotion of Vocations, and our men studying for the priesthood, permanent diaconate and religious life. It provides for the assistance to youth and young adult ministers for development and spiritual enrichment, supports the advancement of our diocesan communications and radio ministry to evangelize far and wide, and offers opportunities for people of all ages looking to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

The brochure that is included with the packet mailed to you highlights some of the ministries, programs and services supported by your Annual Pastoral Appeal gift. For those of you who have previously supported APA, I extend my heartfelt gratitude. You have helped our parish tremendously with this financial responsibility and while you may not have personally seen the joy felt by the thousands of people helped through your gift, I want to assure you that your gift has transformed lives. (Consider mentioning to those who have never given that now is the time to Courageously Live the Gospel, take that leap of faith...the parish needs them and so does the Church).

I ask all of you to join me to be God's Salt and Light for others and joyfully make a gift to the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal. Please reflect on the blessings that you have been given and pray about how you can use your gifts to be a witness of God's presence in our diocesan community. In two weeks, our parish will be conducting our Commitment Weekend in-pew collection for the Annual Pastoral Appeal. I pray that together we will demonstrate our charity to those in need. Thank you, and may God continue to bless you.

Pulpit Announcement

By now you should have received your invitation in the mail from Bishop Parkes to participate in the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal. This year's APA theme is: *WE ARE SALT & LIGHT, Living the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal*, a message that states God's intentions for us and provides an opportunity to reflect on our own blessings, and what we do in His name. This is our call to action to be grateful for what God has given us and participate in His work not yet done. Please prayerfully consider how you can help to provide the gift of hope to all who encounter the ministries, programs and services funded by APA.

Our Commitment Weekend collection is in two weeks. Your generous gift or pledge to the Annual Pastoral Appeal on behalf of our parish will help us reach our goal and provide support for the ministries, programs and services that are essential to continue God's work in our diocese, both now and for the future. Please spend some time in prayer to decide on the sacrifice you can make to give hope to those who are less fortunate. Be a witness of God's love with your gift.

Pastor/Celebrant Announcement

I want you to know that I support the Annual Pastoral Appeal and respect that this is an opportunity to touch the lives of others, those we may never know, with love and charity. This is a fundraiser for our parish that benefits us as well as those we can help who may be struggling with homelessness, or life and justice issues. Our gifts provide awareness and assistance for those that encounter racism and together we can celebrate diversity. We will help to fund the support of Vocations, our men studying for the priesthood, permanent diaconate and religious life. We will also help to provide for the assistance to youth and young adult ministers for development and spiritual enrichment

and the advancement of our diocesan communications and radio ministry to evangelize far and wide. Our gifts will contribute to opportunities for people of all ages looking to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Good Works that we do as a diocesan Church are carried out in the ministries, programs and services supported by our Annual Pastoral Appeal gifts. For those of you who have previously supported APA, I extend my heartfelt gratitude. You have helped our parish tremendously and while you may not have personally seen the joy felt by the thousands of people helped through your gift, I want to assure you that your gift has transformed lives.

I ask all of you to join me and joyfully make a gift to the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal. Please reflect on the blessings that you have been given and pray about how you can use your gifts to be a witness of God's presence in our diocesan community. Next week, our parish will be conducting our commitment weekend in-pew collection for the Annual Pastoral Appeal. I pray that together we will demonstrate our charity to those in need. Thank you, and may God continue to bless you.

Pulpit Announcement

This year's APA theme is: *WE ARE SALT & LIGHT, Living the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal*, a message that states God's intentions for us and provides an opportunity to reflect on our own blessings, and what we do in His name. This is our call to action to be grateful for what God has given us and participate in His work not yet done. Please prayerfully consider how you can help to provide the gift of hope to all who encounter the ministries, programs and services funded by APA.

Our Commitment Weekend is next weekend. Your generous gift or pledge to the Annual Pastoral Appeal on behalf of our parish will help us reach our goal and provide support for the ministries, programs, and services that are essential to continue God's work in our diocese, both now and for the future. Please spend some time in prayer to decide on the sacrifice you can make to give hope to those who are less fortunate. Be a witness of God's love with your gift.

February 8/9

Commitment Weekend

Pastor/Celebrant Announcement (or if in-pew solicitation presentation is made by a lay witness or other parish leader)

It's an exciting time to be a part of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, journeying with a vision that brings us together as a joyful community of disciples, proclaiming the Good News and inviting all people to encounter the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. I want to thank everyone who has supported our parish by giving to the APA in the past. Those whose lives have been transformed through the Good Works of our Catholic faith community are thankful for your generosity. For the past two weeks, I have reminded you of the importance of your participation in the APA. This Appeal is an opportunity to share our gifts in support of our parish and our diocesan community. It is an effective and cost-efficient way to provide necessary services, such as human resources, insurance, construction, and financial guidance to our own parish, as well as offer services, faith formation programs, ministries and programs outside of our parish boundaries. I am asking today for your generous response. *WE ARE SALT & LIGHT*, and this is our opportunity as a parish to *Courageously live the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal*. Every gift, every prayer, and every sacrifice sends a Gospel message of hope to someone seeking the love and mercy of Christ. Thank you, and may God continue to bless you.

February 15/16 and 22/23

Follow-Up Weekends 1 & 2

Pulpit Announcement

Every parishioner can fully participate in the mission of our Catholic Church and the continued works of Jesus Christ by participating in the Annual Pastoral Appeal. Please prayerfully consider the blessings you have been given, and the prayers answered in your times of need. If you weren't prepared to make a commitment last week, we ask you to make a gift or pledge of support to the essential ministries, programs and services of our diocese. These diocesan outreach efforts are a true blessing to those we serve, fulfilling the physical, educational and spiritual needs of thousands that we could not serve from our parish alone. Your gift may be paid over the next 10 months or you can

make a one-time gift. Every gift is courageous, there is no gift too small and every gift changes a life. Every gift can inspire hope for those we serve. Pledge envelopes are located (*describe where you have the envelopes*) for your convenience.

February 26 – April 12

Lenten and Easter Prayer Weekends

Optional Pulpit Prayer for Lent

Our God sent His only Son to be among us here on earth. Jesus' life, death and resurrection are His gift to us. He is with us always. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us in our prayers and grant us the grace and blessings that sustain and fortify us to joyfully serve one another with honor and glory to God.

April 18/19

2nd Request Weekend

Pulpit Announcement

With renewed spirit and hearts full of love and gratitude for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we must be His Salt and Light and serve one another with His love and mercy. For those who have made a gift or pledge to the Annual Pastoral Appeal, **thank you**. Your sacrifice will help our parish to prosper and will give hope to those in need throughout our diocese. A follow-up message is being mailed to those who have not yet made a commitment, with an invitation to be a conscious, active participant in the mission of our Church, and to participate in the Annual Pastoral Appeal. Those that are alone, sick, and homeless, those in jail and their families, those who may be having difficulty in their marriage, those seeking forgiveness and wanting to return to the Church, and those seeking a better life by following Christ, are aided and healed by the ministries, programs and services funded through APA. Jesus has entrusted the care of those less fortunate to us. Be generous with your gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal. Envelopes can be found (*describe where you have the envelopes*). They may be placed in the collection basket, brought to the parish office or mailed directly to the Campaign Processing Office at the Pastoral Center.

April 26 – until goal is reached

Update & Continued Communications

Pulpit Announcement

Option 1:

We all have received countless blessings and the gift of faith which God so freely gives us. The theme for the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal, *WE ARE SALT & LIGHT, Living the Gospel through the Annual Pastoral Appeal*, calls us to action to be disciples of Jesus Christ and help to share his love and mercy to all. Please continue to pray for those in need and for those seeking a better life in and through Jesus Christ. With a gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal, you help our parish to prosper and you give witness to God's abundant blessings by demonstrating a courageous and grateful response to His call to love and serve one another. No gift is too small and every gift changes a life. Pledge/gift envelopes may be found (*describe where you have the envelopes*) for your convenience.

Option 2:

I would like to update you on the progress of our 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal. Each parish contributes financially to support the physical, educational and spiritual needs of our local diocesan Church. This year, our parish's portion is \$_____. As of last week, a total of \$_____ has been committed from _____ of our households.

If you have already made your gift or pledge to this year's Appeal – **thank you!**

If you have not made your commitment yet, your help is still very much needed. We are striving for 100% participation to reach our goal. Please remember, no gift is too small. Every gift is courageous and makes a difference. Pledge envelopes are located (*describe where you have the envelopes*) for your convenience. Please continue to pray for the success of the Annual Pastoral Appeal and consider a gift or pledge if you have not done so already. Thank you.

Option 3:

We are continuing to support the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal in our parish. **Thank you** to everyone who has made a gift. We are doing well, with \$ _____ in commitments from _____ families. Does that include you?

The priorities in our lives change from day to day, but hopefully God remains at the center of all we say and do. Our parish and God's people throughout our diocese need your help. You may never meet those you help, or you may think your gift is too small or not needed. It is time for all of us to be part of a bigger blessing, one that transforms lives. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge to the Annual Pastoral Appeal, please give now. I assure you, every gift is needed. Please support the mission God has entrusted to you. Please make a pledge or one-time gift. Pledge envelopes are located (*describe where you have the envelopes*) for your convenience. Every gift, every prayer, makes a difference and changes someone's life.