**2023 Catholic Ministry Appeal**

***Pastor letter of support for all recipients of January mailings (after Bishop Parkes letter is sent)***

Over the years, many of us have learned how important it is to be part of a community. However, being part of a community has looked a little different over the last few years: We haven’t always been together in Mass or in the parish hall for a meal and fellowship. We haven’t been able to serve others or work alongside those in need the way we have done in the past.

But, despite all that, more than ever, we are still part of something much larger. A community – the Body of Christ!

Everywhere we look good things are happening in our parish, Diocese and Church. We have much to be grateful for, to live in such a giving Catholic community.

Each year, our parish takes an active role in our larger Church and becomes part of something bigger. Together, with Catholics across our Diocese, we provide for others through the C*atholic Ministry Appeal.*

I truly believe the *Catholic Ministry Appeal* is one of the most impactful ways we can support our Catholic Church. Your gift helps so many people as we *nurture spiritual life*, *embrace God’s call to serve* and *accompany missionary disciples*. For example, did you know the *Catholic Ministry Appeal* supports:

* Faith formation for youth and young adults, providing them with opportunities to encounter the Lord.
* Shelter for more than 4,000 people through Shelters of Hope.
* 106 active priests serving in 79 parishes and missions.

< INFORMAL SALUTATION>, will you help me, Bishop Parkes, and most importantly, these important ministries with your gift to the ***Catholic Ministry Appeal***? Thank you for your prayerful consideration of our request.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

<INSERT SIGNATURE>

<PASTOR NAME>, Pastor

<PARISH NAME>