**SAMPLE PASTOR’S ACA LETTER**

*Note: Letter should be on parish stationery, and include photo of pastor if possible.*

February 2023

Name of parish

Address

City, State, Zip

Dear [parishioner],

Each year we are invited to participate in our Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA), which is an opportunity for all of us to support essential ministries and services that benefit many in our Local Church. The theme of this year’s campaign is “**Living Our Faith**.”

I have seen our parishioners living their faith in countless events and settings and been a witness to how the grace of God has lifted their lives.

In the last year, I also have had the privilege to listen as our community members shared their joys, disappointments and their dreams for our Church through their participation in the Catholic Church’s synod. More than 11,000 participated in small-group sessions held at our parish and others; and more than 22,000 completed the synod electronic survey. One thing has been wonderfully clear in this process: Our community members consider faith integral to their lives. And I was grateful to learn that they value their parish and pastor.

Our Annual Catholic Appeal enables us to fund our Pastoral Center ministry offices and programs that help our community members to live their faith. They include our schools and programs to support faith formation at all ages, to strengthen families, to promote a culture of life, to care for creation, to engage youth and young adults, to sustain our retired clergy and those preparing for the priesthood, and to extend a helping hand to the marginalized.

This year our parish is expected to contribute $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the ACA. I understand the last year has been economically challenging, but I am confident that we can reach this target and possibly exceed it. Any amount we receive over our target will be returned to our parish for our use.

Therefore, I invite you to prayerfully consider your response as a faithful steward of the gifts that God has joyfully bestowed on you. You may use the enclosed Response Card to make your pledge and return it in the weekend collection or the parish office or mail it to the office. You may go to [giving.sdcatholic.org](http://www.giving.sdcatholic.org) for more information or to make a secure online pledge or donation. You may also make a gift via a stock or IRA donation at https://sdcatholic.org/giving/stock-donations/

If you cannot donate at this time, we ask you to pray for a successful 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal for our parish.

Your participation, regardless of the amount, makes a difference. Your generosity brings hope and joy to all those who benefit from your gift. Be assured of my gratitude for your support and of my continuing prayers for you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

< Pastor’s name and signature>