



Development Update

November, 2009

2009-2010 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal Update

As of October 22, we have received pledges amounting to \$1,204,780, from 7,472 households for an average gift of \$161.24. Last year, at this time, we had pledges amounting to \$1,447,489 from 10,391 households and were at 83% of our goal. The mailings sent at the end of September have generated \$29,567 to date.

We would like to recognize and thank Father Ignatius Okonkwo and the parishioners at St. Mary Parish, Harrisburg, and Father Lawrence Mariasoosai, O.M.I., and the parishioners of St. Pius Parish in Walsh who recently met their parish financial target for The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. Please see the updated deanery reports included with this mailing for your parish results.

Several pastors have asked for suggestions or ideas of how to promote the appeal. Holy Childhood Parish in Mascoutah was one of the first parishes to reach their CSMA goal again this year and, at the present time, is **29% above their goal**. In spite of that, Monsignor Jerome Hartlein continues to ask for his parishioners' support. In a recent Holy Childhood bulletin, he included a note in his *Father's Two Cents Worth* column about the appeal and graciously agreed to let us share it with you here:

“As I mentioned last week, our Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal will be sending mailings to those who gave this year asking for an extra gift or help. They will also be sending a letter to those who did not give this year but gave last year. The reason is that the annual drive, started last February, is far behind what we did the previous year and is in danger of getting worse. This translates into less funding for the various ministries, which again translates in less services available to help the poor, the needy, our schools, even our own parish where we depend on a collaborative effort to achieve a service. I urge you to help out, even though you might be fulfilling a pledge at the present moment. I do not believe that

any one of us has suffered loss or deprivation due to what we have given to our church or our diocesan support. Please, please, please do not pitch the letter but read it, pray over it seriously and consider the good that can be obtained by your generous support. The charity of God urges us on!”

A special thanks to Monsignor Hartlein for allowing us to reprint his message and to the Holy Childhood parish family for their outstanding support. We are most grateful. If you have not already done so, please consider making a **personal appeal during Mass** or including a **note in your parish bulletin** asking parish members to consider a gift to the CSMA. The ministries and programs funded by the appeal are counting on us.

The CSMA Agency Allocation and Accountability Committee met in Mount Vernon on October 17. Committee members are now in the process of making agency/program site visits. New committee members welcomed at the meeting were Mr. Darren Eultgen, St. Theresa, Salem/St. Elizabeth, Kinmundy; The Rev. John Iffert, St. Mary, Mount Vernon; Sister Carol Karnitsky, S.S.C.M., Church of the Holy Spirit, Carterville; and Mr. Jack Sherwin, St. Mary, Anna. The committee also thanked and recognized those members who have completed their terms of service and are now rotating off the AAA Committee: Mrs. Rose Hogan, Mr. Robert Shaw, Sister Catherine Wellinghoff, A.S.C., and The Rev. Robert Zwilling.

Catholic Community Foundation

Bishop Edward K. Braxton has approved three new members of the Board of Directors. They are Mr. John Bilski of St. Stephen Parish, Caseyville; Miss Jane Stock of the Cathedral of St. Peter, Belleville; and Mr. Ed Zawila of St. Mary Parish, Mt. Vernon.

Executive Director Bill Knapp requests that all depositors return the new investment agreement to the Foundation as soon as possible.

Planned Giving

Charitable gift annuities through the Catholic Diocese of Belleville may make good sense to donors who are seeing extremely low interest rates on new CDs and their savings accounts at banks.

The amount of the annuity payout is based on the age(s) of the income beneficiary and the amount or value of the gift to the Diocese. For example, a one-life gift annuity for a person 75 years of age earns a payment rate of 6.3% for life. A charitable gift annuity for \$10,000 would earn \$630 in annual payments (for life) and a portion of this income would be tax-free. Please contact Randy Flachsbart at rflachsbart@diobelle.org or call 618-277-8181, Extension 132, for further details.

Grants and Communications

Recent Grants

The Catholic Church Extension Society of the United States of America awarded a grant of \$25,000 to Catholic Urban Programs to help fund their funeral/burial ministry to the poor and homeless.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection is scheduled for November 21-22. Please ask your parish members to donate prayerfully and generously so that those in poverty may help themselves. Twenty-five percent (25%) of monies collected will remain in our diocese for local programs and ministries that serve the poor.

Thank you for your ongoing support; if we can be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Office of Development Staff