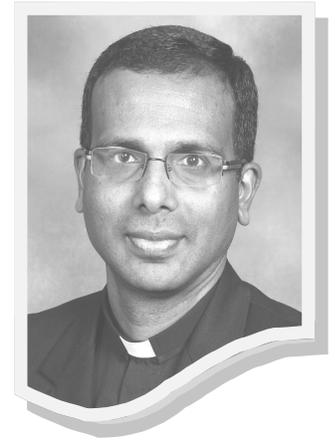




From the
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Bishop's Annual Appeal 2019

Living the Faith” is the theme of the 2019 Bishop’s Annual Appeal. Our parish-wide annual effort on behalf of the Bishop’s Annual Appeal has begun. It is an appeal that the Bishop makes each year in parishes throughout the Diocese of Baker to fund the diocesan pastoral ministries. Our parish goal for this year’s appeal is \$118,969.00. Each of you should have received a letter in the mail, or you will receive one soon from the Bishop, asking for your participation in the Appeal to support the ministries of the Diocese of Baker. It is preferred that pledges be mailed in the envelope provided to avoid additional administrative expenses. Remember to mention St. Francis Parish on the envelope to get your gift credited toward our parish goal.

The Bishop’s Annual Appeal provides substantial financial support to essential ministries that support the parishes in our Diocese. These programs provide education, faith formation at all levels, training for catechists, ongoing clergy formation, formation of seminarians, and provides a Catholic presence for thousands of people.

When we stop to count our abundant blessings, we start to live in gratitude. The Bishop’s Appeal is an invitation to share your blessings and support the Gospel mission here in Central and Eastern Oregon. Your pledge is also a sign of your gratitude for God’s generosity. While we can never out-do God in generosity, we are called to join in the mission of the Gospel as we put forth the gifts of life, goodness, grace, and mercy through the sharing of our own blessings from God.

Please give prayerful consideration to your gift/commitment. The pledge cards may be mailed to the Diocese or they may be brought to the Parish on Commitment Weekend (May 18th/9th), and placed in the collection basket. If you did not receive a commitment card in the mail, pledge envelopes will be available in the pews. Thanks to those of you who have already responded to the 2019 Bishop’s Appeal.

Last year we only reached 80% of our parish goal—286 households out of 1,746 participated in it. I pray we can better our participation this year and reach our parish goal. Please take the Bulletin Appeal Insert with you when leaving Mass today, reflect upon its content, and join me in prayer for the success of our efforts in the 2019 Bishop’s Annual Appeal.

—Fr. Jose Thomas