



Formerly The Bishop's Appeal

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
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Dear Friends,

Blessed Eastertide! I have been thinking about you and praying for you every day, a daily ritual under normal conditions but much more intentional as the pandemic continues one year later. You and each member of our Diocesan family are so vital to the life of our Church:

***So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone,
and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*** Galatians 6:10

I pray that your faith has been of solace to you especially this past year.

With the innumerable struggles and uncertainties that have been thrown our way of late, I am immensely grateful that so many parishioners have been inspired to invest a portion of their philanthropy in parish offertory to sustain their local church. Our priests share with me their deep appreciation for the reliability and generosity of their parish family – what they believe is a heartfelt testament to the value of their commitment to you and your community. At the Diocesan level, decision-making with respect to worship restrictions, sacraments, etc. has been very difficult this past year, even painful. Please know that we have done our best with ever-changing information and noble intentions to best serve you, especially during this unprecedented time of need.

Among words that have soared in vocabulary usage this past year, ‘zoom’ and ‘pivot’ must be near the top. In fact, several of our diocesan departments have shared some of the ways they have pivoted to honor their mission which are highlighted in the enclosed brochure. The Diocesan relationship with your parish is a true partnership where we rely on each other for success in our Christian mission to “go and make disciples of all nations”—Matthew 28:19. Much like the personal renewal of new life we find in the celebration of Easter, we look forward to a rebirth of vigorous parish life in the months to come.

I pray that you are inspired and enthusiastic about our commitment to you and the road ahead. With God’s call for each of us to actively share our gifts of time, talent & treasure, working together the destiny of our Church is bright. ***To that end, please give prayerful consideration of your investment in a robust future for our full community of parishes through support of our Diocesan Appeal as together we strive to serve your family and others for generations to come. Thank you!***

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Edward B. Schaeferberger

Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany

He glanced up and saw the rich putting their offerings into the treasury, and also a poor widow putting in two copper coins. At that He said, “I assure you, this poor widow has put in more than all the rest. They make contributions out of their surplus, but she from her want has given what she could not afford—every penny she had to live on.” Luke 21:1-4