

**2024 Introduction Weekend
Annual Catholic Appeal Letter**

To be read after the homily at all Masses February 10-11th

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we prepare for the sacred season of Lent, a time of prayer, penance and almsgiving, I am reminded of the profound depth of faith within the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Your commitment to our shared journey has been a source of inspiration, and I am truly grateful for the spirit of unity that makes up the Church in western and central Oklahoma.

In the spirit of this Lenten season of prayer and self-sacrifice, I am writing to introduce and invite you to participate in a vital aspect of our shared mission—the Annual Catholic Appeal. This appeal, rooted in the principles of stewardship, provides each of us with an opportunity to express our faith in action.

During the upcoming weeks of Lent, we are called to examine our hearts, discern priorities, and make intentional choices that draw us closer to God. The Annual Catholic Appeal is a tangible way for us to respond to this call, extending our hands to those ministries which support the foundations of faith.

The Annual Catholic Appeal supports vital ministries such as Evangelization and Discipleship Ministry, The Cause of Canonization for Blessed Stanely Rother, Catholic Schools, Catholic Campus Ministries at OU, UCO and SWOSU, and preparation required to receive the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation or Marriage. Together the Annual Catholic Appeal touches the lives of thousands in ways both seen and unseen.

In the coming week, I invite everyone of you to prayerfully discern how you can participate in this year's Annual Catholic Appeal. May the Holy Spirit guide you in your reflection and discernment. May your sacrificial actions be a testament to the depth of your love for God and for one another. Your involvement in the appeal is vital to our mission to 'Go Make Disciples.'

Through your generous contributions, we can continue to provide spiritual nourishment, formation opportunities, and assistance to those facing hardships within the archdiocese.

Thank you for your steadfast dedication to the Church. May this Lenten season be a time of profound spiritual growth and renewal for each of you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley

Archbishop of Oklahoma City