



Gifts are given to establish a deeper relationship between the giver and recipient. The most meaningful gifts are made from a place of sacrifice and abundance.

How is that? Our sacrifice is to remain faithful and give of ourselves. Our abundance comes from drawing from the abundance of an infinite God who is pure gift. Our gift giving must imitate Jesus who gave himself on the Cross for us, whose sacrifice and abundance are one and the same.

The theme of this year's Upper Peninsula Catholic Services Appeal (UPCSA) is "The Eucharist as Sacrifice and Gift." Psalm 116 asks, "How can I repay the Lord for all the great good done for me? I will raise the cup of salvation ..." As we join together with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' launch of a Eucharist Revival, we are reminded through the Eucharist, the pure gift of Jesus himself, poured into us, must become a gift for others to continue the communion started by our Lord.

In the enclosed newsletter, you will see how your gifts to UPCSAs continue the mission of the Catholic Church in the Upper Peninsula through ministries such as Catholic Social Services, support of seminarian education, and Catholic Campus Ministries on two college campuses. I am asking you to join with me in making a sacrificial and abundant offering towards continuing the mission of the Church in the Upper Peninsula.

To help your parish reach its target goal, please complete the UPCSAs pledge card and return it to your parish as soon as possible. Jesus said at the Last Supper, "This is my body given for you." Thank you for your generous gift that embodies Jesus' sacrifice and abundance.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John F. Doerfler".

Most Reverend John F. Doerfler, STD, JCL
Bishop of Marquette

P.S. I invite you, once again, to consider making a personal response to UPCSAs this year. Even if you are unable to give a monetary amount, please select the "pray" option on the pledge card and offer a prayer to the Lord for the evangelizing mission of the Church in the U.P.