



### Sample Witness Talk 3

Good Evening/Good Morning.

I would like to take a few minutes to talk to you about the 2018 Catholic Appeal. This year's Catholic Appeal Theme "We the Many, Serving as One" is an invitation for all Catholics to join together in Prayer, Service and Sharing.

Next weekend March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> will be Catholic Appeal weekend here at our parish and Parishes across the Archdiocese. Let me start by saying that Cardinal Sean, Father XXX and I are very grateful for the support you gave to last year's Catholic Appeal.

Here at XXX Parish, ### Families participated in the Appeal, contributing \$##,### dollars in support of Cardinal Sean and the effort He is leading to advance the mission of our local Church. In addition, because our parish exceeded its goal, we received a rebate of \$## which we have used to fund XXX. Thank you.

The Catholic Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the Offertory is here at XXX Parish. Just as your help is critical to keep our Parish going, the health of the Archdiocese and all Parishes depend upon your gifts to the Appeal.

The Archdiocese of Boston, which includes 289 Parishes in 144 Cities and Towns, Provides Leadership, Governance and Services for Parishes and individuals. While the Parish is the focus of Church life, Parishes cannot do everything on their own. They look to the Archdiocese for Services and Support. Altogether the Catholic Appeal supports over 50 Ministries and Agencies. These programs help thousands of people on a daily basis, Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

Here at XX parish we have benefited from several programs including: .....

Please take a bulletin to read more about how your support of the Catholic Appeal impacts so many lives.

We invite you to join the Catholic Appeal to "Participate" because the Catholic Appeal is a means for all of us to serve each other as the community of Faith in the Archdiocese of Boston. Even though many of you may have already responded to Cardinal Sean's letter, next weekend all of us, as a parish will be asked to make a commitment to the 2018 Catholic Appeal.

We show our love and thanks to God by sharing our gifts. A gift is important, not so much for how much it is, but because of what we become through the act of giving it. Every gift from God brings with it a responsibility. The Church is one of God's great gifts. We are all responsible for helping the Church "Carry out its Mission of Evangelization and Service". We are a Universal Church. Our support begins in the parish, but it should extend to our neighbors everywhere.

In closing I want to thank you for listening and to leave you with this thought which is from -2Cor.9:6-7. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each person should give what he has decided in his heart to give, without sadness or compulsion. For God Loves A Cheerful Giver".