

**Witness Talk Sample:**

**Announcement Weekend: March 5-6**

Please take a few minutes to review this full script, add your own voice, and practice. As you review, keep these couple things in mind:

1. Use language and a tone that works for your parish, remember, this should feel like a talk with a friend, not a directive.
2. Please share your script with your pastor. Your messaging should be in line with his.
3. Before printing, increase the font size for easy viewing at Mass.

**Good Morning / Afternoon / Evening:**

Thank you for allowing me a few minutes so that I can share just how important our support of the 2022 Catholic Appeal is to our parish and our communities.

For those of you who do not know me, I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Being a parishioner here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is something that has truly enriched my life and the life of my family. It is for this reason, and many others, that I support the Catholic Appeal.

Simply put – The Catholic Appeal puts our faith into action.

And I want to share **three key points** about the impact of the Appeal with you.

1. The Appeal supports the day-to-day work and operations of our parish.
2. The Appeal supports programs that enrich our parish life.
3. And the Appeal supports those who need assistance in our communities – those who sadly may often be overlooked or ignored.

**Fr. XX and the staff here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish can do the work they do best because they can rely on a team of experts from the Archdiocese** that provides wide-ranging support, including benefits, risk management and finance. Never has this team of experts been more important than during the pandemic as our parish has had to navigate extraordinary challenges. No parish on its own could ever afford to employ a team of experts that offers critical assistance to our pastor and our parish.

**We also rely on the ministries funded by the Appeal for support of many programs** offered here at **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** starting with our faith formation programs. Note: Here also include other programs that your parish offers including but not limited to:

* online marriage prep for young couples
* the Diaconate program providing formation and on-going support for Deacon xx
* The iThirst (or other addiction recovery) program.
* The Faith Community Nursing program
* The Catholic school office which supports our students and faculty
* Training for Pastoral Associates like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who do so much to help make our parish a vibrant community of faith.

**And the Appeal works to help those in need in our communities.** This includes programs such as seminars for those struggling with mental illness, the Catholic Chaplains serving in our hospitals and prisons, campus ministry programs at our colleges and universities, and collaboration with agencies that work to provide affordable housing for families in need – just to name a few.

**A team of experts that Fr. Xx and our parish can rely on.**

**Support for our parish programs that enrich our lives.**

**And assistance for those in our communities who Christ has asked us to care for.**

***This*** is what faith in action looks like. And ***together WE*** put faith in action by supporting the Catholic Appeal.

Today I ask you to stand with me and many others here at ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in support of the 2022 Catholic Appeal.

On behalf of Cardinal Seán and Msgr/Father ­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I thank you so much for your time and consideration of this very important request. There is additional information in today’s bulletin about this life-changing work,

\*for parishes playing the video at Mass: and I now ask you to take a look at a short video where you will see the incredible impact of our faith in action. Thank you again for your commitment to our ministries.

\*for parishes NOT playing the video at Mass: Thank you again for your commitment to our ministries.