



# FORWARD WITH JESUS

The Appeal 2023



**The Appeal**  
Supporting Catholic Ministries

## Ways to give

- Online**  
Visit [www.columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal](http://www.columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal) or scan the QR code.
- Mail**  
Complete the pledge card and mail it to The Appeal, 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215. Please make checks payable to The Diocese of Columbus.
- At Your Parish**  
Place your pledge card in your parish's offertory and your parish leadership team will ensure it is sent to the Diocese. When giving through your parish, please make checks payable to "(Parish Name) – Appeal."

Visit the "Ways To Give" page at [ColumbusCatholicGiving.org](http://ColumbusCatholicGiving.org).


Questions about The Appeal? Please contact Andrea Pannell at **614-674-1772** or [apannell@catholic-foundation.org](mailto:apannell@catholic-foundation.org).



Interested in learning more about how an estate plan can support your parish, school, or the Diocese? Please call The Catholic Foundation at **614-443-8893** or visit [www.catholic-foundation.org](http://www.catholic-foundation.org) to start a conversation.



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This Area for Parish Use Only  
*(Place donor's pink identification label here.)*

|                    | Suggested Gift Plan | 5 Monthly Payments of | 10 Monthly Payments of |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Circle of Stewards | \$2,500             | \$500                 | \$250                  |
| Circle of Patrons  | \$1,500             | \$300                 | \$150                  |
| Circle of Friends  | \$1,000             | \$200                 | \$100                  |
| Circle of Hope     | \$500               | \$100                 | \$25                   |
|                    | \$250               | \$50                  | \$10                   |
|                    | \$100               | \$20                  | \$5                    |

Electronic withdrawals and payment reminder statements begin June 2023.

If you have questions, please call 614-674-1772.

Mr. & Mrs./Mr./Ms.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \$  Cash  Check (payable to the Diocese of Columbus)

Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to pay the balance:  Credit or Debit (other side) OR  Bill me monthly

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your gift to:  
The Appeal  
197 E. Gay Street,  
Columbus, OH 43215



## An invitation from Bishop Fernandes

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Since becoming your Bishop, I have spent a lot of time visiting the parishes throughout our diocese, meeting the faithful, and trying to understand the realities of life in the Diocese of Columbus. During these challenging times in the life of our Diocese, difficult decisions must be made regarding priests, parishes consolidations, and finances. Rather than look backward at what has happened, I want to look forward in hope to the promise of what can be when we all come together for the greater glory of God. Although we have challenges, we also have a bright future. The People of God are resilient. We do not want to be in this position again. Rather than look back, we want to move forward. This year's Appeal is themed "Forward with Jesus."

The Appeal will support Catholic education and faith-formation initiatives for young people, including those on college campuses. Dollars raised will also support concrete outreach to the poor and most vulnerable in our Diocese. The Appeal also supports and sustains two top priorities: evangelization and vocations. We want to share the good news of salvation with everyone, through our parishes and outreach ministries, and to form missionary disciples, religious, and priests, who are heralds of the Gospel.

With your help and God's grace, we will reach our goal. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of a gift to The Appeal. Assuring you and your loved ones of my prayers and blessing, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ Earl K. Fernandes*

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes  
Bishop of Columbus



## The case for The Appeal 2023: Your gift matters

All dollars raised to meet the Diocesan Appeal goal of \$7,000,000 will fund the needs of identified Diocesan ministries, programs, and services including:

### Evangelization (\$2,536,000)

Outreach and formation on college campuses, ministering to individuals' and communities' spiritual needs, marriage preparation, hospital chaplaincy, and ethnic ministries.

### Vocations (\$1,593,000)

Priest, deacon, and seminarian education; supporting the cost of formation for the priesthood and diaconate.

### Catholic Education and Tuition Assistance (\$1,568,000)

Provides financial aid to families seeking Catholic education for their children, as well as funding for the education and advocacy of Catholic social teaching.

### Social Concerns (\$1,303,000)

Helping each other walk the Christian life of charity, justice, and hope through direct outreach, advocacy, and education through programs like J.O.I.N., Backdoor Ministry, St. Francis Evangelization Center, Respect Life, Urban Plunge-style retreats, and the coordination of prison ministries.



**We thank you in advance  
for your generosity.  
Please pray for our  
Diocese and the success  
of The Appeal supporting  
Catholic ministries.**

### Who benefits from The Appeal?

The Appeal supports essential ministries, formation, and outreach under the four pillars of evangelization, vocations, education, and social concerns. Please check out [ColumbusCatholicGiving.org](http://ColumbusCatholicGiving.org) for more information.

### How are the Diocesan-wide goals and the individual parish goals established?

Bishop Fernandes collaboratively reviews the updated case for support to determine the Diocesan financial goal. The new individual parish goal formula considers an equitable share of the determined Diocesan goal proportionate to a parish's three-year average offertory. Parish census is no longer a determining factor.

### What if my parish goes over its goal?

Parishes that exceed their parish goal will receive 100% of all excess funds. Parish rebates are issued three times throughout The Appeal year beginning in September.

### Where does the excess money go?

The Appeal is a ten month campaign that begins in June and ends in March. While pledge payments are accepted after March, it is suggested that final payments are made in March to ensure that all money collected is included in calculating the parish refund amount.

### What happens if I do not fulfill my pledge before the new Appeal year has started?

## ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

IMPORTANT: COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW AND FILL IN YOUR NAME & ADDRESS ON THE FRONT.

Banking information is not saved from previous years.

I AUTHORIZE THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS TO ELECTRONICALLY WITHDRAW:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ CONSECUTIVE months (not to exceed 10 months) starting in \_\_\_\_\_ (June-March) until my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is paid in full.

Please make this electronic transfer on the:  5th  20th

of each month from my:  Visa  MasterCard  AMEX  Discover  Checking Account

(ENCLOSE A VOIDED CHECK)

Credit Card No. (13-16 Digits)

Expires:

Mo. Yr.

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

Billing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_