

## SAMPLE PASTOR'S ACA LETTER

*Note: Letter should be on parish stationery, and include photo of pastor if possible.*

February 2020

Name of parish

Address

City, State, Zip

Dear [parishioner],

Each year we are invited to participate in our Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA), which is an opportunity for all of us to support essential ministries and services which benefit many in our Local Church. The theme of this year's appeal, **Gratitude in Action**, calls to mind what we experience in giving as well as what others experience in receiving.

The enclosed brochure describes the many programs and ministries that are supported by your contribution to the Annual Catholic Appeal and how the funds are designated. Many of these programs result in important direct benefits to our parish faith community and others provide needed assistance to people around us.

This includes making affordable and accessible Catholic School education available to every child and family who desires it.

The ACA provides funding for ministries such as Evangelization and Catechetical, Youth and Young Adult, Prison and the Diocesan Institute.

Catholic Charities is supported by the ACA in its effort to promote the dignity of the human person.

Finally, the ACA provides support for seminary formation programs, also funds continuing education and pastoral care for active and retired priests and deacons.

This year our parish share is \$\_\_\_\_\_. I am confident that we can reach this target and possibly exceed it. Any amount that is received over our target will be returned to our parish to be used as we designate.

Therefore, I invite you to prayerfully consider your response as a faithful steward of the gifts which God has joyfully bestowed on you. You may use the enclosed Response Card to make your pledge and return it in the weekend collection or to the parish office. You may also go to [giving.sdcatholic.org](http://giving.sdcatholic.org) for more information or to make a secure online pledge or donation.

Your participation, regardless of the amount, makes a difference. Your generosity brings you joy and brings joy to those who benefit from your gift. Be assured of my gratitude for your support and of my continuing prayers for you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

< Pastor's name and signature >