

Catholic • 2017 *Sharing* Appeal

Lay Speaker/Commitment Weekend (May 5-6)

Lay Speaker Presentation

(To be presented by the Lay Speaker)

This talk has 2 purposes: to inspire people to become involved in the CSA and to share the real life examples of why you have made a commitment to the appeal. A sample presentation is provided below; however, the most effective talks come from the heart.

Good morning/evening. My name is **(insert name)** and Father **(insert Celebrant's name)** has asked me to talk to all of you about the 2017 Catholic Sharing Appeal.

This year's theme was inspired by Saint Teresa of Calcutta who told us to "give your hands to serve and your hearts to love."

Last year, the CSA raised over \$1.8 million through the generous gifts of over 4,700 families and individuals. With that money Catholic Schools across the state were able to provide school-based health services, enhance curriculum, provide professional development and technical training for educators, and support children with special needs. Trainings and workshops were held for catechists, youth and young adult ministers and liturgical music ministers. The diocese was able to continue to broadcast Mass on regional television stations and the diocesan website for the homebound or those unable to attend Mass. Catholic Charities West Virginia also received funding for basic needs, emergency assistance, and flood relief; as well as funding to support programs to strengthen families and childhood development. To learn more about the Appeal, please refer to the mailing you should have received or you go online to www.dwc.org/csa.

Our parishes and missions also benefit greatly from the appeal. This year, our parish goal is **(insert parish goal)**. The first 50% of our parish goal will support the diocesan case. Every dollar raised over the first 50% will be returned to our parish, including every dollar over goal. We will use that money to **(insert parish case)**.

You should have received a mailing that outlined this year's case for support. I hope you were able to look over it and reflect on the gifts that God brings to your family. I ask you today to please join me and make a financial contribution to the 2017 CSA if you are able to do so. Father (**insert priest's name**) will now guide you through this process.

Thank you for your time and have a wonderful afternoon/evening.

In-Pew Process

(To be delivered by the Pastor following the Lay Speaker)

Each spring, the Catholic Sharing Appeal unites us in our common mission as disciples offering us an opportunity to support our neighbors and Church throughout West Virginia in a tangible manner. As your pastor, it is important for you to know that I support the Catholic Sharing Appeal and that I have already made my own gift.

I would like to ask all of you to take a moment and consider making a commitment to the 2017 CSA. If you did not bring your pledge card to Mass today, please complete the CSA donation envelope, which can be found in your pew. Please take an envelope and a pen or pencil now and follow me through the In Pew pledge process for this year's appeal.

1. Please clearly write your name, address as well as email and telephone information on the lower half of your pledge card now. Don't forget to write in our parish name and city.

WAIT AT LEAST 30 SECONDS

2. Please look at the suggested gift plans and mark the giving level most appropriate for you.

WAIT AT LEAST 10 SECONDS

3. Please choose a payment method. The Diocese will send pledge reminders for those wishing to pay by personal check. For your convenience, direct debit and credit card options are available and can be enacted by providing that information on the top inside flap of this envelope. A down payment is not necessary today, but you if you wish, please use this envelope for your first payment.

WAIT AT LEAST 30 SECONDS

4. Please seal the envelope and include your sacrificial gift with our **(first or second)** collection today. We will gather all envelopes in the parish office and send them to the Catholic Sharing Appeal office for processing.

WAIT AT LEAST 10 SECONDS

5. Thank you so much for helping our parish move this much closer to achieving our goal, and thank you for supporting our Diocese. For those of you who have already made a gift, I thank you. For those of you who cannot make a financial gift, I ask you to please pray for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and the thousands of West Virginians who benefit from this appeal.

Intercessions

That God may bless our parish, strengthen our faith, and grant us the spirit of Christian stewardship by opening our hearts to the 2017 Catholic Sharing Appeal. We pray to the Lord.

Facebook Status

The Catholic Sharing Appeal gives us all an opportunity to be part of something great. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the CSA. By contributing to the appeal you are providing service and love to so many across our beautiful state. www.dwc.org/csa #HandsToServe #HeartsToLove #CSA2017

Twitter Post

Make a gift and help provide service and love across the beautiful state of WV www.dwc.org/csa #HandsToServe #HeartsToLove #CSA2017