

Follow-Up Letter

The following is a sample template letter you may choose to use in follow-up to your parishioners who have not given to the 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal by mid-June. Dear [Parishioner's Name],

As Catholics, we know our faith is an important part of our lives. Renewing Faith, Extending Mercy and Inspiring Hope, however, is not an easy task, especially in a world that doesn't always put a high value on Jesus and our faith. And when our daily lives are packed full with responsibilities, it becomes difficult at times for us to give Christ the priority He deserves.

In our faith, Christ takes the initiative. Faith is God's gift. To grow closer to Him, however, requires conscious decisions on our part to believe and to respond in love to Him. We are asked to give witness to what we believe in our daily lives. We do so by converting our faith into real, visible, tangible expressions of Christ's own love by what we do and how we live. This is our mission as the body of Christ, as His Church built up in love.

I write to you with an immediate need in support of the Church through the 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal. To date, our parish has raised **<\$Amount>** toward our goal of **<\$Amount>**. Our parish directly benefits from the Appeal through such vital ministries as...

[Here it is recommended that you briefly share some examples of how your parish directly benefits from Appealfunded ministries.]

I know you may wonder how the Diocese of Winona-Rochester's ongoing bankruptcy will impact this year's appeal. I want to assure you the Foundation is a separate and independent 501 (c) (3) organization from the Diocese. This means Foundation finances are neither co-mingled with those of the Diocese nor affected by the bankruptcy filing.

You can see the direct benefit we receive as a parish through the Appeal. I am also giving a gift of **<\$Amount>** in addition to my weekly tithe to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. I would not ask of you if I did not contribute myself.

For whatever amount you are able to give, I thank you for your continued generosity of time, talent and treasure to our parish. I pray that you will continue to Renew Faith, Extend Mercy and Inspire Hope through your generosity to Christ's Church.

Yours in Christ, *Your Sígnature* [Your Name]

Return your gift to Catholic Foundation of Southern Minnesota in the enclosed envelope or drop it by the parish office.

All gifts will be used solely for the restricted purposes of the 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal. The Appeal supports specific ministries and programs of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester and other Catholic organizations. The restricted purposes are identified specifically on the Catholic Foundation of Southern Minnesota website, <u>www.catholicfsmn.org</u>.