

Annual Appeal ^{the 2021}

A LETTER FROM FATHER PHILIP MORRIS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I was ordained for the service of God's people of our Archdiocese on December 19, 1962. I retired from full-time ministry on July 1, 2008. As I reflect on my 45 years of ministry, I must say that for me, it was all 'blessing,' serving and sharing the journey with God's people in the parish communities of O.L. Mercy, Jersey City, Guardian Angel, Allendale, O.L. of Sorrows, South Orange, St. John the Baptist, Hillsdale, and serving with brother priests in the ministry of education/formation at our Archdiocesan Seminary of the Immaculate Conception.

I pray to God with thanksgiving for all the years of opportunities given to me, his imperfect servant, to touch God's people with his tender mercy, to open their minds and hearts to God's Light and Love, to motivate them to pattern their lives as disciples of Christ, and to continue Christ's mission. Truly, as a minister among God's people and through them, I was a blest recipient of those same gifts from God and being renewed in my calling.

As with most people in their senior stage of life, despite our hopes and plans to remain active, I have found myself coping with physical limitations that have me "re-framing" my life. There is less time for activism and more time for reading, reflective prayer, finding ways of being more 'present' to others, to my surroundings, to God, and for enjoying the simple blessings of life. There have been 'bumps in the road.' I have had to cope with a number of unanticipated health challenges that have required medical attention, some surgical interventions, and extended regimens of physical therapy. This past July, it was open-heart surgery.

Thanks be to God for the advances in the medical and healthcare professions.

I'm grateful for Medicare. I am grateful to the people of God in the Archdiocese of Newark for providing me with Supplemental Medical Insurance through A.A.R.P. I have not had to worry about seeking and receiving medical services or paying for them. I am sure that all my brother retired priests would join me in these sentiments of gratitude.

This past January, I received an invitation from Cardinal Tobin to participate once again in the Annual Appeal. I will do so with a generous heart. I have experienced so many blessings, especially the goodness of God's people in the Archdiocese, whom I have come to know and serve as a priest. In my retired years, I have experienced the many ways they, through the Archdiocese, continue to support me. I see the 2021 Annual Appeal as an opportunity for me to manifest my gratitude, to do my part in support of ministries of the Archdiocese that continue serving so many people in Christ's name.

I write this small message to encourage you also to participate in the Appeal.

May we Pray to know the ways God loves us and desires us to share that blessing with others.

Father Philip Morris

**Consider a gift to support
our dedicated clergy.**

**To make a gift online,
visit rcan.org/sharing**



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Catholic Stewardship *in Action*

Friday, March 19, 2021
Annual Appeal Update

In an effort to keep up to date with the 2021 Annual Appeal, this internal newsletter will be e-mailed at least every other Friday to all parishes. Please note: This is **not to be shared with or distributed to parishioners.**

Overall Performance

Pledged: \$4,026,459

Paid: \$3,049,329

Number of Donors: 10,753

% of Goal Reached (in Pledges): 44.74%

To access your parish alpha report, please visit
<http://onlineparishreports.rcan.org/>

Your username is: adc\0000parishnumber

Ex. If your parish number is 006 then your username will be
adc\0000006

If you have trouble logging in, please call our I.T. office at
(973) 497 – 4160

[New Online Donation Form](#)

On Monday, March 22nd we'll be launching our new online donation form. New features will include:

- Parish search bar
- Making a sustaining gift
- Making a gift in honor or memory of someone
- Paying via bank transfer

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Catholic Stewardship in Action

The 2021 Annual Appeal will fund essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in our four countries – namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care for the poor and those on the margins.

Now more than ever, especially during this health crisis, our ministries and programs need your support.

Will you prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2021 Annual Appeal?

1 Amount 2 Details 3 Payment

Make a Monthly Gift Make a One-Time Gift

Your monthly support prepares us for every challenge and lets us plan for the future.

\$1,000 \$750 \$500
\$250 \$100 \$0.00

I would like this gift to remain anonymous

Your Parish

Start typing the name of your parish in the field above to find your parish.

Comments (Optional)

Bulletin Insert



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This week, we shared a letter written by **Fr. Philip Morris** regarding the 2021 Appeal. We encourage you to share this in your parish bulletin or website. [Here is a link to read the letter.](#) A PDF is also attached to this email.

Parishes to Reach Goal

Congratulations to the following parishes for reaching and exceeding goal this past week!

- **Parish of the Transfiguration, Newark** - Rev. Josephat Kalema
- **Our Lady of Grace/St. Joseph's Parish, Hoboken** - V. Rev. Alexander Santora
- **St. Michael Parish, Jersey City** - Rev. Thomas Patrick Quinn
- **Immaculate Conception Parish, Norwood** - Rev. Leo Butler (Fr. Leo's parish has doubled their parish participation in 2021!)
- **St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Hoboken** - Rev. Christopher Panlilio
- **St. Rocco/St. Brigid, Union City** - Rev. Joseph Girone
- **Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mountainside** - Rev. Richard Carrington

We'd Love to See What You're Doing!

We invite you to share what you've been doing to promote the Appeal at your parish. Whether it's an email blast you've sent out, a special note you've put in the bulletin, a letter you've mailed to vendors etc, we'd love to hear what is working for you so we can share it with other parishes.