



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am the Pocono region representative to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, and I am writing this letter to ask for your support. This year we would like to increase the number of families that participate in the campaign even if you are only able to give ten or twenty dollars. For those of you that have already pledged or contributed, thank you!

Something new this year is the ability to designate where you would like your gift to be used, if you wish to do so. If not, the diocese will apply your donation to where it is needed most.

Bishop Bambera is asking us for our help in order to serve the neediest members of our society. Monies raised in this campaign are used solely to support the important ministries of the Diocese. These include: Catholic Social Services; Parish Social Justice Grants; Clergy Education & Care; Catholic Education in Parishes & Schools; and Parish Life.

Supported programs teach, heal, and feed those who hunger in body, mind, and spirit; they serve our brothers and sisters right here in Monroe County and beyond. Your gifts help the parishes offer food pantries, shelters for the homeless and the working poor, counseling for individuals and families, and assistance to our veterans.

Through the appeal, priests who have given their lives to the Church will receive housing and medical care in their retirement, and young men preparing for the priesthood will obtain assistance with their seminary education.

Pocono churches have been generous to the annual appeal in the past and I ask that you open your hearts again this year and join your fellow parishioners in making a monetary contribution of any amount. A donation to the annual appeal is an opportunity to live the Gospels, to do as Jesus asks us to do.

You may find an Appeal pledge envelope in the back of your church or you may wish to put your gift in a plain envelope marked with Annual Appeal on the front and drop it in your parish's Sunday collection. Every gift is very much appreciated. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Bob Moses

St. Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg
Annual Appeal Regional Chair, Monroe County