

Dear Mr. & Mrs./ Mr./ Ms./ Miss/ Randy and Joan, etc.....,

St Teresa of Kolkata once shared that "being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat." At the outset of the new calendar year, we continue to celebrate the Canonization of Saint Teresa, and to be inspired by her loving message of serving one another. Often thought of as a living saint by those who knew her and worked with her, the term "Mother" spoke volumes about her outlook on life.

Bishop McManus recently wrote to you regarding the *Annual Partners in Charity Appeal*. It describes the need for this significant appeal. It is most fitting this year that our 2017 Appeal patron saint is St. Teresa of Kolkata.

I now join our bishop in inviting your generous response.

As your pastor I cannot overstate the importance of this appeal, which supports the work of 28 diocesan agencies, ministries and programs, and serves the people of all our parishes and missions (nearly 280,000 local Catholics), as well as many thousands of people in need throughout Worcester County.

The theme of the appeal this year, "Faith in Action is Love," is based on our ongoing commitment to serve the needy throughout Central Massachusetts. Once a year, we commit ourselves to this ongoing work with our Annual Partners in Charity Appeal. We as a parish reflect on God's great generosity, and respond with generous giving of our own.

Our diocesan goal this year is \$5 million. Our parish goal is \$-----. We will need many generous donors to reach, and hopefully exceed, our goal. I know that I can count on wonderful parishioners like you. This year, it is our hope to increase our parish support of these vital works of charity, education and ministry.

Along with general media promotion on TV and in the newspaper, we will be learning more about the appeal through a special bulletin insert. I want you to know that name(s) has(have) agreed to serve as our parish chairperson(s) this year and I am very grateful for his/her/their personal support of the appeal. (NAME) will address us at an upcoming Sunday Mass and I know that he/she/they, and our parish committee, will put in many hours to lead our effort.

Please pray for the success of our appeal here at name of parish, and join me in supporting *Partners in Charity*

I ask that the Lord bless you and your loved ones
Sincerely,

Rev. -----

SAMPLE PASTOR'S LETTER – FOLLOW-UP LETTER 2017

Dear Mr. & Mrs./ Mr./ Ms./ Miss/ Randy and Joan, etc.....,

As your pastor, it is my privilege to invite you to join many others in pledging to our *2017 Partners in Charity Appeal*. This appeal makes possible many programs and ministries that our parish alone could not provide.

Our Appeal Committee and I have noticed that you have not yet participated in the 2017 appeal with a pledge. I personally encourage you to pledge today and I appreciate that you will give this your prayerful consideration.

Enclosed please find an envelope for a pledge or gift. Please pray about what you are able to do. Complete the necessary information and seal your envelope. Please place it in the basket next weekend, drop it off, or mail it to the parish office. You may also mail it directly to the Diocese of Worcester at 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609. Our parish will receive credit for your gift.

Thank you for joining us in this special diocesan-wide effort to support our local Church.

Please pray for the success of our appeal here at **name of parish**, and join me in supporting *Partners in Charity*.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Rev. -----

