



## THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MEMPHIS

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach this year's Annual Catholic Appeal, let us remember the wisdom of Saint Francis of Assisi, who once said, 'Start by doing what is necessary; then do what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.' As we heard from you during our Strategic Planning, together we need look to the future with the eyes of faith and see ourselves, families, and parishes working together to build the Kingdom of God here in West Tennessee.

The Annual Catholic Appeal is an opportunity for each of us to engage in acts of service, no matter how small or large, with great love and compassion. Our collective efforts of faith and good works, no matter how modest they may seem, can lead to the accomplishment of what may appear impossible in the service of our Diocesan family. By giving generously to the Appeal, we start by doing what's necessary to support our Diocese's vital offices and ministries. Through your participation, the Diocese of Memphis can develop stronger programs for our youth and young adults, continue to support our seminarians' studies and housing, and maintain Villa Vianney, the retirement home to many of our priests.

Your contribution to the Annual Catholic Appeal is an act of sanctity and service that empowers our Diocese to fulfill its mission. We believe that when God's love fills the hearts of his holy people remarkable things will happen. Let us unite in the spirit of Saint Francis, taking small steps with great love, knowing that collectively, we can achieve what might seem impossible.

In the coming months, you will hear from your pastor and through video, about the importance of contributing to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and dedication to this important cause. Together, we can make a significant impact on the lives of many in our Diocese, exemplifying the transformative power of service performed with love. May the peace of Christ be with you all. I am yours

In the light and the love of the Lord,

+ David P. Talley

Most Reverend David P. Talley, M.S.W., J.C.D.  
Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Memphis