

Bulletin Announcements¹

Bulletin Announcement #1 = Feb 21-22 (2 weeks before Appeal Weekend)

Full Version

The weekend of March 7-8 will be Catholic Appeal Weekend here at [parish name]. Cardinal Seán is asking every Catholic household to participate in the 2009 Catholic Appeal, which funds the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese of Boston. The Catholic Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish - so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. On Appeal Weekend, we will be showing a video message from Cardinal Seán and asking every Catholic household to make a pledge. Please begin to prayerfully consider how you will participate. Every gift matters. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org.

Alternate Version #1

The weekend of March 7-8 will be Catholic Appeal Weekend here at [parish name]. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish – so your support is critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. Cardinal Seán is inviting every Catholic household to participate. Every gift matters. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org.

Short Version #2

Each year, thousands of people across the Archdiocese experience the Risen Lord through the programs and services supported by the Catholic Appeal. Our own parish benefits in many ways. God calls us to share what we have to help others. Please plan to participate on Appeal Weekend, March 7-8. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org.

Bulletin Announcement #2 = Feb 28-March 1 (Preparation Weekend)

Full Version

Next weekend, March 7-8, will be Catholic Appeal Weekend here at [parish name]. As a Catholic community, we are called during this season of Lent to respond to God's grace in our lives. We do so by continuing to participate as fully as we are able in the building up of His kingdom. This month, Cardinal Seán is asking every Catholic household to participate in the 2009 Catholic Appeal, which funds the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese of Boston. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish - so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. On Catholic Appeal Weekend, we will be showing a video message from Cardinal Seán and asking every Catholic household to make a pledge.

Cardinal Seán thanks all the families from [parish name] that contributed \$[amount] to the 2008 Catholic Appeal. This year, we hope to have [number] households participate. Our financial goal is \$[amount]. If we exceed our financial goal, we will receive 25 percent of all funds raised above goal for use in the parish. Please know that your participation is important and that all gifts matter.

We encourage you to take home an information packet from Mass this weekend so that you can prayerfully consider how you will participate. Those of you that gave to the Appeal last year should also receive a letter this week from Cardinal Seán. Please bring your completed pledge card and pledge envelopes to [parish name] next week to place in the collection basket. Thank you.

Alternate Version #1

Next weekend, March 7-8, will be Catholic Appeal Weekend here at [parish name]. Cardinal Seán is asking every Catholic household to participate. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish, so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. We will be showing a video message from Cardinal Seán. Those of you that gave to the Appeal last year should be receiving a letter from him this week. We invite all others to take home an information packet from Mass this weekend. Please bring your completed pledge card and pledge envelopes with you to [parish name] next week to place in the collection basket. Thank you!

¹ Some bulletin announcements were adapted from the procedural guides of Portland, ME and Chicago which we consider among the best in the nation.

Short Version #2

As a Catholic community, we are called during this season of Lent to respond to God's grace in our lives. The Catholic Appeal is an opportunity to respond to His grace by sharing our treasure to help neighbors, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, throughout the 144 cities and towns of our Archdiocese. Please plan to participate in the Catholic Appeal next weekend, March 7-8. Those of you that gave to the Appeal last year should receive a letter from Cardinal Seán this week. We invite all others to take home an information packet from Mass this weekend.

Bulletin Announcement #3 = MARCH 7-8. CATHOLIC APPEAL WEEKEND

Full Version

This is Catholic Appeal Weekend here at [parish name]. We, like all parishes throughout our Archdiocese, will be showing a video message from Cardinal Seán at all Masses and asking every Catholic household to participate by making a pledge. Please know that your participation matters and will make a difference.

As a Catholic community, we are called during this season of Lent to respond to God's grace in our lives. Participation in the Catholic Appeal, a once-a-year pledge drive to benefit the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese, is one way for us to respond to His grace. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish - so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. Please see the information packets in the pews to learn more and to obtain a pledge form if you didn't receive one last week.

Cardinal Seán thanks all the families from [parish name] that contributed \$[amount] to the 2008 Catholic Appeal. This year, we hope to have [number] households participate. Our financial goal is \$[amount]. If we exceed our financial goal, we will receive 25 percent of all funds raised above goal for use here in the parish.

Thank you in advance for joining with parishioners throughout our Archdiocese's 292 parishes to carry on and renew the broader mission of our Church.

Alternate Version #1

This is Catholic Appeal Weekend here at [parish name]. We, like all parishes throughout our Archdiocese, will be showing a video message from Cardinal Seán at all Masses and asking every Catholic household to participate by making a pledge. The Appeal is a once-a-year pledge drive to benefit the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese of Boston. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. Thank you in advance for joining with parishioners throughout our Archdiocese's 292 parishes to carry on the broader work of our Church. Every gift matters. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org.

Alternate Version #2

This is CATHOLIC APPEAL WEEKEND. Please join with Catholics in every parish who do their part for the Church throughout the 144 cities and towns of our Archdiocese. God calls us to share what we have to help others. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. The Appeal brochure tells more about who benefits and where the money goes. Please review the brochure, then take a step up with a generous pledge. Remember that God cannot be outdone in generosity toward those who sacrifice on His behalf.

Alternate Version #3

This is CATHOLIC APPEAL WEEKEND. Through the Appeal, we have the opportunity to help our brothers and sisters all throughout our Archdiocese. Giving is a response to God's grace in our lives. By doing so, we are not only helping to renew the strength and vitality of our Church, but recognizing a need within ourselves to sacrifice for the Lord. Jesus asks each one of us for everything. A gift is important, not so much for how much it is, but because of what we become through the act of giving. Please prayerfully consider an Appeal gift in this spirit.

Bulletin Announcement #4 = MARCH 14-15. Third Sunday of Lent

Full Version

Cardinal Seán sends his thanks to everyone from [parish name] who responded to his request for participation in the 2009 Catholic Appeal during Catholic Appeal Weekend. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Alternate Version #1

Cardinal Seán sends his thanks to everyone who pledged to the 2009 Catholic Appeal during Catholic Appeal Weekend. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. For more information please pick up a pledge packet in the rear of Church or visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Alternate Version #2

"The Gifts We Have, We Are Given To Share." Success in the eyes of God is not about the quantity or quality of our material goods. Instead, it's about how we use those goods: do they move us closer to God, or are they an obstacle? God calls us to share what we have to help others. By providing support for many ministries of the Church, the Catholic Appeal offers everyone a chance to practice Christian stewardship. Please consider how you will participate in the Catholic Appeal this year. Thank you to everyone that has pledged thus far!

Bulletin Announcement #5 = MARCH 21-22. Fourth Sunday of Lent

Pastors can choose to thank parishioners that have pledged by publishing a list of the families that have given (usually without the amount included).

Full Version

We want to thank everyone from [parish name] who has participated in the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$[amount] from [number] households. These contributions support the many ministries of our Archdiocese and will improve the lives of many in our faith community. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. Cardinal Seán invites every Catholic household to participate. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. Please return your completed pledge/gift through the mail in the envelope provided in the information packet. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Alternate Version #1

We want to thank everyone from [parish name] who has participated in the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$[amount] from [number] households. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Alternate Version #2

During this season of Lent, God calls us to renew our faith, deepen our relationship with Christ, and share our many gifts with others. Christ has set the example as the perfect Steward: "For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." The Catholic Appeal is one way all of us can support the mission of Christ's Church in the 144 cities and towns of our Archdiocese. Please be thankful, intentional, and prayerful as you make a pledge to this year's Appeal. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Bulletin Announcement #6 = MARCH 28-29. Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Full Version

Our appreciation goes out to all parishioners at [parish name] who have made a gift to the 2009 Catholic Appeal. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. To date, we have received \$[amount] from [number] households, reaching [number] percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. So each gift has the potential to increase parish revenue while still supporting the shared ministries of our Church at the Archdiocesan level. We are pleased that we have [number] new contributors this year. Welcome and thank you! We ask every Catholic family to participate - every gift matters. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. Please return your completed pledge/gift through the mail in the envelope provided in the information packet. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Alternate Version #1

Our appreciation goes out to all parishioners at [parish name] who have made a gift to the 2009 Catholic Appeal. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. We have received \$[amount] from [number] households, reaching [number]

percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Alternate Version #2

"What shall I return to the Lord for all the Lord has given to me?" Christian stewards recognize Christ as the source of all good things. God calls us to share what we have to help others. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for Christ and for one another. The Catholic Appeal is one way to use our gifts for the Church. To date [number] of households have participated, compared to [number] last year. We would very much like to increase participation [even more]. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a prayerful, thankful pledge to the Appeal this weekend. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Bulletin Announcement #7 = April 4-5. Palm Sunday

Full Version

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

Cardinal Seán wishes to thank everyone from [parish name] who has participated in the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$[amount] from [number] households, reaching [number] percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. We ask every Catholic family to participate so that we can surpass our goal. Please know that every gift matters. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. Please return your completed pledge/gift through the mail in the envelope provided in the information packet. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Alternate Version #1

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

Cardinal Seán wishes to thank everyone from [parish name] who has participated in the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$[amount] from [number] households, reaching [number] percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Alternate Version #2

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

Many thanks to the [number] households who have participated in the Catholic Appeal. As we celebrate the gift of the Spirit, may we all have the courage to make a substantial pledge so that many in our Archdiocese will be served in the Lord's name. God calls us to share what we have to help others. If you have not yet made your gift, please do so this weekend. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Bulletin Announcement #8 = April 11-12. EASTER.

Bulletin Announcement included as a convenience for pastors that wish to continue to include during Easter. Due to the Easter Collection for retired clergy, most parishes will choose NOT to run an Appeal message in their Easter bulletins.

Full Version

Cardinal Seán wishes everyone at [Parish name] a Happy Easter and thanks everyone from who has participated in the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has pledged \$[amount] from [number] households, reaching [number] percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. We are pleased that we have [number] new contributors this year. Welcome and thank you! We ask every Catholic family to participate. Please know that every gift matters. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you.

Short Version

[Parish name] has raised \$[amount] from [number] households for the 2009 Catholic Appeal, reaching [number] percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. We are pleased that we have [number] new contributors this year. Welcome and thank you! We ask every Catholic family to participate – every gift matters. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church, or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com.

Bulletin Announcement #9 = April 18-19 and onward (until goal is reached).

Parishes AT GOAL

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

Congratulations! Our parish has done a great job of responding to the call to renew our local Church through support of the 2009 Catholic Appeal. We have made our parish goal of \$[amount], with pledges from [number] households. Thank you to all who contributed - we couldn't have done it without each of you! Now that we've reached our goal, our parish will receive 25 percent of all pledges made from this point forward. This is a great opportunity to increase parish revenue while also supporting the shared ministries funded by the Catholic Appeal. It is not too late to still make a pledge. Every gift matters. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church to be mailed in, or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Parishes NOT at Goal #1

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

Thank you to all supporters of the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$[amount] from [number] households, reaching [number] percent of our parish goal of \$[amount]. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal. Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. Please remember to make your pledge now even if you plan on fulfilling that pledge towards the end of the year. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church to be mailed in, or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Parishes NOT at Goal #2

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

We still have \$[amount] to raise before we reach our parish goal of \$[amount]. Thank you to the [number] families at [parish name] that have already contributed. If you have not yet given, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal. Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. So each gift has the potential to increase parish revenue while still supporting the ministries funded by the Catholic Appeal. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. You can pick up information packets in the back of the Church with pledge forms to be mailed in, or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Parishes NOT at Goal #3

2009 Catholic Appeal – Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church

Stewardship reminds us to count our blessings, acknowledge God's gifts to us and express thanks to Him. We do this by a proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure. We sincerely thank the [number] of households in our parish who as good stewards have made a gift to the Catholic Appeal. You are helping many people with many needs. God calls us to share what we have to help others. If you have not yet made your pledge, envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Pastor's Mid Appeal Pulpit Update = April 18-19.

This week you will receive a letter from me (or the Regional Bishop) asking that you participate in the 2009 Catholic Appeal. The Appeal this year will bring together the combined efforts of all 292 parishes to meet the Archdiocesan goal of \$15 million. Although the initial response to the Catholic Appeal has been encouraging, many families have yet to reach a decision regarding their participation and support.

Cardinal Seán reminds us that, "As members of Christ's family, we strive to renew the Church and carry on the mission He has entrusted to us." We are called to be responsible and caring both within and beyond our parish. Your gift to the 2009 Catholic Appeal provides you with the personal opportunity to *Respond to God's Grace and Renew His Church*.

Please give as generously as your means allow. Let us also rejoice in God's love for us, and the grace of sharing that love with others, especially those in need.

Thank you.