



## *St. Columba Church*

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February, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in St. Columba Parish,

As you may have noticed a few weeks ago in the parish bulletin, the Diocesan Annual Campaign will be beginning shortly. As pastor of St. Columba Church, I see the good works that happen throughout our parish because of the generous support of parishioners like you. Your gifts in support of the Diocesan Annual Campaign provide services that our parish would not be able to provide on its own. We are indeed fortunate to partner with the Diocese and other parishes and create impactful, timely programs that benefit so many in our community. The theme for this year is "Faith Forward."

Recently, Bishop Gainer sent a letter asking you to consider a gift in support of the Diocesan Annual Campaign, previously known as the Bishop's Annual Appeal. The name change was not done in response to the abuse crisis, but rather as a way to articulate better the needs of the Diocese and demonstrate how your philanthropic support makes a difference.

I, too, am asking you to consider a gift to the Diocesan Annual Campaign. The goal for each parish is based on the previous year's parish ordinary income and the size of the parish. Our goal at St. Columba Church this year is \$90,400, which is \$1,900 less than last year.

Enclosed with this letter is an envelope entitled, "Faith Forward, 2019 Diocesan Annual Campaign." If you are able to contribute to this diocesan appeal, please complete the information on the envelope. Indicate whether your contribution is a one-time gift or to be paid in 8 monthly payments.

We reflect upon what the Lord has given to us and we return a percentage of God's goodness. Any monies collected that exceed the parish goal will be returned to the parish and will be used for the good of the parish. I thank you in advance for your generous support and steadfast faith.

May each of us look forward to the faith that our God has given us and may we continue to grow in that faith!

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Lawrence  
Pastor