

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities September 10, 2017 – 23rd Sunday

Scripture

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Stewardship Focus

Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!"

Bulletin Announcement

The 2017 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is just beginning in our parish. You will receive information in your homes this week. The Annual Appeal supports the parishes, schools and ministries across the archdiocese. If each of our families would give in proportion to what they have received from God, we would easily reach our goal of \${Parish Goal}. As you discern your response to this year's Annual Appeal, prayerfully consider who your neighbors are and how God calls you to love your neighbor as yourself. Do I give joyfully and as generously as God gives to me?

Pulpit Announcement

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal is beginning in all parishes and missions throughout the Archdiocese. Every household will receive information regarding this essential Annual Appeal at your home this week. Gifts received provide support to the educational, ministerial and spiritual works of our Catholic faith. Your support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will continue a tradition of charity and stewardship across the Church of northeast Nebraska.

Prayer of the Faithful

We pray that we may fulfill God's command to love our neighbor and give generously in proportion to what God has given each of us. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Pastor/priest pulpit announcement alerting parishioners to the arrival of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal mailing and encouraging parishioner support

- Show AAA video during mass

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities September 17, 2017 – 24th Sunday

Scripture

I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?

Stewardship Focus

Stewardship is not optional! "None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master," says St. Paul. "While we live, we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die, we die as His servants."

Bulletin Announcement

Recently you received a letter from Archbishop Lucas inviting your support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Please give prayerful consideration to how you can respond. Jesus challenges us to make room for God and others in our lives and to be ready to give a full account of our stewardship. May our discipleship reflect the mercy God has shown us.

Pulpit Announcement

Recently you received a letter from Archbishop Lucas asking for your generous support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Please use this week as a time to reflect on the gifts we have received, pray about how God wants us to use those gifts, and respond with the amount we will give back to support our archdiocesan Church.

Prayer of the Faithful

That we recognize everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God, including our very own lives. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

We pray for the success of our Archbishop's Annual Appeal, that the people of our parish will see this annual participation as an opportunity to extend our love and service beyond the boundaries of our parish and local community. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Pastor or Parish Leader(s) talk at masses encouraging parishioner support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

- Announce weekly status report, progress toward goal
- Publish weekly status reports in the parish bulletin
- Option: Show AAA video during mass OR arrange for Guest Speaker presentation

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities September 24, 2017 – 25th Sunday

Scripture

Are you envious because I am generous? "Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Stewardship Focus

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

Good stewards follow the advice of St. Paul and conduct themselves — by wise use of their time and talents — in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ.

Bulletin Announcement

Your gift to the 2017-2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal reaches out to countless people in need throughout twenty-three counties in northeast Nebraska. No matter where you turn, you find someone who will benefit from your kindness. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal. May we grow rich in the sight of God by being merciful to those in need.

Pulpit Announcement

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal funds many ministries which serve our parish such as religious education programs, youth ministry, sacramental preparation, food pantries and Catholic education. As this Annual Appeal continues please consider the many ways you have been blessed. May we discover the treasure that comes from giving of our selves and taking care of those around us.

Prayer of the Faithful

That we realize we are not only responsible for our lives, but for the lives of others. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

That we may be transformed by our generous participation in the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, as we do so with grateful hearts, and with a deep sense of faith, hope and love. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Pastor or Parish Leader(s) talk at masses encouraging parishioner support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

- Announce weekly status report
- Publish weekly status reports in the parish bulletin
- Option: Guest Speaker presentation

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities

October 1, 2017 – 26th Sunday

Scripture

Have in you the same attitude as Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God. Rather, he emptied himself...he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death on a cross.

Stewardship Focus

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his father's bidding, but did not. The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked. What service is God calling me to do? Which son am I more like?

Bulletin Announcement

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal is every Catholic's opportunity within the Archdiocese of Omaha to share in the work of the archdiocese and the mission of the Church. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to help us reach our goal! We are one through our baptism into Christ, and therefore, one with the archbishop and his ministry.

Pulpit Announcement

Thank you to those parish families who made a commitment to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your gift makes a real difference in the lives of many who are supported by our archdiocesan programs in spirituality, education and outreach. If you have not yet made a gift intention, please consider joining your fellow parishioners today.

Prayer of the Faithful

We pray that as members of (_____) parish, we may dedicate ourselves to the work of bringing children to Jesus through our support of Catholic schools and faith formation programs throughout the archdiocese. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Pastor or Parish Leader(s) talk at masses encouraging parishioner support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

- Announce Commitment Sunday / La Colecta next week October 7-8 and in-pew solicitation
- Announce weekly status report
- Publish weekly status reports in the parish bulletin
- Option: Guest Speaker presentation

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities
October 8, 2017 – 27th Sunday

Commitment Weekend – La Colecta

*Please see special instructions regarding Commitment / La Colecta Weekend
under the Timeline tab of this manual*

Scripture

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel. I am the vine and you are the branches. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Stewardship Focus

In the Gospel today, the owner of the vineyard sent messengers to collect his share of the harvest from the tenant farmers, but there was not a single good steward on the property! God is the owner; we are the tenants. What sort of stewards are we?

Bulletin Announcement

Your support of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is appreciated! As we look at our lives and the many ways God has blessed us, let us give back a proportionate gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal as a way of saying thank you to the Lord. May we not let our material wealth possess us. Our archdiocesan church family is truly an extension of our parish life. We are grateful to those who have elected to take part in this effort already!

Pulpit Announcement

Your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is making a difference every day. It not only supports outreach programs that help families in crisis, but helps provide training and resources for catechists involved in parish religious education programs. It also supports our future priests, deacons and lay leaders; Catholic education; lifelong faith formation for all ages and so much more. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please join your fellow Catholics across the archdiocese and make a gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

Prayer of the Faithful

For those who labor throughout our archdiocese in various ministries, that our prayers and generous gifts made to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will support them in their loving service. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Archbishop's Annual Appeal Commitment / La Colecta Weekend. In-pew solicitation conducted by the pastor/priest.

- Announce weekly status report, progress toward goal
- Publish weekly status reports in the parish bulletin

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities October 15, 2017 – 28th Sunday

Scripture

What is the source of our wealth? I can do all things in him who strengthens me.

Stewardship Focus

In today's second reading, St. Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!

Bulletin Announcement

Your contribution to the 2017-2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is one way to serve as Christ's disciple and to participate in continuing the saving work begun by Jesus. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please prayerfully consider supporting the work of the archdiocese and demonstrate your greatness through compassionate service to others.

Pulpit Announcement

Thank you to all who have made their gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Participation is very important! Every gift, no matter how large or small makes a difference. Your generosity will allow the ministries of our diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. You can make your gift online at give.archomaha.org or pickup a gift intention form at the back of Church. Jesus came not to be served, but to serve. So may we find the humility to reach beyond ourselves in service of others.

Prayer of the Faithful

That the people of (_____) parish will respond generously to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal as an outward sign of our compassion for those in need and as an acknowledgement of our membership in the body of Christ of the Archdiocese of Omaha. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Pastor or Parish Leader(s) give update on progress and encourage parishioner support of the Annual Appeal

- Send follow-up solicitation letters from pastor and Parish Leader(s)

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities October 22, 2017 – 29th Sunday

Scripture

I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me.

Stewardship Focus

Each year at tax time, we conscientiously give “to Caesar what belongs to Caesar.” Does my stewardship indicate that I am as faithful about giving “to God what belongs to God”?

Bulletin Announcement

The Archbishop’s Annual Appeal supports programs that ensure the dignity of life from birth to death, and forms the minds and hearts for people of all ages. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please consider how your gift will enable the Church to bear witness to the kingdom of God in our midst.

Pulpit Announcement

We are most grateful to all our parishioners who have already made a gift intention to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. If you have not taken the opportunity to make a gift, you may drop off your commitment form to the parish office or place it in the collection basket next weekend.

Prayer of the Faithful

For the thousands of families who will turn to the Archdiocese of Omaha for healing and consolation this year, that our parishioners will join together to support them in their time of need through the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Announce weekly status report, progress toward goal

- Publish weekly status reports in the parish bulletin

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities October 29, 2017 – 30th Sunday

Scripture

Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind...love your neighbor as yourself. If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate.

Stewardship Focus

We fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor when we exercise good stewardship – joyfully sharing our gifts of life, abilities, and resources to meet our neighbor's need.

Bulletin Announcement

Your gift to the 2017-2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal reaches out to countless people in need throughout twenty-three counties in northeast Nebraska. No matter where you turn, you find someone who will benefit from your kindness. To date, our parish has raised \${Current Total}. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

Pulpit Announcement

We thank all those at our parish who have generously given to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. We ask those who have not sent in your gift to please consider a gift to support training our future priests, faith formation of young adults and providing help to families in crisis. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy!

Prayer of the Faithful

In gratitude for the many saints and instruments of God's love who have selflessly served people of God throughout the archdiocese. May their legacy of mercy and love inspire us to share God's gift of mercy with others. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Follow-up by Parish Leader(s) and status reports published in the parish bulletin. Follow-up mailings, calls and special events hosted by Parish Leader(s).

- Materials for those who did not receive a mailing are available in the Church's brochure rack or from the parish office.

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities November 5, 2017 – 31st Sunday

Scripture

The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Stewardship Focus

“The greatest among you will be the one who serves the rest,” Jesus says in today’s Gospel. What wonderful good news for those who give of their time in service to others!

Bulletin Announcement

In today’s second reading, St. Paul prays that the Thessalonians may be strengthened “in every good deed and word.” May we, too, be strengthened and empowered to use our time and talents for the good of others. Please be generous to the 2017-2018 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. Your contribution is one way to serve as Christ’s disciple and to participate in continuing the saving work begun by Jesus. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to help us reach our goal!

Pulpit Announcement

In the next week, you will be receiving a follow-up letter from Archbishop Lucas if you have not yet participated in the 2017-2018 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to this year’s Annual Appeal. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Thank you for your support of this important effort.

Prayer of the Faithful

For all parish volunteers working on the Archbishop's Annual Appeal and in all parish ministries, that their hard work will bear the fruits of generosity, and allow the Church in northeast Nebraska to care for the charitable, spiritual and educational needs of the people of God. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Follow-up by Parish Leader(s) and status reports published in the parish bulletin. Follow-up mailings, calls and special events hosted by Parish Leader(s).

- Materials for those who did not receive a mailing are available in the Church’s brochure rack or from the parish office.

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities November 12, 2017 – 32nd Sunday

Scripture

Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

Stewardship Focus

Like the sensible bridesmaids in today's parable, good stewards make sure that they, and whatever gifts are theirs to share, are ready to serve when the Master calls.

Bulletin Announcement

Today Jesus tells us to not be afraid, that through our perseverance we will secure our lives. Since we do not know the day or the hour when heaven and earth will pass away, God calls us to be vigilant, watchful and ready. Please join Archbishop Lucas and the archdiocese in the work of leading others to justice and heaven through a gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to help us reach our goal!

Pulpit Announcement

Thank you to all those who have supported the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. To date, we have raised \${Current Total} from {Donors to date} parishioners. Every gift matters! Please prayerfully consider the gifts you have received and share a portion of your blessings with others through a gift to the Annual Appeal.

Prayer of the Faithful

In this season of gratitude and giving, may we recognize all that God has done for us and express our thanksgiving by supporting our parish and the archdiocese. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Follow-up by Parish Leader(s) and status reports published in the parish bulletin. Follow-up mailings, calls and special events hosted by Parish Leader(s).

- Materials for those who did not receive a mailing are available in the Church's brochure rack or from the parish office.
- Follow-up Mailing #1 will be sent to all parishioners who have not yet made a gift

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities November 19, 2017 – 33rd Sunday

Scripture

For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Stewardship Focus

Good stewards are like the industrious and reliable servants in today's Gospel, prudently using and multiplying the gifts entrusted to them by God.

The "worthy wife" described in today's first reading is a perfect example of active stewardship, reaching out her hands to the poor and extending her arms to the needy.

Bulletin Announcement

As a Catholic community we are called to be one body in Christ and to live as His disciples. Your contribution is one way to witness to the living body of Christ, an expression of our oneness with those we serve. Our parish has currently committed \${Current Total} towards our goal of \${Parish Goal}. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to help us reach our goal!

Pulpit Announcement

Thank you to all those who have supported the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your gift enables our parish and the entire archdiocese to share the gift of God's mercy with others in concrete ways. To date, we have raised \${Current Total} from {Total Donors} parishioners.

Prayer of the Faithful

For all the ministries that will be funded through the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, may those in need find grace, mercy and compassion. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Follow-up by Parish Leader(s) and status reports published in the parish bulletin. Follow-up mailings, calls and special events hosted by Parish Leader(s).

- Materials for those who did not receive a mailing are available in the Church's brochure rack or from the parish office.

AAA 2017 Parish Announcements, Prayers and Appeal Activities November 26, 2017 – Christ the King

Scripture

Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.

Stewardship Focus

When the Son of Man comes in glory, may we be among those who have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and clothed the naked. For Jesus tells us clearly that it is those who have demonstrated good stewardship by sharing their gifts with the less fortunate who will receive God's blessing and inherit the kingdom.

Bulletin Announcement

Each of us is called to respond in faith, knowing and trusting that God recognizes your willingness to live out the message of the Gospel. To date, our parish has raised \${Current Total} for the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. You can either mail in your gift intention envelope or make a gift online at give.archomaha.org. Thank you for opening your hearts to the love of God and allowing the Lord to increase in your lives.

Pulpit Announcement

Pastor's Thank You: As we enter into this joyful season of Advent, I would like to express my gratitude to all our parishioners who participated in the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your willingness to include the archdiocese in your charitable giving enriches us as a parish. Thank you for opening your hearts to the love of God and allowing the Lord to increase in your lives.

Prayer of the Faithful

As we deepen our awareness of the gift of God's mercy in our lives, may we respond in faith and allow God's love to increase and abound in our love for one another and for all. WE PRAY TO THE LORD.

Suggested Appeal Activity

Please continue to encourage participation from parishioners who have not yet given to the Annual Appeal and conduct appropriate follow-up solicitation. Invite other parishioners to assist you with follow-up letters, emails and phone calls. Continue to incorporate the message of this year's Annual Appeal in your prayer and reflections during Advent.