**2018 Diocesan Services Appeal**

**Sample Lay Presenter Talk**

**Recommended for Announcement Weekend, April 14 & 15**

On Announcement Weekend a short presentation to the parish by a lay person on the importance of the DSA can be extremely effective.

Often given by the DSA chairperson, deacon, lay minister or other DSA volunteer, the talk can offer a personal perspective on the impact that DSA-supported ministries and programs have on the parish.

The talk should take place either after the homily or after communion, depending on the parish’s protocol.

The lay presenters should be individuals who relate well to other parishioners, feel comfortable speaking to a group about their personal experiences, and are enthusiastic about the mission.

NOTE: The lay presenter needs to meet with the pastor to discuss the pastor’s expectations for this talk. We suggest that the same lay presenter(s) speak at all Masses on a particular weekend. This will ensure a consistent message at all Masses and will make it easier to coordinate.

Sample script provided below:

Good Morning/Good Evening!

My name is \_\_\_\_ and I have been a member of our \_\_\_\_\_\_ Parish family for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

It is my pleasure to speak to you today about our 2018 Diocesan Services Appeal.

Our DSA theme this year, “Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord” reminds us that each of us is called to discipleship, to grow actively in faith and to go and share the good news with the world. I am proud to share with you that our parish has a long history of support for dozens of ministries that offer direct assistance to individuals and families and to our parishes, Catholic schools, and Catholic Charities agencies across our diocese.

Each year, DSA unites all 77 parishes of our diocese, drawing us together to achieve far more than any individual or any single parish could accomplish alone. Our overall diocesan goal for this year’s appeal is $5,000,000. This year, we have a parish goal of $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***Take time here to share why you personally feel it is important***

***to support the Diocesan Services Appeal.***

***Refer to - I Give to the DSA… copy for suggestions.***

***Refer to - DSA FAQs copy if you have heard questions raised that need to be addressed***

Next week, we will share the Bishop’s DSA message and invite you to make your commitment to this year’s appeal. As you prayerfully consider your contribution this week, I encourage you to be motivated by gratitude for the financial gifts with which God has graced us as the stewards of His Holy Catholic Church.

It is important to share in the work of the wider church as Bishop Boyea will share with us in his DSA message.

Please join me and my family in making a donation, according to your means, to the 2018 Diocesan Services Appeal. Remember, once we reach our parish goal, 50% of all contributions received, over and above our parish goal, will be returned to our parish for local use.

Thank you, again, for your support of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Parish and the wider Church.