**2021 Diocesan Services Appeal**

**Sample Bulletin Announcements**

**Please include the following Announcements in your Bulletin on the noted dates.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT WEEKEND – February 27 & 28**

“The word of God is at work in you who believe.” This scripture text from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians affirms a fundamental truth and teaching of the Catholic Church – the word of God is alive here and now, it is active in you and in the work of all who believe. Thanks be to God for His Holy Word!

DSA is an opportunity to put God’s word into action, to participate personally in the many good works of our Church in communion with fellow Catholics. Our contributions are put to work, right away, in a multitude of ministries to offer direct assistance to individuals and families and to parishes, Catholic schools, and Catholic Charities agencies.

Next weekend our parish will conduct Commitment Weekend for our Diocesan Services Appeal. This is when we will be asking each member of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parish to consider a generous gift to DSA. Our parish goal of $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can be reached if each one of us shares a portion of the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. Please prayerfully consider how you or your family will respond to this call to carry on Christ’s work in our community.

* Consider including the 2021 DSA Prayer in the Bulletin on Announcement Weekend or at any time during the active phase of the appeal:

**2021 DSA Prayer**

Loving and gracious God, we praise you and we thank you for your Word and the bountiful gifts that you have given us.

Help us understand that your Word is alive here and now, active in the work of the Church and all who believe.

Help us embrace the Diocesan Services Appeal as a way to put your Word into action through the good works of your Holy Catholic Church.

Please bless our united efforts and help us to bring Christ’s love to all we encounter.

Amen.

**COMMITMENT WEEKEND – March 6 & 7**

* This weekend is our Diocesan Services Appeal Commitment Weekend. I invite all members of our parish community to join in support of our annual appeal. Our parish goal is $ .
No gift is too small… every dollar donated helps those in our parish and in our unified efforts in the wider church. Further, one-half of all paid contributions received, over and above our parish goal, will be returned to our parish for our local use here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parish.

You can submit your DSA pledge envelope during Mass this weekend - or take your DSA envelope home to prayerfully consider your gift decision. Those paying by cash or check are invited to return your completed pledge form, in the DSA envelope, to our parish office. Those who wish to pay by credit card or electronic funds transfer may enter your gift online at [www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa). I encourage every one of our parish households to reflect on the many blessings we have received from the Lord and share these blessings through a generous gift to our DSA.

**FOLLOW UP WEEKENDS**

* Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge commitment to our Diocesan Services Appeal. Our gifts to DSA enable our diocese to provide services crucial to our parish. The programs and services funded by DSA offer direct assistance to individuals and families, and to parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities agencies. “Every good work” of the Church occurs through dozens of ongoing ministries made possible by our contributions to DSA.

If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, I invite you to do so today. Gift envelopes are available in church or the parish office. Or you may submit your gift online at [www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa). Your DSA gift will support the vital services and ministries that help bring the love of Christ to all we encounter.

* When you reach 75% or more of your parish goal, let your parishioners know how close you are and ask their help to reach your goal:

This week we reached % of our DSA goal. Thus far families have contributed to this year’s appeal. I am grateful for these contributions and invite others to join me and join together to push us over goal for the benefit of our parish and the wider church.

**ONCE THE PARISH GOAL HAS BEEN REACHED**

* Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge to DSA. This week we surpassed our goal of $ . Now that we have reached our goal, one-half of all additional contributions received will be returned to our local parish for our use. If you have not yet made a pledge, please consider supporting our appeal with a gift that will benefit the work of Christ in our parish and through the wider church. You may submit your gift online at [www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa) or with a DSA pledge envelope to the parish office.