**2023 Diocesan Services Appeal**

**Sample Lay Presenter Talk**

**Recommended for Announcement Weekend, February 25 & 26**

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 or talk 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 2023 Diocesan Services Appeal.

Our DSA theme this year is, **“Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving** This text from the Book of Psalms reminds each of us of how we are to respond to the many gifts we have been given by God, and that greatest gift: the gift of His Son in the Holy Eucharist.I am happy to share with you that our parish has a long history of sacrificing generously **through DSA** – supporting dozens of ministries that offer direct assistance to individuals and families and to our parishes, Catholic schools, and Catholic Charities agencies across our diocese.

***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. Make it personal and compelling for those in your parish.***

These are just a few of the *many* reasons why the DSA is a priority on my family’s charitable giving list. We’ve been blessed with the ability to contribute, we try to be good stewards of God’s gifts, and it feels good to do our part to fuel the work of our Catholic Church.

Next week, we will share the Bishop’s DSA message and invite you to make your commitment to this year’s appeal. Please prayerfully consider your contribution this week.

With our generous gifts to DSA, we help our diocese reach out to those who are in need of our compassion, our love and our mercy through the work of the Catholic Church. Please join me and my family in sharing the love of Christ with others.

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