**2025 Diocesan Services Appeal**

**Sample Lay Presenter Talk**

**Recommended for Announcement Weekend, February 15 & 16**

On Announcement Weekend, a short presentation to the parish by a layperson 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 occur 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 <Insert Name> and I have been a member of our <Insert Parish Name> family for <Insert # of years> years.

It is my pleasure to speak to you today about our 2025 Diocesan Services Appeal.

Our DSA theme this year “You Are my Chosen Witnesses.” This scripture from the Prophet Isaiah speaks to me this year as it is calling me and my family to be more intentional witnesses in our lives for the good news of Jesus Christ.

***Take time here to share why you personally feel it is important to support the Diocesan Services Appeal with stories about how Catholic Schools, Catholic Charities, or other diocesan ministries have impacted your life. Refer to - I Give to the DSA… copy for suggestions. Make it personal and compelling for those in your parish.***

These are a few of the reasons that I support the DSA and why DSA is always one of my family’s charitable priorities each year. We’ve been given so many blessings, so we try to be good stewards of God’s gifts and help the work of the church in turn.

Our parish has a long history of sacrificing generously**, especially to the DSA – supporting dozens of other ministries that offer direct assistance to individuals, families, parishes, Catholic schools, and** Catholic Charities agencies across our diocese.

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 <Insert Parish Name> Parish and the wider Church.