

Bishop's Annual Appeal:

"Growing in Faith, Living in Hope, Giving in Love"

The Bishop's Annual Appeal raised just over \$1.3 million in 2010, thanks to contributions by individuals and families from across the diocese, and the hard work of parish volunteers.

This will again provide vital funding for another year of diocesan programming in support of parish ministry, outreach, evangelization and faith formation across the diocese, as well as supporting ministry and outreach in the broader Catholic community (*see list below*).

A desire for more youth ministry across the diocese; a demand for resources for parish catechetics programs; an ongoing call for more Catholic chaplaincy at City and Royal University Hospitals; ever-more challenging issues facing the Justice and Peace office; increasing efforts by the office of Restorative Ministry to answer overwhelming unmet needs in prisons; a longing for increased efforts around faith formation and evangelization to answer the hunger for Jesus Christ in our world; the costs of educating seminarians and of engaging in effective vocations promotion – all of this and more prompted the decision to increase the BAA goal in 2010.

"We know that when these very real needs are presented to people, they respond with incredible generosity," said Don Gorsalitz, director of the Catholic Foundation office, which now includes coordination of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. "For more than 25 years the BAA has made a difference in the life and the vitality of our diocese, and it continues to be vital as we move into the future."

Representatives of the Catholic Foundation office recently met with parish leaders and Bishop's Annual Appeal volunteers from across the diocese at meetings in each of the seven deaneries. Input about

the BAA – including feedback about some changes implemented in 2010 will be extremely valuable, said Gorsalitz.

"We were again deeply touched by the passion and commitment of all those working on the Bishop's Annual Appeal in our parishes. We really appreciated their insights."

"The approach we took to the Appeal was somewhat different this year, as we asked parishioners to consider increasing their gift to the Appeal in an effort to meet some of the increasing needs in our diocese," he said. "As a result of the new format, we enjoyed an average increase in



Thank You for supporting the vital ministries and programs that are funded by the BAA!

Dear Friends,

As my first year as bishop draws to a close, my heart is filled with joy, with hope and with gratitude for the blessings of this diocese, and the many ways in which so many in our diocesan family are *"growing in faith, living in hope, and giving in love."*

One of the many blessings in our diocese is certainly the Bishop's Annual Appeal and the many ministries it supports, thanks to the ongoing, generous response of the faithful across the diocese in supporting the Appeal.

To those who have given their support through prayer, to all those who continue to share their financial gifts, and to each generous BAA volunteer serving in our parish communities, I offer my heartfelt thanks. May God bless you always!

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Donald Bolen
Bishop of Saskatoon



pledge size of 20 per cent, although we saw a decline from 41 per cent of our diocesan families supporting the Appeal last year to 36 per cent in 2010. So what was gained at one end was lost at another," stated Gorsalitz.

"We are hopeful that the feedback and insights received from deanery meetings will assist us in our 2011 Appeal in both participation and amount raised." For instance, it was suggested that rather than ask for a specific amount, the Appeal request a certain percentage increase: at the same time clearly communicating why it is needed, and always stressing that each and every gift, large or small, is important.

"The Catholic community continues to support the Bishop's Annual Appeal generously, and every day that is making a difference in people's lives and in the ministry lived out in our diocese and in our parishes," he said. "That continues to be a sign of hope in our world."

SUPPORTED BY THE BAA:

DIOCESAN MINISTRIES

Catholic Deaf Ministry
Catholic Legacy Program
Communications
Ecumenism
Education of Laity for Ministry
Education of Priests and Future Priests
Grants in Support of Rural Ministry
Hospital Chaplaincy
Lay Formation Program
Liturgy Commission
Marriage and Family Life
Ministry Development
Native Religious Ministry
Office for Justice and Peace
Priests' Pension Fund
Resource Library
Restorative Ministry/Prison Outreach
Rural Catechetics
Vocations
Youth Ministry

EXTERNAL GROUPS

Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO)
Catholic Family Services
Friendship Inn
L'Arche Saskatoon
Newman Centre/Campus Ministry STM
Queen's House of Retreat and Renewal
St. Paul's Hospital Spiritual Care
St. Peter's College
Catholic Health Ministry of Saskatchewan
Support of Life
Teen-Aid