



Diocese of Austin

6225 Hwy 290 E • Austin, TX 78723-1025
(512) 949-2400
www.austindiocese.org

Catholic Services Appeal

Parish ID# 135

October 21, 2018

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I am proud to announce that the 2017-2018 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) exceeded our goal and raised almost \$6.2 million. St. Austin Catholic Church contributed \$99,249 – thank you for your generosity!

The Diocese will launch the 2018-2019 CSA in-pew appeal on the weekend of November 3-4. Your parish goal is \$95,000. If you have not yet received my letter with appeal information, you will receive it shortly. I am confident, with everyone's participation, your parish will exceed its goal.

The theme of this year's appeal is *Love Abides*. We are called to love everyone as God loves us; love abides in our hearts, in our parishes and in our communities. As Christ taught us, "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." Mt 6:21 Giving to the CSA allows our love to abide through teaching and direct service to others. Your gift to the Catholic Services Appeal:

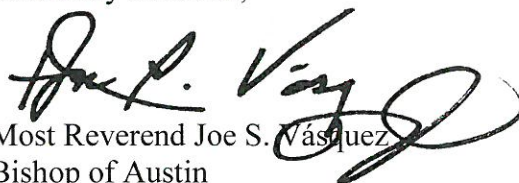
- assists in the formation of 27 seminarians for the priesthood (it costs \$40,000 a year to educate one seminarian);
- offers hope and healing to more than 14,000 people through the programs and services of Catholic Charities of Central Texas;
- provides support for 230 permanent deacons and 221 active and retired priests;
- supports parish ministries as almost 38,000 children and adults receive catechetical and leadership training;
- sustains more than 5,500 students in our Catholic schools; and
- strengthens more than 64,000 youth and young adults through ministry programs.

We also launched the capital campaign earlier this year. The CSA focuses on our immediate needs as a diocese, while the capital campaign focuses beyond our immediate needs. I ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to both.

The fruits of your generosity will change the lives of thousands of people in our diocese. Catholic men, women and children will continue to be enriched and transformed by the programs and ministries supported by your sacrificial gift. Please prayerfully consider how you can share your blessings in gratitude to God for all he has given you.

May God bless you always and strengthen you in faith.

Gratefully in Christ,



Most Reverend Joe S. Vasquez
Bishop of Austin