

SAMPLE AMEN SUNDAY PRESENTATION

This is an example of what might want to share with your parish community on Amen Sunday. The Pastor should use it only to help develop his presentation/message.

“As mentioned during the last few weeks, it is very important that each of you consider making a significant contribution to the Diocesan Annual Appeal in order to assure the Diocese can continue to support its mission and ministries, and that there are additional funds to help distressed parishes, religious education programs, and schools in need. By pledging, you make payments over several months concluding on June 30, rather than making a one-time gift.

“We are called to share our gifts in support of the Church. We must first support our parish and then our Diocese and the Church throughout the world. The Diocesan Annual Appeal is a very effective way to support ministries outside of our parish boundaries, as well as to support the services that the Diocese provides to our parish.

“As your Pastor, I want to thank all of you who have already given, as I also have given to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. I can assure you that the funds you provide are deeply appreciated by the parish, schools, and people served by the Diocese.

“At this time, I ask the ushers to pass out the pledge cards, envelopes, and pencils, even if you cannot give financially at this time, but would like to pledge your prayers. *If you have already given or pledged and do not wish to do so again, you do not need to take the materials from the ushers.*

(Pause and make sure that everyone has received the materials. Do not forget those people who are standing or are in the cry room, choir loft, etc. Once everyone has a pledge card, continue with the script.)

“I will now lead you through the pledge process to limit the time that it takes.

“Please print your first and last name on the front of the card where it says “Your Name.” Then print your completed address on the lines that say “Address” and “City, State, Zip.” *If you have already pledged to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, please do not fill out a card, unless you want to make an additional pledge (then indicate at the top of the card “additional pledge.”) We do not want to record the same pledge twice.*

“On the left side of the pledge card is a series opt out questions. Please check the box in front of the option you prefer not to receive.

Please Do Not Send Reminders: This is only for those who pledge and do not set up an electronic payment method

Please Do Not Send Acknowledgement/Thank you: Check this box if you wish not receive thank you for your pledge or payments

Please Do Not Send Tax Statement: Check here if you do not want a tax-supporting document.

If you check the box anonymous: Please be sure no one here at the parish will know that you have given. You may be asked again, to support the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

(Pause until about half of those participating are looking back at you.)

To make a gift or pledge you can check the appropriate boxes and fill in the line after "Total Pledge." If you are making an initial payment on your pledge, fill in the amount on the line after "Total Amount Enclosed." You are mailed a reminder of your remaining pledge balance will be mailed every month until the pledge is paid in full. The pledge needs to be paid in full by June 30.

If you wish to do a sustaining gift, which is a gift automatically deducted from your checking account, or charged to credit card monthly year round. (12 months a year). This is a great way to support our parish year round.

If you prefer to have your payment automatically deducted from your checking account each month, check "Automatic Checking Account Payment" and complete the blanks on the back of the pledge card under the section "AUTOMATIC CHECKING ACCOUNT PAYMENT."

If you prefer to make payments by credit or debit card, check "Credit Card" on the front of the pledge card, then complete the blanks on the back of the pledge card under the section "CREDIT CARD PAYMENT."

(Pause until about half of those participating are looking back at you.)

(Pause until about half of those participating are looking back at you.)

"When you have your payment options completed, if you are paying by credit or debit card please sign your pledge card, date it, and include your email address if you have one."

(Pause until about half of those participating are looking back at you.)

"For those of you with questions, we will have people available after Mass to answer them. For those of you who have your pledge cards completed, please insert them in the envelope, seal the envelopes and we will collect them at this time.

"On behalf of Bishop Callahan and myself, I thank you for your participation in the Diocesan Annual Appeal. May God bless you."