

Saint Stephen Catholic Church

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(415) 681-2444 • Fax (415) 681-7843 • www.saintstephenSF.org

September 24, 2009

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

It is in the spirit of solidarity that I write to you today. As members of St. Stephen Parish, we are part of a greater community, which includes the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Roman Catholic Church. To this end, we support our brothers and sisters at all levels of the Catholic Church as they in turn support us.

The Archdiocesan Annual Appeal is a fundamental part of this circle of support. Each year, every parish in the San Francisco Archdiocese is asked to meet its financial assessment, which helps pay for services at the Archdiocesan level. These services include chaplains in our hospitals, scholarships for children and families in need, assistance for our elderly, help for the homeless, and outreach to youth, young adults and disenfranchised Catholics.

Think of Father Murray making his rounds at St. Mary's Hospital everyday, bringing comfort and prayer to the sick and their families, including some infirm patients who are living their last hours on earth. The Archdiocesan Appeal provides the funding for this most important spiritual care.

We are in the home stretch of our AAA campaign with an assessment of \$69,300. We have done remarkably well thus far, raising **\$43,000** or **62 percent** of our assessment. Sixty of our 189 donors are new to our effort this year, while 33 contributors have matched my personal donation of \$500 or more.

We are filled with gratitude and humbled by your generosity. We hope and pray that you will continue to contribute your gifts. **We have \$26,300** to raise before the end of the year. **Will you consider making a donation to AAA this year?**

As John Paul II said, "Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of others. It is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good."

Supporting our Archdiocesan Annual Appeal is one way we can commit ourselves to the common good. I thank you in advance for your generosity and consideration.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend Joseph Walsh
Pastor

Name _____

Address _____

_____ **Yes, I want to match Father Joe's \$500 donation to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Enclosed is my check made payable to AAA.**

_____ **Yes, I want to pledge my support to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Enclosed is my donation of:**

◇ \$250

◇ \$100

◇ \$72

◇ Other _____

Please return to AAA Campaign, St. Stephen Church, 451 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132 or use the enclosed self-mailer which includes option to pay by credit card.