

**ST. MARY & CHRIST THE SERVANT PARISH**

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My dearest parishioners,  
Peace of Christ be with you!!

Our annual Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal is on the way. As part of the wider Church of Nelson Diocese, I am required to remind you of our financial obligations to the needs of both our diocese and parish.

Our Diocesan Goal this year is **\$21,300** and our Parish Goal is **\$10,000**, for a total of **\$31,300**. Remember, we have to achieve our Diocesan goal before we can work on achieving our parish goal. Last year, we exceeded our diocesan goal by \$5,480. We did a lot of small projects last year, like buying a new sound mixer for St. Mary's, installing signs, finished painting the steeple and top part of St. Mary's, and replacing lighting and plumbing at both churches. We also replaced all the furnaces at Christ the Servant Church, which cost \$38,478; this was covered by a Pilgrimage of Faith rebate from the diocese and our investment income. This year, we will use our parish's portion from the Appeal to put a sign in front of Christ the Servant to make it more accessible, especially to our visitors who add to the vibrancy and life of our parish family.

Last year, 74 out of our 500 registered families/households participated in our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal. This year, we have received the amount of \$5,511 with 25 families/households participating. The success of this year's campaign will depend entirely on your participation. Please support this appeal to the best of your ability.

The Diocesan programs are outlined in the brochure you already received. Please complete the attached pledge form and place it in the collection basket, mail it to or drop it at the Parish office. If you did not receive a form by mail, please call the Parish office. This appeal runs until the end of December 2025. Your tax receipts will be mailed to you from the Chancery Office early in 2026.

I want to thank you for your continued love and generosity to our parish. You have been a blessing in my priesthood! Let's continue to pray for each other! May God continue to bless you and keep you! On behalf of the Parish Council and the Finance Committee, we look forward to your active and generous participation.

Love and Prayers,  
Fr. Rex M. Velmonte