

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL 2022

Finding God in All Things

Dear Friends in Christ:

It is a privilege to have been called to serve the people of northern Michigan. I look forward to learning about the people, the places, and the many ways we serve the Lord in each of the 21 counties of the diocese. I've found great joy and blessing in visiting many of the parishes and schools already, and I hope to meet you along the way as I continue to visit each community.

I started my work as bishop at the beginning of Lent — a time of preparation. Now, the joy of Easter and the celebration of our risen Lord still resonate in our hearts and minds.

As you enjoy the blessings of the new season, I invite you to be mindful of God's presence, both in the sacraments and in the everyday moments of our lives. The sacraments are gifts like no other — they bind us to our Lord and are a source of strength and grace for our lives.

God is also present with us in the ordinary moments of our day. As you move forward this spring, take time to see the handiwork of our Creator in a sunset. Walk through the woods and listen to the birds and nature come alive. Enjoy friends and family around a kitchen table. In the silence on a drive to work, pause and listen for God's voice.

The more we experience God in our daily lives, *in all things*, the more grateful we become. It is through this spirit of thanksgiving that I hope you will consider giving to this year's CSA campaign.

The Catholic Services Appeal is an important diocesan-wide campaign that supports the mission of the Church locally, regionally and globally. This appeal supports **Vocations, Catholic Education, and Mission Work and Disaster**

See reverse →

Relief here and abroad. Perhaps most significantly, this campaign helps provide for the **work of our local parishes** through the **Tribunal, Worship and Liturgical Formation**, and **Diocesan Administrative Services** including **Bookkeeping, Human Resources and Communications**.

The work of the Church requires careful stewardship. It requires tending and care, just like other important parts of our lives. We spend time and resources keeping our bodies nourished and healthy. We spend time and resources keeping our houses in good repair and updated. We spend time and resources building relationships with our friends and family. Our Church also requires time and resources.

I am grateful to you and all who have loyally supported our parishes, diocese, and many ministries during these extraordinary times. **I ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to this year's Catholic Services Appeal.** Your generosity will support your parish and the work of the local Church here in northern Michigan.

Thank you for your ongoing stewardship. May God bless you and your parish!

In Christ our Life,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, starting with a cross symbol and ending with a long, sweeping flourish.

Most Reverend Jeffrey J. Walsh
Bishop of Gaylord

***"Seek and you will find."
- Luke 11:9 -***



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