



Announcement Weekend Script- 2026 Appeal

Today is the “kick-off” at [Parish Name] to this year’s *Cardinal’s Annual Stewardship Appeal*. As a pillar to the resources funding the ministries and programs that change lives and impact countless New Yorkers, we are being asked, as Catholics of the Archdiocese of New York, to join together in participating in this year’s *Appeal*.

Earlier this month, you should have received an *Appeal* letter from His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan inviting you to participate. This is his last *Appeal* letter before he officially hands over the pastoral care of our vast and diverse archdiocese to Archbishop-Designate Hicks on February 6th. Thank you to those who have already responded to his letter.

In gratitude, we are called to be good stewards by supporting our Church through the *Appeal* as she fulfills her mission. The \$21M in funds raised for this year’s *Appeal* will be used for the following needs in our archdiocese: (Suggestion - Be specific to which following case element is most relevant to your parish)

- \$9M – Financial Assistance for Struggling Parishes
- \$3.5M – Pastoral Administration, Grants, and Services
- \$3M – Retired Priests, Priestly Education, and Formation Programs
- \$3M – Catholic Education
- \$2.5M – Charitable Outreach

To those who faithfully support the *Appeal* every year, I am very grateful. If you did not participate last year or have never participated, I ask you to consider this invitation by joining your fellow parishioners in the coming weeks. Indeed, every family in all 270+ parishes of our Archdiocese is called to join in on this mission.

This year, our parish is asked to raise \$XXX,XXX of the \$21M goal for the *Appeal*. {Last year, thanks to XXX participants we were able to reach XX.XX% of our goal.} Please know that if all of us here today participate we will easily reach our goal this year.

If you did not receive a letter, you can pick up an envelope from the back of the church. Please ask the Lord how He wants you to be generous with this *Appeal* and then return the card before or on our Commitment/In-Pew Weekend which will be held on (DATE).

Remember, you can make a pledge which allows you to pay it over several months, if that better suits your household budget. Thank you for your consideration and generous response to our archdiocese, as well as your constant support for our parish. God bless you.



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CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
*Sharing God's Gifts Throughout
the Archdiocese of New York*

Announcement Weekend Script- 2026 Appeal – Abbreviated Version

- Introduce the Appeal & the need
 - Cardinal Dolan's last *Appeal* letter before passing the Shepherds Staff to Archbishop Designate Hicks
 - Case Elements (Based on relevance to the parish)
 - \$9M – Financial Assistance for Struggling Parishes
 - \$3.5M – Pastoral Administration, Grants, and Services
 - \$3M – Retired Priests, Priestly Education, and Formation Programs
 - \$3M – Catholic Education
 - \$2.5M – Charitable Outreach
- The Ask
 - Every family's participation (Mention parish participation goal)
 - Parish Goal: \$
- How to Give
 - Respond to letter from the Cardinal
 - Use one of the Appeal envelopes found in church
 - Commitment Weekend
 - Remember you can make a one-time payment or pay later or over several months through a pledge
- Gratitude

Alternate Announcement Weekend Suggested Pulpit Announcement

It is an exciting time for the Archdiocese of New York as we say thank you to Timothy Cardinal Dolan for his many years of service to our archdiocese and welcome Archbishop-Designate Hicks as our new pastoral shepherd on February 6. As we transition from one Archbishop to another, the Church's mission continues.

To fund the work of this mission, we rely on the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*. Today we officially kick-off the 2026 *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* at our parish. We join nearly 300 parishes across the archdiocese to raise the funds needed to continue this mission. Earlier this month, you should have received one last *Cardinal's Appeal* letter from Cardinal Dolan inviting you to help the wider Church in this mission. If you have already responded to his letter, thank you.

In his letter, a special brochure was included highlighting how the \$21 million raised will be put into action to help the Church's mission. You will also find information about this year's *Appeal* **in our bulletin or** by going to cardinalsappeal.org where you can watch a special video about this year's *Appeal* and if you feel so moved, to make a gift online.



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Use if parish made goal last year: Last year we raised \$XXXX and surpassed our goal thanks to # of participants! This year, our parish goal is \$XXXX and I believe with # of participants we can again surpass our goal. You will have other opportunities to participate in the coming months, including at our Commitment/In-Pew Weekend scheduled on [date]. With everyone's participation, I believe we can reach our goal by Easter (or other date). Thank you for your consideration in participating in this year's *Appeal* and mission.

Use if parish did not make goal last year: This year, our parish goal is \$XXXX and I hope to see at least # of households participate in this year's *Appeal*. You will have other opportunities to participate in the coming months, including at our Commitment/In-Pew Weekend scheduled on [date]. With everyone's participation, I believe we can reach our goal by Easter/this year (or other date). Thank you for your consideration in participating in this year's *Appeal* and mission.