



OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

September 17, 2026

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your generosity to your parish, a community close to your heart. My home parish, Blessed Sacrament Parish on Staten Island, was an essential part of our family. Everyone knew and looked out for one another. We learned our faith at church, at school, and around the dinner table. We were proud of our parish, so when the pastor asked for help, the response was always enthusiastic. Thankfully, this exists in many of our parishes today, and together we can help it to grow.

Let's be honest: the Church is not wealthy, and your parish is not simply another institution asking for money. It is where you come to know Jesus Christ. It is where your children learn the values that will guide them throughout their lives, and where families find strength, hope, and a true sense of belonging.

This is the root of our support for *The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*. The *Appeal* unites Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of New York to strengthen our parishes, care for those in need, and carry out the mission of Christ, especially in communities that cannot not sustain this work alone.

The *Sharing God's Gifts Pastoral Grants Program*, as you will read in the enclosed impact report, is an example of why your support matters. Through these grants, parishes receive the needed resources to provide faith formation, reach young people, accompany families, care for mothers and children, welcome cultural communities, and help more people encounter Jesus Christ.

Pastors have great hopes for our parishes. They know their people, see the needs in their communities, and have parishioners ready to serve. What is lacking are the resources to start the programs envisioned. Your support of the *Appeal* provides these resources and allows pastoral ideas to become ministries that change lives.

Please consider making a contribution by visiting cardinalsappeal.org/September2026 or scanning the QR code. Whatever the amount, I hope you will make a gift that is meaningful to you and reflects your commitment to the mission of the Church. And remember: your generosity is also supported by your prayers. Pray for your parish, your sisters and brothers who with you form the parish family and pray for your pastor.



Thank you for listening, your generosity, and the example of your faith. With the assurance of my prayers,

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Reverend Edmund Whalen
Vicar General