



Diocese of Gaylord
CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Anchored
in FAITH
hope
LOVE

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL APPEAL

Gifts can be made through your parish
or online at www.dioceseofgaylord.org



Diocese of Gaylord
611 W. North Street
Gaylord, MI 49735
989.732.5147



Facing the novel coronavirus has left many fearful and anxious about the uncertainties of daily life. So much of what we take for granted in our cultural expressions and in our liturgical celebrations at Mass were updated to provide a measure of prevention to minimize risks of contagion. Still, we are a community that doesn't give into fear or despair. We remain the Body of Christ in the midst of a storm at sea. Our hope, anchored in Jesus Christ, remains ever strong. It is the presence of Christ that calms the rough waters.

“Just as we are anchored in Christ, so, too, is Christ anchored in our hearts.”

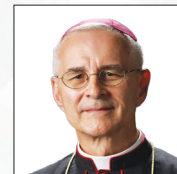
The anchor is an appropriate symbol of the virtue of hope. Just as we are anchored in Christ, so, too, is Christ anchored in our hearts. It reminds us of the certainty we can have in this uncertain world. Christ will always come through. He is the victory even in the moments we think impossible.

Our Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) this year highlights those extraordinary moments of hope that offer certainty. Here's a sample of what comes to mind as I think of this year's CSA campaign:
Anchored in Hope.

- I think of all those who are served by Catholic Human Services throughout our diocese. Through the dedicated work of these agencies, many clients in our local communities experience a renewed hope in living their lives through counseling, senior volunteer and prevention programs, to name a few;
- I think of all of our schoolchildren who benefit from the coordination of activities through our Office of Catholic Education like the Catechism Bee, support and assistance for our principals; accompanying our schools through the accreditation process to achieve excellence in our schools;
- I think of our Faith Formation Office that spends time to prepare our students for the reception of the sacraments as well as to accompany young Christians searching for meaning and hope today;

- I think of our Hispanic Ministry and the enthusiasm generated and hope given, resulting from the implementation of *V Encuentro* for engaging Hispanic families in the life of the Church;
- I think of our Native American Ministry that provides ongoing faith formation and sacramental services to our Native American community, highlighting cultural bonds and hope with the wider diocesan faith community;
- I think of our Seminarian and Permanent Deacon Formation programs that prepare new dedicated servants to become agents of hope in parish communities. Whether they will serve as new priests or serve as permanent deacons, they are dedicated to a ministry of service to the hospital, prison, food banks or other parish social ministries. Thus, hope is offered through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy;

- I think of our National Collections, which are rolled into the CSA Appeal, like the Home Missions and the Black and Indian Mission Appeal, which offer hope for many others throughout our country to know and love Christ.



MOST REVEREND STEVEN J. RAICA
The fifth bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Gaylord.

There are, of course, many more services that form an extraordinary mosaic of ministries throughout the Diocese of Gaylord. Our CSA campaign is a hopeful resource to keep Christ's redeeming message alive throughout the entire Diocese of Gaylord. As we join together on our common mission, we are **ANCHORED IN HOPE** and anchored in Christ.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this annual campaign to bring the message of hope at this moment in the Diocese of Gaylord. †

Assuring you of my prayers and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Steven J Raica

More to come! Further details about the 2020 Catholic Services Appeal, along with a giving envelope, will be available in the next issue of FAITH magazine.

CONVENIENT WAYS TO GIVE AT ANY TIME



Make a secure gift online at www.dioceseofgaylord.org.



Give through your parish.



For questions, contact your parish or the Diocese of Gaylord at 989.732.5147.

To give to the Catholic Services Appeal, you can make a one-time gift, set up recurring monthly payments or choose a pledge schedule that is best for you. Additionally, several gift options are available, including cash/check, credit card and Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).