



CSA COMMITMENT WEEKEND OVERVIEW



TO BE DELIVERED AT ALL MASSES

(This can be done by the Priest or a Lay Parish Leader.)

- **Announce** to parishioners that today is “Commitment Saturday/Sunday” in support of this year’s Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) throughout the diocese. Every family attending Mass today is asked to offer a generous pledge to advance the mission and ministry of the Church.
- **Provide a brief recap** of the CSA importance and the ministries that receive direct funding (see case support brochure online).
- **Call the ushers forward** to distribute the CSA pledge envelopes or direct your parishioners’ attention to the pledge card received in the mail.
- **Encourage** those who have not yet made their decision to do so now. Expect every family to contribute proportionately and sacrificially according to their means and blessings.
- **Communicate** that you expect everyone in attendance to complete a pledge card. Those who do not return a pledge will receive an additional follow-up request; making a pledge today will also help save on mailing and postage costs.
- **Hold up** a pledge envelope for the entire congregation to see and make sure that every individual family has one.
- **Walk the congregation through** completing the pledge card information. For example, “First, write down your name. I’ll give you a few moments. Next fill in your address, etc....” **OR** ask the congregation to pull out their phones if they choose text to give and text dollar amount to (512) 829-3862. Request those who have already made their pledge through the mail to complete a pledge card as well, simply writing “Amen” on the financial section. (This gives all parishioners an impression of total participation, and also helps to reduce duplicate pledges from people who feel the need to keep busy with everyone else.)
- **Emphasize** that parishioners can make a commitment today without having to write a check or enclose a cash deposit. They may simply write in the amount they plan to commit directly on the pledge card. Convenient monthly statements will be sent to all who choose to pay their total pledge in regular installments. Parishioners may, as well, pay their pledges through credit/debit card transferred from bank account, gifts of Stock, IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution, Family Foundation, or Charitable Gift Fund.
- **Strongly encourage** parishioners to consider the monthly suggested gift plan listed on the pledge card. Monthly gifts—and not one-time gifts—are the best way for the parish to reach its goal. Remind parishioners that these amounts are only suggestions. Encourage all to commit an amount they can afford to give each month, mindful of God’s many blessings and for the benefit of their Catholic brothers and sisters throughout the diocese who are in need. Every gift to the congregation helps.
- **Provide guidance to the congregation** If you are able to offer more this year, then your additional generosity will be greatly appreciated, and will go a long way towards advancing the work of the Church in our diocese. Perhaps you are in a position to consider an increase of 10 or 15 percent. Know that whatever amount you are able to pledge is greatly appreciated.
- If you did not make a gift last year, perhaps \$25 per month—or \$6.25 per week—is possible for you. What you offer is between you and the Lord. Only you know what you are able to sacrifice in Christ’s name. Keep in mind that every generous gift truly helps and will make a significant difference in the lives of countless others.
- **Ask** parishioners to fill in the amount they intend to give, noting their enclosed payment (if applicable), and the remaining balance. Give them plenty of time to complete the requested information.
- **Call the ushers forward** to collect the envelopes separately from the regular Offertory Collection and then place before the Altar (optional but recommended) or ask them to drop in the basket.
- **Thank** parishioners for their generous support of our Catholic ministries and outreach programs throughout the diocese, and for their assistance in reaching this year’s parish goal.