



# THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

## OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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January 21, 2019

Dear Friends in Christ:

The Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA) provides Catholics in our Archdiocese a unique opportunity to come together. Through the AAA, the over ninety parishes in our Archdiocese unite as one body in mission and ministry.

As Catholics, we unite in using our gifts and talents to serve others. Together, we are able to demonstrate our faith through the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal by advancing important programs for youth and young adults, social ministries, school students, our retired priests, ecumenical efforts, and the greater Church, as well as supporting central office activities such as faith formation, human resources, and communications.

The following are just a couple of the ways that we help change lives through the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal:

- The Restorative Justice program assists crime victims and their families, former offenders, the incarcerated and their families. It does so via its own outreach and through partnerships with community groups. The family of one young man killed in San Francisco said that without the Restorative Justice ministry, they “...*would not have been able to meet other families already supported by this ministry, and through this support group ... find comfort in the journey of ... healing.*”
- Our generosity funds the Maker’s Space Initiative, a program that brings science and technology to life for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders at some of our Archdiocesan schools. In addition to the learning and enjoyment the students derive from the program, there has been a marked increase in the number of students expressing a desire to pursue careers in these fields because of the Maker’s Space Initiative.

The theme for this year’s Annual Appeal is James 2:18, “*I will show you my faith by my works.*” The vivid illustrations of faith that I witness as I visit our parishes are a source of inspiration to me and my ministry, as I see this faith demonstrated in so many ways - through devotion to mission, through support of the ministries of the Annual Appeal, and in countless other manners.

Your support of the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal makes a tremendous difference. Imagine, just for a moment, how much more difficult the lives of the family of the young man killed in San Francisco would be without the Restorative Justice ministry. Their already unimaginable loss would be compounded by having no mechanism through which they could share their pain with others who truly understand, thus helping enable the process of healing to begin.

On behalf of individuals and families who find comfort and support in the Restorative Justice ministry, the students in our Catholic schools, our retired priests, and many others who benefit from the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal, I thank you for your faith, your works, and your generosity.

Since our mission continues and the needs are ongoing, I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting this year’s Appeal. Your generosity makes a tangible difference in people’s lives. It is greatly appreciated, and it will be very beneficial. I thank you for your demonstrations of faith that continue to inspire me, your support of your own parish, and your commitment to the greater Church.

With my prayerful best wishes, I am,

Most Reverend Salvatore J. Cordileone  
Archbishop of San Francisco