

Letter from Archbishop Gustavo to Parishioners



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am truly grateful to our archdiocesan community. Your faithful love for Christ and His Church are reflected in the support that you give to serve others through your charitable works of mercy. Together, we serve God's people in word and deed through the Ministry of the Archbishop's Appeal.

As our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has said, "*We are all Missionary Disciples with the power of the Spirit.*" This has been shared with us and passed on for many generations since the first Pentecost. We are a family of faith that is sealed with the Holy Spirit and sent forth by Christ to proclaim His love and mercy with all whom we encounter; especially those most in need spiritually, physically, and emotionally.

This year, the Appeal Steering Committee selected as the theme for the 2017 Archbishop's Appeal, "*Disciples, Sent by the Spirit.*" In considering the work that we have embarked on these last few years, we recognize and continue to stay aligned with the whole Church throughout the world, bringing about the New Evangelization and shepherding Christ's people. We are a family of faith that is dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel message of Christ's love to His people. This is why it is essential that we continue to support and invite others to participate in the 2017 Archbishop's Appeal. The Appeal is how we in the archdiocese work to make our local Church the place He envisioned it.

For the 2017 Appeal, I confirm the Steering Committee's recommendation to keep the Appeal goal at \$4.5 million. We will continue to support Catholic Social Services, Pastoral Ministry Programs, Evangelization and Outreach Initiatives, Catholic Education, and Religious Vocations.

As *Disciples, Sent by the Spirit*, I pray that you continue to share the mission of the Appeal so that together we can continue to advance God's love through charity. The agencies and initiatives supported by you provide the means to respond to the spiritual, educational, and physical needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I humbly ask for your support to the 2017 Archbishop's Appeal. I am certain that our efforts will flourish, as you participate in a loving spirit of generosity in this year's Appeal. Thank you for all that you do to serve Christ's people and His Church.

With the assurance of my prayers, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gustavo" in a large, cursive script, with "m.s.p.s." written in a smaller, simpler script below it.

Most Reverend Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS
Archbishop of San Antonio