**SAMPLE PASTOR LETTER**



*Please place on parish letterhead or white paper and mail to all registered parishioners by Friday, January 25th. Alternatively, this letter may be inserted directly into the bulletin January 26th - 27th.*

January 2019

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

 Once again, as we begin the 2019 Bishop’s Annual Appeal, I encourage your sacrificial support as we join this effort with Catholics throughout South Carolina. Each year, our diocesan-wide ministries serve the poor and disadvantaged, educate our youth and adults, as well as support the clergy and religious that are serving in our state. The Bishop’s Annual Appeal challenges us to look beyond our own parish boundaries and consider the broader mission of the Church, not just in South Carolina but throughout the world.

With an overall goal of $4 million dollars, and a parish target of $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, this undertaking presents you, as parishioners, with an opportunity to support the universal mission of our church. When we surpass our goal, we then receive back 50% of funds raised beyond our goal.

In the coming weeks, each of us will have an opportunity to support this cause through the direct mail appeal from Bishop Guglielmone and at weekend Mass. I know we will respond to this challenge as we have in previous years.

Thank you again for all that you do to support our parish and diocese. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.

 Yours in Christ,

 (**SIGNATURE)**

Pastor [or substitute], Parish/Mission Name