



## Conducting a Successful Commitment Weekend In-Pew Appeal

Under the leadership of your pastor, the in-pew appeal plays a large role in the overall success of the Annual Diocesan Appeal in your parish. The following points outline the recommended process to conduct the in-pew appeal on Commitment Weekend.

- During his homily the Celebrant should incorporate a message of returning gifts to God in return for his abundant blessings through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. The homily will stress the importance of the Appeal to the Diocese of Fort Worth and the ministries that benefit from money it raises. (See *What Your Gifts Make Possible* available for download).
- As families enter the church building for Mass, or after the Homily, ushers or volunteers will distribute commitment forms/envelopes. The pastor will make his own commitment, modeling the act of stewardship for others.
- Please share the parish's dollar goal and participation goal. Ask all individuals/households to commit to the Appeal proportionately and sacrificially according to their means and blessings. Stressing 100% participation will witness to the parish's commitment to stewardship. Note that no gift is too small.
- Guide parishioners through the process of completing the information on the form attached to the in-pew envelope, which can then be torn from the envelope and inserted into it, along with any cash or checks. Request those who have already made their commitment through the mail to complete an envelope as well, simply writing "Amen" or a prayer intention they have for the Bishop to remember in a private Mass on the financial section. (This gives all parishioners an impression of total participation.)
- Invite all to place their commitment forms/envelopes into the Offertory. Celebrant should do the same.
- The **unopened** Appeal in-pew envelopes should be separated from the regular Sunday Offertory Collection and mailed or delivered to the Advancement Foundation using the white, Tyvek carrier envelopes provided to each parish. Additional Tyvek envelopes are available upon request.
- Upon completion, thank those parishioners who have committed to the Appeal for their participation in *Contributing to the Common Good* for the benefit of others throughout the 28 counties of the Diocese of Fort Worth.