

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Blessing God’s Family” is the theme for this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal. When we give to the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, we support a variety of services: Catholic Charities, vocations, worship, archives, young adult ministry, and the formation of deacons - to name a few. These all represent different members of God’s family, and the annual appeal gets each of us involved in these important services. In a few moments we’ll play this year’s audio from Bishop Johnston which he recorded at the new St. James Church in Liberty; I encourage you to go to our web site to see the complete video for yourselves. I think you’ll find it even more inspiring.

This year we are combining our annual parish appeal with the annual diocesan appeal. You are receiving two pledge cards in the mail this week; if you’re not on our mailing list, you may take the diocesan pledge card from the pews today. Register as a member with us, and we’ll send you the parish pledge card. When you contribute to the cathedral parish, you help us maintain this beautiful historic building and pay a just wage to our staff. You bless many members of God’s family who come here - our guests from the streets of downtown seeking a meal and emergency assistance; engaged couples, many of whom want to make the cathedral parish their spiritual home; our young adult group, adult faith formation, baptism preparation and first communion preparation. Your contributions support all these ministries and more.

Today’s gospel tells how impressed Jesus was with one former leper who returned to thank him for his healing. You all have come here today because you are like that guy whom Jesus praises in this gospel. You have experienced the power of Christ in your life, and you have come here today to praise and thank God. Listen now to the bishop’s message, and please fill out two pledge cards this week to support both the annual appeals of our diocese and of this parish. Thank you for your support.