

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We're about to hear a three-minute recording of Bishop Johnston inviting our participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal. I'm inviting you to participate also in the cathedral parish annual appeal.

If you filled out pledge cards at home and brought them today, please put them in the collection basket. If you need cards, you'll find them in the pews. Those of you sitting near the cards and pens, please ensure that others have what they need to fill out the cards now.

For the diocesan appeal, our parish goal is about 400 gifts totaling \$25,000. For the parish, I'm hoping for the same number of gifts, but closer to \$100,000 in pledges. You will help us meet these goals with your participation today.

The cathedral parish is enjoying a rebirth of activity: Adult faith formation takes place on Monday nights. The women's spirituality group meets one Saturday a month. We prepare candidates for first confession, first communion, confirmation, baptism, and marriage. We draw penitents to experience God's forgiveness. We provide a beautiful celebration of Mass every day. We give food and assistance to the homeless. We hire a talented staff. We are servicing a debt on the Bishop Hogan Center; we have utility, security, and insurance costs. You have been generous in the past. Thank you. I need your help again.

The two questions that conclude today's gospel are on target for our reflection today: The employer asks the employees, "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?" And "Are you envious because I am generous?"

Let's make people envious. Please fill out the cards now, and add yours to today's collection. Now let's hear the message from Bishop Johnston.