

BASA 2021 – Pastor Scripts

Commitment Weekend – *(before the video begins)*

Good morning/afternoon/evening. Although these are challenging times, I encourage you to open your hearts and minds as we learn more about the mission and impact of the Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal. Bishop Estévez invites all parishioners to make a pledge commitment to our faith family through this appeal. He has prepared a short video message in which he shares just how important this Appeal is to vocations and the many ministries it supports throughout our local Church. Bishop Estévez also emphasizes how incredibly important your participation and support are, no matter how large or small your gift.

Supplement to Script(s) –

Pastor or presiding priest: In advance, please reflect upon the many ministries and vocations that are funded through our Appeal.

- Take a moment to consider if you have personally been a direct or indirect recipient of the funds raised.
- Think about the ways that you have seen your parish or other parishes and missions served through these ministries.
- Consider your parishioners. Who among them has either personally or knows someone who has been impacted by the services provided through Catholic Charities, religious education programming, youth and young adult ministry, pro-life ministries, diocesan priests (through education and formation), to name a few.

Share your personal testimony to how you have seen the positive and transformative impact that these ministries have and all because of our communal participation in the Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal.

Follow-Up Weekend – *(also available in Spanish **online**, see page 18 for access)*

**Please ensure all parishioners have in-pew envelopes available to them*

Last week, as a parish, we participated in Commitment Weekend for the 2021 Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal. We should all remember that the Bishop's Appeal is an invitation to make gifts that support seminarian education, our local Catholic Charities, several of our Catholic schools and religious education programs, efforts in Catholic evangelization, and support for our retired priests.

In addition, there are many more diocesan directed ministries that receive support in part through the funds raised. If you have not had the opportunity, or time, to respond to Bishop Estévez's invitation in support of these worthy ministries, please take a few moments to completely fill out the pledge envelope or make a gift on the dosaf.com/bishopsappeal website. If you have not yet responded by mail or from the pew last weekend, we ask that you fill out an envelope, even if you are unable to make a pledge to this year's Appeal. This will ensure you are either properly contacted, or that you will not receive any future

mailings this year. Please go ahead and place your envelope in the offertory basket before you leave today.

Finally, if you have not seen the message from Bishop Estévez regarding the 2021 Annual Stewardship Appeal, please visit our parish website or the diocesan website to hear his message to all the faithful.

On behalf of Bishop Estévez and the Diocese of St. Augustine, I would like to warmly thank those of you who have already made your pledge and to those who are still discerning, I thank you for your prayerful consideration. I also thank you for your support for these crucial ministries made possible by your participation in our Annual Appeal and which have faithfully continued during the pandemic.