



January 22, 2026

Dear Friend in Christ:

I hope you enjoyed a happy and holy Christmas with your family, and I wish you many blessings in 2026.

As Catholics, we use our gifts and talents to serve and assist others. In the Archdiocese of San Francisco, a primary way we do so is through the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA). The AAA enhances our ability to spread our Catholic faith, it reinforces our critical mission, and it impacts countless lives.

On behalf of everyone who depends on the ministries and services of the Archdiocese, I thank you for your prior generosity to the AAA. Your gift is a tangible expression of your caring nature and your commitment to bring Christ to others.

I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting the Annual Appeal once again. Through the Annual Appeal, we support vital programs for youth and young adults, social ministries, and our retired priests, to name a few. We also support Archdiocese departments such as finance and human resources. Through some centralization of these services, the costs to parishes and the demands on our Pastors are decreased.

The theme for this year's Annual Appeal is, "*Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.*" By hoping in the Lord and following the word of Christ, we pursue the path on which we demonstrate our faith. The following are a few ways we demonstrate our faith through the AAA:

- Our **Chaplain** ministry - offered in hospitals and prisons, it supports individuals and their families during their times of greatest need.
- **Youth and Young Adults** - through leadership support, formation, partnerships, retreats and gatherings, our ministry walks with the Young Church to foster a real encounter with Christ. We help them know they belong in the Church, engage more fully in its life, and become living witnesses of Christ's love.
- **Archdiocesan Tribunal** - accompanies God's people through their lives in the Church ... helps ensure fidelity to Canon Law, particularly regarding a Sacramental life...reviews cases, often involving marriage, and helps bring clarity and healing to people who often carry heavy burdens...safeguards the dignity and rights of the faithful as a reflection of Christ's mercy.

Think about your impact on the people who benefit from your support of the AAA - the lives touched by our Chaplains...the youth inspired by Christ's message of love and hope. Now imagine the consequences if support from the AAA weren't there – would the people in need of our Chaplain ministry receive the Holy Sacraments? Would they find comfort in their time of need? The needs are ongoing and our mission continues, so I again ask you to support this year's Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. You make a tremendous difference in many lives.

I pray God accompanies you throughout this year with many blessings of peace and happiness. With my prayerful best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Salvatore J. Cordileone  
Archbishop of San Francisco