

“BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL,  
FOR THEY SHALL OBTAIN MERCY.”

(MATTHEW 5:7)



### LAY PRESENTATIONS TO PARISHIONERS SAMPLE 1

Hello - My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I have been a member of this parish since \_\_\_\_\_.

**(Feel free to tell of any other appropriate Church involvements.)**

This morning I would like to share my thoughts with you on why I support our Together in Action campaign and why giving to this campaign is valuable to us, our parish and our community.

Several years ago, this campaign was created to reduce the number of charitable organizations soliciting for financial support from each parish. This appeal is the primary source of funding for many important diocesan programs and services throughout our region.

We, as Catholics and as people working together to create a better world, must engage at some point to help each other. Whether that's through a counselling program, a food program, marriage preparation and education, or learning how to become a better parent. These are all things that help each and every one of us to live better lives. Giving helps us grow and teaches us how to live together in what can be a difficult world.

No matter how much we would all like someone else to take care of all of the world's challenges, it is ultimately up to each of us to stand up and say, "I know I can make a difference – no matter how small – and I commit to making that difference." It would take an incomprehensible amount of tax dollars to even come close to delivering the effective and efficient programs that not for profit organizations can deliver. The charities and services that carry out the work of our diocese on behalf of all of the parishes, impact the lives of many thousands of people.

In requesting your support this year, our bishop has already made his own personal financial contribution. He has also indicated our diocese support three categories of service. They are: Grants to the Community, National and International Outreach, and Ministries in Support of Parish Life.

In 2016, our parish contributed a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Together in Action. For 2017, the entire diocese's objective is \$2 million and our target for this year is \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

The theme for the next few years is the Beatitudes starting with "**Blessed are the Merciful for they shall obtain mercy**".

The work of the Church at all levels, global, national and local moves forward when individual Catholics are committed to the key principles of stewardship – giving of our time, our talent and our treasure.

I hope your faith working through the love of helping those in need will inspire you to support Together in Action again in this year through your prayers and your treasure.

Please plan to use the donation form you will find in your Together in Action packages.

Thank you.

