



ABA Video Introduction to be read by the priest prior to showing the video

Before watching the Annual Bishop's Appeal video, it is important for our diocese to address these painful past few weeks.

The horrible revelations about Archbishop McCarrick and the Pennsylvania grand jury report have brought forth a lot of anger and righteous indignation. So many have been shaken and disturbed upon learning of the awful sins and crimes that have occurred within our beloved Church.

You are not alone in asking the question: how do we move forward despite anger and disappointment? In the words of Saint Paul: "The love of Christ urges us on." This theme of the Annual Bishop's Appeal this year has particular relevance. It is faith in God and the love of Christ that impelled faithful Catholics to move forward. When there were times of scandal and corruption in the 2000-year history of the Catholic Church, the grace of the Holy Spirit moved powerfully, leading the Church to reform and calling her to greater fidelity to the Lord.

Urged on by the love of Christ, we are all called to increase our prayer, our good works, and our efforts to purify the Church.

Saint Paul clung to Jesus in the midst of many tribulations that he experienced before his martyrdom. Trusting in the Lord's love and mercy, we must move forward with the mission that we received from Him: our mission to evangelize, to educate and form our children and young people, to support priestly vocations, to serve the poor and needy, and to build up the Body of Christ in our diocese. That is precisely what your support of the Annual Bishop's Appeal helps the diocese to do.