

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to you with deep gratitude for all the blessings God has bestowed upon our diocesan family this past year. Now, we look forward in hope as we mark the exciting and grace-filled celebration of Jubilee Year 2025.

The Jubilee Year is a time for profound renewal, reflection, and rejoicing in the mercy and love of God. As we prepare to celebrate this milestone in our Church's history, I invite you to join me in a special way through a gift to our Catholic Services Appeal. This appeal is crucial as we seek to strengthen the ministries that will help us deepen our faith, increase our evangelization efforts, and serve the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Your generous contribution to this appeal supports essential ministries like seminarian and permanent diaconate formation; faith formation for all ages; outreach to the imprisoned, the hungry, and people on the margins. These programs are vital to the growth of our local Church and the well-being of our community. The enclosed brochure has more details.

I ask that you prayerfully consider making a sacrificial gift to this year's Catholic Services Appeal. Every donation, no matter the size, has a profound impact. Whether through a one-time donation or a recurring pledge, your gift will allow us to carry out these important ministries and ensure that the fruits of the Jubilee Year are felt by all. Enclosed, you will find a pledge card and additional information on how you can contribute.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity! "We are about to make a pilgrimage marked by great events, in which the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope" (*Spes non confundit*, 6). May the Jubilee Year be a time of great renewal for us all, as we continue our mission of love and service to Christ and His Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak

Bishop of Grand Rapids

