

2020 Bishop's Appeal Video Script

Leah Kempen: Isabelle, we were involved from the beginning, so we were matched in the third trimester. Michael, we were matched, he was a week old and didn't get to meet him until he was closer to two weeks. She just walked down the steps. We didn't know she had woken up and she's like, "Oh, yep, that's my brother," and just rolled with it. The Bishop's Appeal helps support and fund so many different things. I mean, we have two beautiful children because of how wonderful this program is.

Chelsea : One of the things that makes Catholic Charities stand out is our approach to really treat each person with dignity and respect and to wrap them with whatever services they need so they can be the best parent. The Bishop's Appeal is so important to the services of Catholic Charities and the adoption program because, first and foremost, it supports and protects the dignity of life. With Mark and Leah, it's clear that there is a higher power, there are things that are happening that are out of all of our control. And I think when you see our adaptive couples and Mark and Leah, for them, when they became first time parents, it's like that child was absolutely meant to be with them. You can just kind of feel the joy that they have. They really enjoy their kids.

David Ricken: Without the Bishop's Appeal, we can't possibly do the work of the church. It helps us to pass on the vision and the mission to the next generations. We can help our pastors and our parishes, our schools, our ministries, our faith formation, to be able to understand the mission of the church and to be able to pass it on to their neighbors. So what the Bishop's Appeal helps us to do, we can multiply throughout our communities to be able to advance that mission and to move forward.

David Ricken: I really notice today that so many people are confused about what life is about. They're looking for hope. Through the efforts of Bishop's Appeal, we can help to restore hope. It's not until you find that deeper relationship with God, with Jesus, that things start to really make sense. It's all about growing in love and seeing the goodness in one another, the dignity of the human person, respecting others. By doing this, it helps us to find ways to connect in very positive ways that help people regain hope. We're really trying to pass onto the next generation what we've been given as a legacy and what a joy that is because it makes such a difference in people's lives.

Greg Layton: The Bishop's appeal is an important part of what we do. The training that we receive helps connect our parish with the diocese and helps us to feed and nourish and strengthen. When people walk out our doors, they know what they've been to. The diocese helps with that, giving us workshops, activities, and days of reflection as well as the clergy congress that I recently attended. The Bishop's Appeal is an important part of what we do.

Greg Layton: Our faith formation team is one of the joys of my ministry. They reach out to the students, constantly communicating with them and being with them as they face challenges. When we send our kids to the Alive in You mission trip, getting to know the kids, getting to experience the mission experience of what they do when they go out to the community and help those that are less fortunate. It is a great experience.

Kyle McKeever: Before I went on the mission trip, I didn't really think of church much. It was the witness talks every day that really just kind of got to me and really brought me closer to him, and it was just changing.

David Ricken: The world needs the full embrace of God's love now more than ever, let's rise up in faith together. Let's welcome, heal and educate. Let's share the good word with all of our brothers and sisters. Please, prayerfully consider a gift to the Bishop's Appeal today.