**Bishop’s Appeal 2021 Pastor’s Bulletin Messages**

Bishop’s Appeal Kick-off Weekend, Feb 6-7, 2021

**We Rise Again - Bishop’s Appeal 2021**

*He told them, “Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.” Mark 1:38*

Dear Friends,

In today’s Gospel, we hear about Jesus reaching out, healing the sick and those possessed by demons. Then He pushes on to continue preaching, it seems His efforts never cease. Jesus came to us with a purpose from the beginning. In a very short time, He came to preach, build up disciples to carry forth His mission and to prove He was truly the Son of God.

In just the same way, Jesus is reaching out to us now to walk with us in healing. With Him together, *We Rise Again!* The faith formation team here at our parish accompanies our children in just the same way. The future of our Church is in our young people and forming them as bold Catholics ensures that the light of Christ will always be shared. The Bishop’s Appeal helps fund the training for our youth faith formation leaders.

Please make your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal today and help faith formation leaders continue the important work of accompanying our youth on their faith journeys. The abundance of Christ’s love they share is immeasurable! Contact our parish office, use the pledge card you received at home, or visit the Bishop’s Appeal website at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give) to make your gift. Thank you for your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal, and for your support of <<Parish Name.>>

*This is one of four messages you may use to print in your weekly bulletins during the first four weeks of the Bishop’s Appeal. Each message is tailored to the weekly scripture reading. All four messages may be found on the CD of the 2021 Bishop’s Appeal materials.*

Bishop’s Appeal 2nd Weekend, Feb 13-14, 2021

**We Rise Again - Bishop’s Appeal 2021**

*The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Mark 1:42*

Dear Friends,

*“…and he was made clean.”* A fresh start, a clean slate. Don’t we all sometimes need a new beginning? Jesus performed miraculous healings we hear throughout the Gospels. He gave people a new beginning and demonstrated his power as the Son of God. Many who witnessed or experienced these healings became true believers. In Christ, they rose again.

Catholic Charities continues this mission of Jesus today. They help people create new beginnings. Through the counseling services they provide in mental health, debt management, addiction, adoption and parenting support, and marriage and family conflict, Catholic Charities helps people heal.

Together through supporting the Bishop’s Appeal, *We Rise Again!* Contact our parish office, use the pledge card you received at home, or visit the Bishop’s Appeal website at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give) to make your gift. Thank you for your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal and for your support of <<Parish Name.>>

Bishop’s Appeal, 3rd Weekend, Feb 20-21, 2021 – The First Sunday of Lent

**We Rise Again - Bishop’s Appeal 2021**

*Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel.” Mark 1:14-15*

Dear Friends,

*“Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God.”* Everywhere Jesus went, He was proclaiming the Gospel and demonstrating He was truly the Son of God. He found His disciples in the most ordinary of men, folks like you and me, whom God used in an extraordinary way. Even today, God calls each of us to connect with our neighbors and share His love.

The Reconnect to Inspire program developed by the Parish Life & Evangelization Mission Team has given leaders from around the diocese tools to connect with people through small groups. These groups have helped share the light that only our God can give. Folks have been able to walk with one another as Jesus walks with us through challenges and joy. They were able to deepen their relationships not only with each other, but with our Lord. Programs like this provide important connection that reaches people right here at <<Parish Name>>.

Please make your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal today together *We Rise Again*. Your gift allows the Parish Life & Evangelization Mission Team to bring wonderful programs proclaiming the Gospel of God right here to our parish. Contact our parish office, use the pledge card you received at home, or visit the Bishop’s Appeal website at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give) to make your gift. Thank you for your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal and for your support of <<Parish Name.>>

Bishop’s Appeal 4th Weekend, Feb. 28 – March 1, 2021

**Building Disciples of Christ - Bishop’s Appeal 2021**

*“He was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white…” Mark 9:2-3*

Dear Friends,

This weekend we hear the Gospel reading about the Transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain where they witness the amazing Transfiguration of Jesus, their teacher. Time and again, Jesus teaches and inspires His disciples, and proves through many miraculous events that He is the Son of God – which God literally tells them at the transfiguration.

Teachers have the ability to inspire and motivate children. Educators in our schools and religious education programs light a fire in the hearts of our children so they might know and love Jesus. When they share the Gospel with children they are teaching them to know and love Christ. Through Him, *We Rise Again!*

Thanks in part to the Bishop’s Appeal, we have meaningful programs to teach, resources to train educators and quality curriculum. Through these programs we engage youth on their faith journey, so they too can grow in their friendship with Jesus.

Please make your gift today. Contact our parish office, use the pledge card you received at home, or visit the Bishop’s Appeal website at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give) to make your gift. Thank you for your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal and for your support of <<Parish Name.>>