

THANK YOU

Here is how **your** gifts made a difference in 2017.



together
we serve
Catholics Making a Difference

Catholic Social Services

\$305,036

CSS provides compassionate care for the developmentally and physically disabled, as well as guidance, refuge, and counselling to families in need, women escaping domestic violence or facing a crisis pregnancy, people struggling with substance abuse or living with HIV/AIDS, and newcomers to Canada.

Development and Peace - Caritas Canada

\$239,671

The official development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada, D&P works in partnership with local organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Our programs help improve living conditions for some of the poorest of our global brothers and sisters.

Diocese of Mackenzie - Fort Smith

\$130,730

Our twin diocese is home to about 28,000 Catholics across the NWT, so distances are great, and resources few. Our donations help build the spiritual health of the community: restoring churches, training leaders, and operating programs that bring people and communities together.

Evangelization of Nations

\$87,153

Mission dioceses around the world, including those in Northern Canada, receive regular annual assistance through the Pontifical Missions Societies. Our donations support catechetical programs, seminaries, church and chapel construction, health care, education, communication and transportation needs.

Needs of the Church in Canada

\$108,941

Our contributions help support the work of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in national and international areas of pastoral activity, including social justice, ecumenical and interfaith relations, collaboration with Aboriginal Peoples, life and family issues, liturgy, and catechesis.

Needs of the Church in the Holy Land

\$130,730

Our gifts help the Holy Land Commissariat to protect and maintain holy places and shrines, and to support the shrinking number of Christians in the Holy Land through pastoral work, Catholic schools, housing, health care, and social assistance.

Newman Theological College

\$130,730

Through its certificate, undergraduate and graduate programs, Newman prepares lay persons and ordained ministers for service and leadership in the Catholic Church. Unlike virtually all Canadian colleges, Newman receives no public funding, relying solely on tuition and donations.

The Pope's Pastoral Works

\$87,153

The mission, rooted in the love and compassion of Christ, is to provide financial help in the name of the Pope and on behalf of Catholics everywhere. Each year the office offers relief to victims of natural disasters, violent conflict, and other crises.

St. Joseph Priests' Foundation of Edmonton

\$87,153

The Foundation provides a modest retirement income and other assistance as required to ensure the dignified care of archdiocesan priests when they retire or can no longer serve the People of God.

St. Joseph Seminary

\$130,730

The Seminary has the mission of training current and future diocesan priests for Western Canada and beyond. These men will serve our parishes through their preaching and example, their celebration of the sacraments, and their leadership.

St. Joseph's College

\$130,730

Campus Ministry provides a friendly, nurturing place for students, faculty and staff at the University of Alberta. Our ministry includes spiritual counselling, peer support, worship services, reflection and discussion groups, and interfaith and volunteer activities.

Total Distributed to Charities **\$1,568,756**

Parish Share Rebates **\$122,671**

Administration **\$205,906**

Total Raised **\$1,897,333**

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**ONE FAITH
ONE FAMILY**



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

One Faith, One Family

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter the season of Lent 2018, we embark also on our annual *Together We Serve* appeal. This year, I invite you to reflect on the theme “One Faith, One Family,” a reminder that in baptism, each of us is born into a larger spiritual family.

Pope Francis tells us that by virtue of baptism, “all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples.” (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*; Mt. 28:19). As in any family, we each have responsibilities to others. While not all of us are called to direct missionary service, all of us can indeed be instruments of God’s mercy and compassion, locally and globally, through our financial sacrifices in His name.

I am grateful to all of the missionary disciples from our archdiocese who have responded so generously to the call of the Holy Father. Your gifts through *Together We Serve* enable us to make a greater difference as a family than we ever could as individuals.

You may be helping a terminally ill homeless man live his final days surrounded in comfort and friendship through Catholic Social Services. You may be addressing the root causes of poverty and conflict in the Global South through Caritas Canada – Development and Peace. You may be helping the Holy Father respond to global emergencies through the Pope’s Pastoral Works. You may be helping to spread the light of Christ far and wide through the Evangelization of Nations, Needs of the Church in the Holy Land, or our northern twin Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith.

You may be helping a young man discern his priestly vocation through St. Joseph Seminary. You may be giving a young woman the theological education she needs to teach our precious faith or to serve as a chaplain or parish pastoral assistant. You may be helping our bishops in their ministry to the dioceses of Canada. You may be helping to ensure a dignified retirement for the priests who have devoted their lives to our service.

You may never know the precise difference you have made, but you will know that it mattered to someone. As the Apostle Paul tells us, our gifts are meant to be shared:

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

Let us together, as one family in Christ, share the abundant gifts we have been given. And May God continue to bless you with his abundant mercy.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton
January 2018