



Strengthening Our Parishes

DECEMBER 2020



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Thank you for your generous support!

Called to Renew: Year End Giving

On behalf of Archbishop Gomez and everyone at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, we hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and we wish you a joyful Advent and Christmas season.

During this season of giving, we want to let you know how grateful we are for your generous commitment to *Called to Renew*. Although the campaign remains paused, pledge redemption continues. To date, *Called to Renew* has received more than \$118 million to support our parish homes. Additionally, 116 parishes have received funding to complete deferred maintenance projects.

Despite these accomplishments, the sting of being away from our parish homes at the holidays is extremely biting. Our fellow parishioners have been lonely, ill, or may be encountering difficult financial circumstances. Our parishes, too, are struggling as a result of being closed, and many report offertory ten percent or more below budget.

As we enter these final weeks of 2020, we ask you to remember and pray for your parish. Remember, too, that there are added benefits to end-of-year giving because of this year's unprecedented hardships. Congress has passed legislation to encourage philanthropic giving; the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides a \$300 (\$600 per couple) reduction in taxable income for 2020 even if you do not itemize deductions. Individuals who itemize can deduct donations up to 100% of their adjusted gross income, while corporations can deduct up to 25% of taxable income.

Although Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) are suspended, making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows donors to direct up to \$100,000 from an IRA in a tax-efficient manner. Gifts of appreciated stock may also bring benefits. Should you wish to make a gift of stock, we encourage you to initiate the transfer not later than December 1 to ensure your contribution is received by December 31, 2020 for tax-deductibility purposes.

This has been a year like no other, and we are deeply grateful for your dedication to your parish and our Church. Thank you again for your kind and thoughtful support.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Visit calledtorenew.org to learn more.