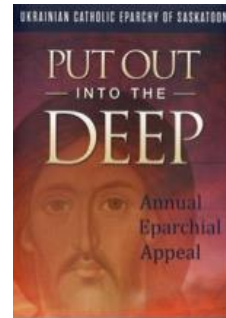


Initial Annual Eparchial Appeal Successful

Bishop Budka Eparchial Stewardship Society Inc (BBESSI) conducted the first annual Eparchial Appeal earlier this year. This Appeal initiative has concluded, and from our perspective, it was very successful. BBESSI wants to acknowledge the efforts of the many people involved in making the Eparchial Appeal a success and say a very huge THANK YOU to the Parish Priests, Parish Coordinators, Volunteers, Eparchial Staff and most importantly, to those who so generously contributed to the Appeal. Certainly our success would have not been possible if it were not for the hard work, effort and commitment to this Appeal by many people.



We would like to share with you some of the financial and statistical results of the 2015 Eparchial Appeal:

Financial Results

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|--|-------------------------|
| ➤ Total Amount of Funds raised and pledged to the 2015 Eparchial Appeal | \$233,893 |
| ➤ Total Amount Returned 10 Parishes who raised funds in excess of their goal | \$ 50,106 ** |
| ➤ Net Proceeds going to the Eparchy | <u>\$183,787</u> |

** Parishes who raised funds in excess of their Eparchial Appeal goal shared the excess funds with the Eparchy on a 75/25 basis, with 75% going to the Parish.

Statistical Results

- | | |
|---|-----|
| ➤ Participation by Parishes – 45 out of 79 Parishes | 57% |
| ➤ Participation by Family Units – 1,158 out of 3,451 Family Units | 34% |

The Eparchy will now allocate these funds towards the areas that were identified as recipients of this support:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| • Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Centre | \$ 36,757 |
| • Education and Faith Formation Programs | \$ 50,541 |
| • Family & Life Office Programs | \$ 32,163 |
| • Youth and Young Adult Ministry | \$ 32,163 |
| • Eparchial Communications Office | <u>\$ 32,163</u> |
| Total | <u>\$183,787</u> |

The Finance Council and the Eparchy have already begun to allocate the funds raised in the Appeal for initiatives in the Education & Faith Formations Programs and in the Eparchial Communications Office areas. As an example, the Eparchy has engaged the services of Tanya Novolska to co-ordinate and deliver cantor workshops throughout the Eparchy. In addition, the Eparchy has hired Marcia Coulic-Salahub to assist the Family Life Office and will be available to all of our Deaneries for consultation. The Communications Office has begun work to refurbish our Eparchial website.

In summary, we are extremely pleased at the success and the commitment from the faithful to this first Eparchial Appeal. We recognize that from an external perspective, the Eparchial Appeal appeared to be just like any other regular fundraising event, but internally it was significantly more than just a fundraising effort for the Eparchy. The generosity of a good number of the Faithful in our Eparchy has confirmed that

we can be unified towards growing our Church and our Ukrainian Catholic faith here in Saskatchewan. This Appeal has demonstrated that we can all work together as people of faith to make a difference and support the needs of our Ukrainian Catholic Eparchial Programs. With revenue sources shrinking and the need for Eparchial programs growing, this annual Appeal has been a Blessing and also uplifting.

Even though we are diverse people with many different socio-economic backgrounds, talents and treasures, Jesus calls for us to be united towards our mission which is to build the Kingdom of God here on earth. As members of this Eparchy we want our Ukrainian Catholic Church to be something that would not only make our parents and grandparents proud, but more importantly, we want a Church that will give life to our children and grandchildren. The Eparchial Programs are designed to help all of us in the mission that we are called to accomplish, and to give life to our Church.

This year we have 34% of the family units in the Eparchy contributing to the Eparchial Appeal. It is our hope that this number will grow in the 2016 Eparchial Appeal. We recognize that the Parishioners of our Eparchy may have many other commitments that make it difficult to support an Eparchial call for funds. We also recognize that some Parishes had other fundraising initiatives within their own Parishes that had an effect on their participation in the Eparchial Appeal. However, we are most hopeful that more Parishes and Parishioners will see the important significance that their donation will make in the growth, sustainability and preservation of our Ukrainian Catholic Church and faith in Saskatchewan. Even a small amount will go a long way to support these Eparchial Ministries.

Again, we want to say THANK YOU so very much for your support and we hope that we can call on you again to be just as generous for the 2016 Eparchial Appeal, which will be conducted during the April/May 2016 timeframe. We will continue to stand together in faith and hope for our Church.

May our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help, bestow upon you many graces and blessings.

Submitted by Morris Smysnuik

Chair, Board of Directors of Bishop Budka Eparchial Stewardship Society (BBESSI)