**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC FOUNDATION OF SASKATCHEWAN**

**2023 ANNUAL EPARCHIAL APPEAL FUNDRAISING GOALS**

We are now embarking on our 8th Annual Eparchial Appeal. Over the past 7 years, thanks to your very generous donations, the Foundation has raised **$1,155,690**, of which **$884,125** was allocated to the Eparchial Ministries, St. Matthew Clergy Society, and the Bishop Roborecki Foundation. In addition, another **$151,565** was rebated back to the Parishes/Missions through the Annual Eparchial Appeal Rebate program. These funds have gone a long way to allow the Eparchy to offer outstanding programs through the Eparchial Ministries and services to the Parishes.

The 8th Annual Eparchial Appeal will be conducted throughout the Eparchy from **April 15, 2023, to May 28, 2023**. The fundraising goals for this Appeal will be designated for initiatives which will offer spiritual growth opportunities to the Faithful of the Eparchy and financially allow the Eparchy to provide services to the Parishes, like the Covenant of Care program. These initiatives are designed to be a shared resource to help **ALL** parishes become vibrant, visible, vital, and relevant without incurring the expenses of having to do it on their own.

The theme of the 2023 Annual Eparchial Appeal is ***“Let us Share the Gifts we have been Given”.*** The theme calls us to be more like Jesus for others. As stewards, we joyfully worship God by giving back some of the gifts earned from Him. We have been entrusted with substantial resources and have been taught by God to put these resources to work for others. The Annual Eparchial Appeal gives us the opportunity to follow His example by sharing some of our gifts given to us so that the Eparchy can continue to provide services that will be of benefit to all the Faithful of the Eparchy.

**INITIATIVES/PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED BY THE 2023 ANNUAL EPARCHIAL APPEAL:**

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CENTRE:**

The Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Centre under the direction of the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate offers the Eparchial Faith Formation Program. This program teaches participants about the sources of Christian faith, offers insights into how to live a Christian life through five basic stages of Christian conversion: scripture, spirituality, liturgy, theology, and ministry. As graduates deepen their relationship with Jesus and others, they are invited to participate in the Pastoral Ministries within their parishes or assist with various Ministries throughout the Eparchy. The alumni serve as Catechists, Cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospital Visitors, Parish & Youth Workers. As suggested by Sister Bonnie Komarnicki, SSMI, “The parishes really benefit from the people who participate in this program. They learn how to form a good Christian community and they return to their parishes and do just that”.

For more detailed information, please refer to the Eparchial website, www.skeparcy.org under the “Ministries” tab, and the “UCREC” link.

**COMMUNICIATIONS OFFICE:**

To have a vibrant Parish and a vibrant Eparchy, the communication and interactive relationship line between the Eparchy and the parishes must be enriched. The objective of the Communications Office is to establish a more effective, yet efficient communication line between the Chancery Office and the members of our parishes. As expressed by the Eparchial Communication Co-Ordinator, "We are all called upon to preach the Gospel in our daily lives, but not all of us are equipped to do so. The Communications Office can assist individuals with the resources, information and inspiration they need to meet life's challenges through the lens of their Ukrainian Catholic Faith, as well as maintain effective communication channels between the Eparchy and our Parishes through our website and social media."

 A perfect example of the on-line presence was the establishment of the Cantor’s Corner initiative, which serves as a reference to cantors on how to sing the various Tropars, Kondaks and Prokimen.

**ST. MATTHEW CLERGY SOCIETY:**

One of the most important elements of service to the Faithful of the Eparchy is the sanctification aspect provided by the Clergy of our Eparchy.  Without the Clergy we have no Eparchy, we have no Ukrainian Catholic Church.  The Faithful of the Eparchy do have a responsibility to ensure that the welfare of our Clergy is accommodated.

In accordance with the Code of Canon Law, which requires Eparchies to ensure social security measures for its Clergy, the St. Matthew Clergy Society was established to provide Clergy a supplemental Provincial Plan for health and dental benefits, life insurance and funds for retirement. Increased costs over the years have caused financial strain on the Society. The Society needs an infusion of capital to ensure that it can provide the benefits for the Clergy of our Eparchy on an ongoing basis. Father Andre Lalach, Vice Chancellor of the Eparchy, and a member of St. Matthew Clergy Society denotes, “We should offer clergy, who have served the Eparchy faithfully over the years, a pension that they can retire on and have to worry about the day-to-day living expenses and issues.”

**BISHOP ROBORECKI FOUNDATION:**

The Bishop Roborecki Foundation was established in 1982 for the purpose of raising funds to provide financial support for the education of seminarians and clergy in our Eparchy. It is through the work of the Bishop Andrew Roborecki Foundation that funding is provided to assist in the support and education of individuals to work and serve as clergy and religious for the benefit of our Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy. We trust this will simplify making donations to various Eparchial Initiatives. As articulated by Norbert Wasylenko, Chair of the Bishop Roborecki Foundation, “If we don’t have a plan in place, the Eparchy will fail to provide the necessary spiritual direction to the people”.

For more detailed information, please refer to the Eparchial website, [www.skeparchy.org](http://www.skeparchy.org) under the “Organizations” tab and the Bishop Roborecki Foundation tab.

**CHANCERY OFFICE**

Over the past number of years, the Eparchy’s sources of revenue have either decreased or have been eliminated. The amount of Cathedraticum revenue, which is based on Sunday collections at Parish churches, has decreased because membership in our Eparchy has been steadily decreasing over the years which has resulted lower attendance at Sunday Liturgies. In addition, post-COVID attendance has not come back to the pre-COIVID attendance. The grant funding that the Eparchy enjoyed in previous years from various organizations, like the Catholic Missions in Canada, have also been decreased. The Eparchy has been served notice that future grant funds may not even be available. Therefore, the Eparchy must now seek other sources of revenue to ensure the continuation of programs and services such as Covenant of Care, management of Eparchial archives, managing the inventory of sacred items and much more. As indicated by the Eparchial Chancellor, Father Ivan Nahachewsky, “Financial constraints have led us to make some very difficult and emotional decisions concerning the operation of the Eparchy. We find ourselves needing to discover new ways to dedicate ourselves and to love deeper to ensure we do not lose our faith and our identity”. Donations to the Annual Eparchial Appeal is one way the Faithful of the Eparchy can help.

**SUMMARY**

Donations to the Annual Eparchial Appeal is one way for the Faithful of the Eparchy to help the Eparchy. The goal for the 2023 Annual Eparchial Appeal is to raise **$250,000**. This is the amount required to pay for the a above initiatives funded by the Appeal. This looks like a rather challenging amount. However, it represents only $110 per Parish Family if all Parish Families in the Eparchy donated to the Annual Eparchial Appeal. However, we know that not everyone will donate to the Appeal or is even financially able to donate $110, therefore, we humbly and respectfully ask each Parish Family to PLEASE consider making your own gift of $110, plus another one or two gifts of $110 for those who may not be able to do so. In addition, please know that the Foundation will be most grateful and appreciate a gift of any amount.

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATIONS AND MAY GOD BESTOW UPON YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND ABUNDANCE OF GREAT MERCY, BLESSINGS, AND HIS GRACE.*