FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Together IN ACTION
Annual Bishop's Appeal

Q. What is Together in Action (TIA)?

A. TIA is a Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary's annual fundraising campaign. It was established in 1992 and to date has raised over $45M to assist our most vulnerable populations locally, nationally, and internationally.

It was created to:

- live out Christ's teachings (to share our gifts and care for our vulnerable population);
- allow parishioners to collectively support TIA recipients as one parish cannot do this alone;
- educate parishioners about the plight of others;
- streamline the numerous funding requests by organizations in the parishes and the Diocese, and
- to be of service to our Catholic community and to the community at large.

Further, it is the primary source of funding for many of our diocesan programs, ministries and services in southern Alberta.

Q. When does the Campaign start?

A. TIA begins the first weekend of Lent (Feb 29/Mar 1, 2020).

Q. When does the Campaign end?

A. It officially ends Palm Sunday (April 4/5, 2020) but funds continue to be donated to the campaign up until January 15 of the following year.

Q. What is my parish's TIA Campaign Goal?

A. Each parish (based on a number of factors) receives a financial goal that collectively adds up to $2,000,000. This goal is formulated and communicated in the middle to end of February and each parish's pastor will receive a letter with the information. It is the responsibility of the parish staff to share this goal with the parishioners as part of the marketing plan of the campaign. You can contact the Diocese TIA Coordinator for further information (403-218-5522 or doreen.thibeault@calgarydiocese.ca).

Q. What if my parish did not receive enough campaign materials?

A. Contact the Diocese TIA Coordinator who will arrange to get more to your parish. The opposite is also true, if you find you have too much, contact the Diocese TIA Coordinator who will arrange to collect it from your parish.

Q. How does my parish request any potential Surplus Funds?

A. The TIA Goal Surplus is any funds your parish raises over your annual TIA Goal. There are specific guidelines that must be followed to receive these funds (see the *Surplus Funds Request* Form for the complete list of guidelines).

If you still have questions, contact the Diocese TIA Coordinator.

Q. How do we allocate any surplus funds so it is exempt from assessment?

A. See the *Surplus Funds Request* document for examples and if you still have questions, contact the Diocese TIA Coordinator.

Q. When is the surplus form deadline?

A. The deadline is always the 3rd Friday in April (April 17, 2020)

Q. Do I have to do anything after submitting the Surplus Funds Request Form?

A. If your parish

a. surpasses its campaign goal, and
b. you have requested the surplus funds along with the required back up documents

a cheque will automatically be sent to your parish (no need to request these funds again) in the spring of the following year.

Q. Do other diocese have similar campaigns across Canada?

A. Yes there are several. Here is a sample.

Diocese	Amount	Title
Edmonton	$2,000,000	Together We Serve
Nelson		Pilgrimage of Faith
Prince Albert	$425,000	Bishop's Annual Appeal
Prince George	$400,000	Building Together in Faith
Regina	$1,600,000	Archbishop's Appeal
Saskatoon		Let Your Light Shine
St. John's		Archbishop's Appeal
Toronto	$14,000,000	Share Life
Vancouver	$3,000,000	Project Advance
Victoria	$750,000	Annual Appeal
Winnipeg	$1,000,000	Sharing God's Gifts

Q. How does TIA benefit my community?

A. TIA allows our Catholic Community (through the Diocese) to respond generously by sharing our gifts to a variety of areas:

Local Outreach	
Grant Program Recipients	$409,900
St. Mary's University	$100,000
National & International Outreach	
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	$91,000
Catholic Missions in Canada	$55,000
Development and Peace	$100,000
McKenzie-Fort Smith Catholic Diocese	$50,000
Diocesan Ministries & Programs	$1,104,100
Care for Retired Priests	
Catechetics	
Continuing Education of Priests	
Family & Youth	
Outreach Ministries	
Pastoral Ministries	
Seminarian Education	
Social Justice Ministries	
Elizabeth House	
Prison Ministry	
Mission Council	
Administration (4.5%)	$90,000
TOTAL	$2,000,000

Q. How do I order material, get more information, or want to leave a comment/suggestion?

A. Contact one of the Diocese TIA Coordinator at:

Doreen Thibeault
Diocese TIA Coordinator
403- 218-5522
Doreen.Thibeault@CalgaryDiocese.ca