Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was fascinated to learn that the word Metuchen, in the language of the Lenni Lenape Native Americans who share our history here in Central New Jersey, means firewood. These Native Americans who share our history here in Central New Jersey gave the abundance of firewood on this land and appreciated the importance and potential of this valuable resource. When the Diocese of Metuchen was formed in 1981, the significance of our name was symbolized by the flame that appears in the upper left quadrant of our diocesan coat of arms and serves as a constant reminder of who we are and what we are called to be.

As your bishop and fellow Catholic, I am feeling and calling you to light a fire with me in the heart of our part of the world. The Bishop’s Annual Appeal is one of the ways that you and other lay, religious, diocesan and priests of the Diocese of Metuchen—can come together and become the kindling that is set aflame by the Holy Spirit, allowing God’s love and power to burn more brightly here in our four counties.

Thanks to the generations of the faithful who have supported the Bishop’s Annual Appeal through the years, our diocese has a wonderful place where faith is lived and working in some amazing ways. Together we are promoting and nurturing vocations to the priesthood and religious life, strengthening marriages and families, and caring for the poor and vulnerable. With your help, we can continue to build upon this work and do even more.

Today, we are reflecting on the challenges of our time and ways that we can continue to light a fire in the heart of Christ’s Church. I am writing to you to ask you to prayerfully consider responding to the needs of our diocesan family by joining me in making a sacrificial gift to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal. With your help, we can strengthen and make even more vital the good works of the Church in our part of the world.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

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Ways to Share Our Gifts

PLEDGING: Choosing to pledge with your desired payment schedule over time may allow you to become a member of the Ministry Alliance. More details will be sent.

GIFT vs CHECK: Whether your gift is in one-time, paid-in full gift or an installment of a pledged gift, please make your check payable to Diocese of Metuchen Bishop’s Annual Appeal.

GIFT vs CREDIT CARD: Complete your gift and credit card information on your pledge card or visit our online giving site at diometuchen.org/BAA.

GIFT vs APPRECIATED STOCK or SECURITIES: Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of stock or securities on the date that are gifted. For information on making such a gift, please contact the Office of Stewardship & Development at 732-562-2946.

MATCHING YOUR GIFT: Corporate matching gifts are a great way to maximize your contribution. Go to www.matchinggifts.com/diometuchen or call 732-562-2488 for more information.

LEADERSHIP GIVING

You are invited to join the community of benefactors who provide the leadership that inspires others to support the pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen.

CIRCLE OF STEWARDS: $1,000 - $2,499
CATHEDRAL CIRCLE: $2,500 - $4,999
CIRLES OF STRENGTH: $5,000 - $9,999
SPRINTERS CIRCLE: $10,000 - $19,999
BISHOP’S GUILD: $25,000 - $49,999
SPRINTERS SOCIETY: $50,000 - $99,999
CARDINAL’S SOCIETY: $100,000 and above

LEGACY SOCIETY

The Legacy Society is an easy way of recognizing the generosity of Catholic friends who are providing for the future of the Church through a planned gift. Have you considered your parish, parish school or ministry of the Diocese of Metuchen in your Will or estate plan? If so, please let us know so we can express our thanks for your commitment to enhancing the mission of the Church by honoring you as a member at our annual prayer service and gathering.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen
P.O. Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 • 732-562-1990
GIVE ONLINE: diometuchen.org

Please give generously.

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

2018 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

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Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

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Letter from the Bishop
The Catholic Center at Rutgers University

Colleges are challenging and unpredictable. It is populated with diverse groups of young men and women—many on their own for the first time—with minds and spirits open to new ideas and experiences. This is an exciting period of academic growth and independence, but these young adults are very impressionable. A strong undertaking of secular culture constantly pulls at them and threatens the faith and morals of young people at this vulnerable period in their spiritual formation. For these struggling against the current, the Catholic Center at Rutgers University provides a lifeline of support. By providing an atmosphere in which the Gospel message is proclaimed and service to others is modelled, the Catholic Center at Rutgers University prepares young people to be the future leaders of our Church and civic communities. Your gift is an investment in the future of our faith.

Evangelization and Communication

The work of evangelization is not entrusted solely to priests, bishops, and religious. It is a call rooted in Baptism and is done most effectively by ordinary Catholics living and interacting with family, friends, co-workers and the rest of society. Once we have experienced a personal encounter with Jesus, we can’t help but want to share the Good News with everyone who comes into our lives day in and day out.

To spread the Gospel message, we must meet people where they are,” said Reverend Timothy Christy, Episcopal Vicar of Evangelization and Communication, “and trust in Him and the message that saves.”

Now is the time for holy boldness. Christ is not served with diversity, but with unity. The Catholic Center at Rutgers University is quick to respond to any unexpected tragedies. For some, the challenges come on suddenly—the loss of a job, an unexpected illness or accident, or a financial misfortune. For others, it is an out-of-control struggle with addiction, mental anguish or physical disabilities. In the midst of a world of wealth and abundance, we must never grow indifferent to the plight of the hopeless… for in our encounter with the oppressed and suffering people living in poverty, struggling for food and shelter in the middle of a world of wealth and abundance, we must never forget that the Gospel of Jesus constantly reminds us, “Whatever you do for one of my people, you do for Me” (Mt 25:40).

The Catholic Center at Rutgers University supports these and a variety of other ministries that encompass many aspects of evangelization bringing Christ’s Gospel message to all people through these ministries. It also helps to fund the education of the 18 seminarians currently studying for priesthood for the Diocese of Metuchen.

To learn more about how you can support the work of the Catholic Center at Rutgers University, please visit our website, thecatholiccenter.org, where you can give online or download the Catholic Spirit app for your mobile device.

Bishop James F. Checchio photo (March 2017)

Bishop James F. Checchio’s Pastoral Letter, “Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World” (March 2017)

Get involved:

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen,
720 East Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840
(732) 634-6200

The Diocese of Metuchen proudly welcomes Catholic Charities, an essential partner in our mission to serve others.

We are committed toストを提供します。