

July 26, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

Last year an amazing grace, like a spotlight, was given to us, the people of God in the Diocese of Victoria. We stood alongside the Canadian public and learned about the painful wounds and injustices experienced by Indigenous people in Canadian Residential Schools. As painful as these wounds are, the “penitential pilgrimage” made by Pope Francis in Canada created an opportunity for healing and change. The Diocese of Victoria has taken strong and enduring steps on the path towards healing and reconciliation. We have put aside funds for future Indigenous healing initiatives, contributed to the Canadian Bishops’ Indigenous Reconciliation Fund and put one hundred percent of the 2021 Bishop’s Appeal net proceeds towards Indigenous projects.

During the initial year of the Synod, the Diocese of Victoria answered the call of Pope Francis to participate in the synodal process. Through sharing and journeying together in the Synod, the people of our Diocese expressed great hope and an overarching desire for a welcoming Church that brings people together in community.

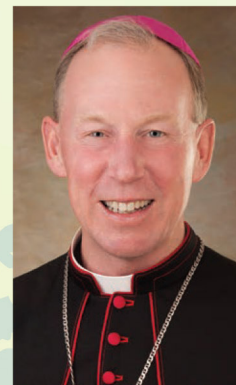
It is the collective voices of our brothers and sisters in Christ calling for faith connections that inspires this year’s Bishop’s Appeal entitled “Growing Together”. This Appeal branches towards supporting relationships and community by focusing on providing opportunities for parishioners of all generations to come together in faith.

Proceeds from the Bishop’s 2022 Appeal will be allocated to three areas of growth: community and relationships, Catholic education and support for seminarians and clergy. You will find details about each of these areas of growth elsewhere in this brochure.

The opportunity for growing together as a faith community is upon us. By growing together, we will create a brighter future where we all experience the connection and joy of a faith well-lived.

In Communion,

*+ Gary Gordon*



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