TGA supports many ministries

It is my fond hope that you recently received in the mail – just as I did – an invitation to participate in this year's Catholic Thanks Giving Appeal. If you did receive that mailing, it is my even fonder hope that you will support the effort with your prayer and make a financial gift to the TGA as generous as your personal circumstances allow.

If you did not receive the mailing, I would ask you the favor of contacting your parish for assistance.

I ask this consideration of you so that we might continue in a generous way the financial support so necessary if we are to successfully respond to the challenges before us and to meet the responsibilities that are ours as a family of faith.

I hope that you have had a chance to review the literature included in the mailing I mention. It sets forth in a brief and clear way the priorities we have established for ourselves as a diocesan church and how a successful TGA will help us to move ahead in those areas.

You can see from their scope how important to us these priorities are, and I think you will realize as well how important it is



that as many as possible support the effort.

Two minutes before sitting to write this column, I filled out my own pledge card for this year's TGA.

I have been doing that for a lot of years and hope to participate in this wonderful work for many more years to come. I say that because it is a pleasure for me to contribute to an endeavor that does so much good.

I realize I have a special perspective from which to observe all that you accomplish through your gift. I see it on a daily basis all through the year and rejoicing in your generosity each time I do.

While I was filling out my card, I was still mindful of recent events like our

Marriage Jubilee Mass at Sacred Heart two Sundays ago; the three beautiful Hands of Christ ceremonies at which we recognized 550 high school seniors for their witness of faith and record of service; the new, affordable housing in Geneva so strongly advanced by Providence Housing. All of these events flow from ministries strongly supported by your gift to the TGA.

And there are a great many more. I often wish that all of you could have access on a daily basis to the wonderful stories you are writing with your gift to the TGA. I know that you would be strengthened by them just as I am.

"We are given to share" is the theme chosen for our encouragement and guidance for this year's TGA. One can hear in that theme echoes of St. Paul, who reminded us that all gifts eventually are for the common good; and of his active encouragement for all to come to the aid of sisters and brothers in need.

You, dear friends, did that in record amounts in last year's TGA. I gratefully and respectfully ask you to help make this year's program even more successful. Peace to you.

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| Dennis J. Shaw | James P. Jargek | William J. Gordinier | Mark A. Miller | John Cavanaugh, CSB | Robert J. Schrader | James L. Callan |
| 28 Brian E. Jeffers | 29 Vocations | 30 Seminarians | Look for the December MPRP Calendar in the November 25th Courier. | | | |

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