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My Dear Friends in Christ,

Vibrant in our Catholic identity, the parishes and school communities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis are dynamic centers of faith, learning, and service. We must assure their continued service as they strive every day to become *Alive in Christ!*. We recently embarked upon the *Beyond Sunday* campaign with the goal of transforming Catholic education in our Archdiocese and investing in our parish communities, thereby ensuring that those who come after us will have the same blessings and opportunities that have been offered to us.

To truly understand why this campaign is essential, we must ask ourselves, ‘What is *Beyond Sunday*?’ My friends, this is our opportunity to shape the future of the institutions – our parishes and schools – that have shaped us. Every member of the Catholic Church in our Archdiocese must do our part – we need to sustain our wonderful communities of faith, provide widespread access to our tradition of educational excellence, and assist our schools to maintain the high standards for which they are known.

We must move forward in faith and prepare our Church for future generations! I commend all those who continue to give so generously of themselves to carry out the mission of our Church, especially the many volunteers who continually give countless hours of their time to help, whenever they are called upon.

I am grateful to all who have opened their hearts to *Beyond Sunday* with generous gifts of prayer, time, talent, and treasure. Participation is the key to our success, and I call upon all men and women of faith in our Archdiocese to join me in a sacrificial pledge of support to *Beyond Sunday* that is payable for up to a five-year period. Together we can and will provide for the future of our faith!

With prayers for you and every member of our Catholic family, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis