



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Lay Presenter

On Announcement Weekend a short presentation to the parish by a lay person on the importance of the DSA can be extremely effective.

Often given by the DSA chairperson, deacon, lay minister or other DSA volunteer, the talk can offer a different perspective on the impact that DSA-supported ministries and programs have on the parish.

The talk should take place either after the homily or after communion, depending on the parish's protocol.

The lay presenters should be individuals who relate well to other parishioners, feel comfortable speaking to a group about their personal experiences, and can be enthusiastic about the mission.

Some examples of effective presenters for these talks in the past are:

- A generous or long-standing supporter of the Diocesan Services Appeal
- A member of the pastoral council or parish commission, a lector, a Eucharistic minister, catechist, or other lay minister
- A respected or well-known parishioner
- A seminarian
- A parishioner who has been involved in a DSA-funded ministry on either the parish or diocesan level

NOTE: The lay presenter needs to meet with the pastor to discuss the pastor's expectations for this talk. We suggest that the same lay presenter(s) speak at all Masses on a particular weekend.

This will ensure a consistent message at all Masses and will make it easier to coordinate.



GENERAL OUTLINE FOR LAY PRESENTER TALKS

NOTE: It is not absolutely necessary to use every item on the list below, nor is it important to use them in the order presented. Circumstances and attitudes in your parish should determine what you need to say to insure a successful campaign.

1. Introduce yourself and your association with the parish.
2. Indicate how long you have been in your parish.
3. Describe your personal, parish, and diocesan volunteer involvement.
4. Announce the 2011 DSA goal for your parish; stress 100% participation for your parish. Inform parishioners that this year, 50% of all PAID PLEDGES in excess of our parish goal, will be returned to our parish for our local parish use.
5. If your parish reached its 2010 DSA goal, acknowledge this accomplishment and thank the parishioners. If your parish did not make its 2010 goal, acknowledge other positive aspects such as participation percentage, volunteer efforts, etc.
6. Tell why you give to the Diocesan Services Appeal. Relate a personal story of why you give, and some examples of what your gift does and how it helps other people.
7. Explain how the DSA directly benefits your parish through the many ministries, programs and services funded by the Appeal.
8. Tell how your parish and the diocese are partners in faith, working together to strengthen the Catholic Church throughout.
9. Complete the talk by making the "ask." Urge people to join you in making a generous pledge to this year's Diocesan Services Appeal.
10. Smile — and don't be afraid to be humorous!