



October 6, 2017

“Before all else, the Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others.”

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium: The Joy of the Gospel

Dear Father:

With deep gratitude, I join our pastors, parishioners and school communities in celebrating the results of ShareLife’s 2017 Parish Campaign. The \$12,690,597 raised for our agencies represents hard work, perseverance, and great love for the marginalized in our communities. Without you, ShareLife could not fulfill its mission to “Live the Gospel by providing for those in need.”

ShareLife also represents a reliable signpost on the course mapped out by our Pastoral Plan – namely, its core direction of “Catholic Outreach in Justice and Love.” The work of our agencies, and your generosity towards them, “serve as a pathway through which acts of justice and love are realized, and the witness of the Catholic faith strengthened.” (*Pastoral Plan, IV - 3.*)

With your support, ShareLife was able to allocate additional funding to support new initiatives. These include:

- A pilot project in Peel Region and Simcoe County to provide outreach services for seniors.
- A pilot project to test the applicability of a grief reconciliation approach for young mothers who have suffered trauma and other mental health issues.
- Supporting the St. John Paul the Great Family Centre at St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish, providing programs for seniors and youth in their community.

ShareLife is also investing in the future of our Church by educating 70 seminarians at St. Augustine’s Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Seminary.

The enthusiastic support of our pastors makes possible these and many other programs. Please extend my deep gratitude to your parish community for its commitment to the work of ShareLife agencies. Together we are making a real difference in the lives of those in need, both here in our archdiocese and around the world.

My prayer is that we may continue to respond to God’s love by going “forth from ourselves to seek the good of others.”

† Thomas Card. Collins

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto