

## HOW & WHEN WILL WE MAKE OUR COMMITMENT?

Commitment Sunday will be held during all Masses the weekend of November 17th and 18th. Please take time to pray about your gift and bring the enclosed Commitment Card with you to Mass on Commitment Sunday. Be sure to drop it in the offertory basket during the collection. If you forget your card there will be blank cards in the pews for you to use. If you are out of town or unable to attend Mass on Commitment Sunday, please return your card to the church office within two weeks. Your new commitment should begin with the next Sunday's offertory. All commitments will be kept completely confidential and will not be disclosed in any way. Thank you for your generous support of our parish!



## LIVING OUR FAITH

- There has been a resurgence of men attending That Man Is You on Saturday mornings.
- Volunteers have been working to create our own SVDP chapter.
- The Food Pantry ministry won an award 2018 Community Volunteer Group.
- More than a dozen of our teens attended Steubenville Youth Conference.
- A new Young Adult ministry was developed and is meeting once a month.
- Hundreds of people participated and watched the Live Stations of the cross.
- Approximately 40 people came closer to God through 3 Alpha Courses.
- A vibrant VBS program taught more than 100 children about Jesus.
- Many participated and experienced the Grace of Our Lady in our Fatima Procession & Prayer.
- Approximately 25 people deepened their knowledge through Bioethics Apologetics study.
- The Spanish Bible study on Tuesdays is thriving and growing.
- We have formed another youth pod who named themselves ARMY and held a fun youth retreat.
- Developed a new Confirmation Catechesis program focused on discipleship formation.
- Continue to have a very strong Adoration ministry with committed volunteers.
- The formation of a second Praise Band has enhanced the Music Ministry of our liturgies.
- Our school continues to teach students how to live out their faith through programs such as: Bible Studies, *The Theology of the Body*, Lectio Divina, Adoration, and Prayer.
- 187 children through the services of many Catechist volunteers grew in Faith in our RE Program.
- 215 children were educated through curriculum infused with Catholic Faith in our School.



# St. Mary Church

Plano, IL

Giving from the Heart

***"To be led and to lead others into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ."***

Dear Parish Family,

The longer I am here as your pastor, the more I grow in admiration and amazement at what is accomplished here at St. Mary. I continue to marvel **at the generosity** of the St. Mary Parish Community. **Thank you!**

Operating a parish is like running a business; but unlike a business, we must rely solely upon the generosity of our parishioners for our income and resources. The parish must **trust in God** that our parishioners will continue to support His church so that we can continue to serve our community. As your Pastor, it is my responsibility to teach and reinforce what God is asking of you through Scriptures and to help you learn how to live your life as a Faithful Catholic. When I became your pastor, I promised you that I would give you all the tools and resources you would need to grow in your faith and become disciples of Christ. I hope I am continuing to live up to my promise each year through my homilies, through the various studies we offer, the formation of groups where knowledge can be gained with discussion, the resources in the Formation Station at the back of church, book giveaways, and through a free-to-you, subscription to FORMED.org. At least once per year, I try to include teachings on stewardship and what that means in our Catholic lives and to our parish. Stewardship will be the topic over the next few weeks.

My top 3 pastoral priorities are Souls, School, and Space. This document supports my commitment to those areas of priority and presents to you the very real challenge we have at St. Mary Church and some of the many beautiful blessings and ministries we are given. We don't give to receive. But if we give to God, freely, without reservation, we will receive more than we give in different ways. The Word of God confirms this. St. Paul writes: "Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work". As it is also written: "Consider this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.' The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness." (2 Cor 9: 6-10)

As you reflect on your annual commitment to the parish, please remember that we are counting on you! Consider your journey of faith within the church, school, and religious education program. Consider the memories and the impact this parish, school, and religious education program have had and will have in your life. Then, "Giving from the Heart" and **trusting God**, make your decision.

**God cannot be outdone in generosity.**

On November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> we will ask each family to place this commitment, in writing on a card that we will use to create our budget for 2019-2020. **Thank you for your commitment**, your support, and your resilience!

Sincerely,

Fr. Andy  
Pastor



**...WE HAVE THE  
RESPONSIBILITY  
TO USE OUR GIFTS  
TO CARRY OUT THE  
MISSION OF OUR  
PARISH AND THE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH.**



UNDERSTANDING SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Our gift of physical life, that of our spouse and children, the freedoms we enjoy, our abilities to learn and work, skills, talents and yes – even our income are all gifts from God. God has blessed each one of us in ways beyond our comprehension or expectation.

Each one of us must assess our current level of giving and consider if this level adequately reflects our gratitude for who we are and what we have. It is not so much what we give back to God as much as it is the attitude with which the gift is made. If we are giving out of habit, the same \$25.00 we have been giving over the last few years habitually, is it sincere? If we are giving the change left in our pocket or what is left over after paying bills, is it sincere? Possibly, however more than likely, we really have not given our commitment close attention.

Sacrificial Giving consists of the following five dimensions:

- 1. Plan your giving. The planning process can be a time for spiritual consideration of values and priorities. The outcome should be a conscious commitment to giving with a plan for making the gift. (See examples below)

- 2. Make it proportionate. Base the amount on your means and consider what has been given to you. The bible recommends giving back a tenth (tithe). Could 5% be given to the church and the other 5% spread among your other favorite charities?
- 3. Your gift should be a sacrifice. If you can give your gift and not notice the impact on you and your life, then it is not sacrificial. (Consider ways to make it sacrificial)
- 4. Give thanks. Your commitment is both personal and communal. Celebrate the gifts you have received at offertory collection time when you place your envelope in the basket. Say a personal prayer of thanksgiving for all God has given you as it is placed at the altar.
- 5. No conditions. Your gift should be a gift. Sacrificial giving does not buy anything and should be given without the expectation of getting something back. Give freely.

Ways in which to make it sacrificial!

- 1. Give an additional amount equal to the first fast food or beverage purchase on Monday morning. Doing without those

on a Monday morning could be a REAL sacrifice for some! Then put that money aside to add to your regular weekly contribution.

- 2. Give an amount equal to your first hour of work each week. If you are already at that level of giving, then increase it in quarter hour increments at each appeal. The first hour of the workweek to many is the hardest – offer a prayer as you walk in to work thanking God for the gift of ability to work and the job that gives you income.
- 3. Set the percentage of your paycheck that you plan to give to charity and write the checks to those charities the same time as you receive your check thus giving off the top instead of what is left over or from what you have in your pocket/ purse at the time.

Our renewal program presents us with an opportunity to place God at the center of our lives and to reflect on our journey as individuals and as a parish community. Together we can use this program to express our gratitude and to make our commitment to our parish mission.

GUIDELINES FOR GIVING

Please review the gift charts as you consider your commitment to St. Mary Church. Each one of us has unique circumstances and income. The gift charts serve as a guideline to help you determine an appropriate increase based on your means. The charts should be within the means of most parishioners. Please carefully read this brochure and prayerfully consider your commitment level.

SUGGESTED WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION BASED ON INCOME

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/\$100	\$3,000/\$60
\$75,000	\$3,750/\$75	\$2,250/\$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/\$30
\$40,000	\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24
\$30,000	\$1,500/\$30	\$900/\$18
\$25,000	\$1,250/\$25	\$750/\$15
\$15,000	\$750/\$15	\$450/\$9

SUGGESTED WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION BASED ON A PERCENTAGE INCREASE

Your Current Offertory Contribution	25% Increase	30% Increase	40% Increase
\$75.00	\$93.75	\$97.50	\$105.00
\$50.00	\$62.50	\$65.00	\$70.00
\$40.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$56.00
\$35.00	\$43.75	\$45.50	\$49.00
\$30.00	\$37.50	\$39.00	\$42.00
\$25.00	\$31.25	\$32.50	\$35.00
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
\$15.00	\$18.75	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

As a gentle reminder, the above gift charts are only suggestions. If everyone makes a commitment to the best of their financial ability, St. Mary Church will be able to plan for the future accordingly.

ST. MARY CHURCH FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



Our parish offers Online Giving, an additional option for contributing to the church. Online Giving is available for parishioners who would like to make donations online.



FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT July 2017- June 2018 Financial Report

	Actual				Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget	Next year 2018-2019 Budget
	Church	Rel Ed	School	Total		
<b>Revenue:</b>						
Sunday Collections	\$ 422,038.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 422,038.00	\$ 461,000.00	\$ 435,000.00
Other Collections	26,134.00	-	-	26,134.00	37,200.00	30,700.00
Fundraisers	-	-	102,013.00	102,013.00	105,000.00	105,000.00
Tuition & Fees	-	27,063.00	634,555.00	661,618.00	627,165.68	682,399.00
Other Unrestricted Revenue	47,682.00	810.00	1,816.00	50,308.00	69,122.00	73,700.00
Other Income - St. Patrick Subsidy	-	-	131,772.00	131,772.00	136,772.00	117,000.00
Other Income - St. Anne Subsidy	-	-	5,000.00	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 495,854.00</b>	<b>\$ 27,873.00</b>	<b>\$ 875,156.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,398,883.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,436,259.68</b>	<b>\$ 1,448,799.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>						
Salaries & Wages	\$ 120,363.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 644,925.00	\$ 790,288.00	\$ 805,267.00	\$ 820,080.00
Fringe Benefits	63,593.00	12,148.00	233,689.00	309,430.00	309,259.00	303,482.00
Repairs & Maintenance	14,293.00	-	9,840.00	24,133.00	13,935.00	29,195.00
Services	45,791.00	8,682.00	60,679.00	115,152.00	108,715.00	112,463.00
Materials & Supplies	18,824.00	3,925.00	11,627.00	34,376.00	33,225.00	30,610.00
Rental Expenses	-	-	6,743.00	6,743.00	7,236.00	6,000.00
Insurance	8,559.00	2,520.00	15,119.00	26,198.00	25,875.00	26,375.00
Utilities	30,349.00	2,056.00	21,302.00	53,707.00	55,410.00	53,037.00
Auto Expense	700.00	-	-	700.00	800.00	800.00
Curriculum	-	4,031.00	32,894.00	36,925.00	37,957.00	37,060.00
Diocesan - Christ is our Hope Mag	1,479.00	-	-	1,479.00	-	1,200.00
Diocesan Assessment	23,880.00	-	-	23,880.00	25,580.00	15,559.00
Ministry & Outreach Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Operating Expense	-	274.00	18,900.00	19,174.00	400.00	400.00
Capital Expenditures	439.00	-	-	439.00	12,500.00	12,500.00
St. Mary Parish Subsidy - School	180,562.00	-	(180,562.00)	-	-	-
St. Mary Parish Subsidy - RE	30,763.00	(30,763.00)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 539,595.00</b>	<b>\$ 27,873.00</b>	<b>\$ 875,156.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,442,624.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,436,159.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,448,761.00</b>
<b>Net Revenue - Expenses</b>						
St. Mary Subsidy - School			180,562.00			
St. Mary Subsidy- RE		30,763.00				
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ (43,741.00)</b>	<b>\$ 30,763.00</b>	<b>\$ 180,562.00</b>	<b>\$ (43,741.00)</b>	<b>\$ 100.68</b>	<b>\$ 38.00</b>
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>				
Beginning Balance	\$ 2,608.50	\$ 514,507.97				
Receipts	\$ 647,953.33	\$ 482,493.90				
Expenses	\$ 136,053.86	\$ 31,075.20				
Ending Balance 6/30/2017	<b>\$ 514,507.97</b>	<b>\$ 965,926.67</b>				
<b>Funds on Deposit in Bank</b>	<b>\$ 127,502.65</b>	<b>\$ 128,168.97</b>				

