

St. John the Evangelist
2254 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02140
Tel: 617-547-4880 E-Mail info@stjohncambridge.org

September 27, 2023


Dear Parishioners,

The end of Summer and the incoming Fall are announced always by signs familiar to us. Whether it be the preparations made by families to begin the school year or natural signs such as the changing colors of the leaves and the sometimes cooler temperatures. One of those signs in any parish in this Archdiocese is the coming of the Grand Annual Collection. This familiar urgency of gift is necessitated by the recognition that we cannot rely merely on the regular collections which are taken up each week. We have need to satisfy greater needs in a greater way and so we ask for your generosity regarding this necessary and familiar collection which comes once a year at this time. We are a community of faith centered on the celebration of the Sunday Mass and our belief in Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist. That celebration encourages us to offer sacrifices of bread, wine, ourselves and our goodness in a grateful return for the gift of Jesus' own life offered to us. It is traditional to offer our time, talent and treasure so that the life of Christ might grow in our parish community.

The more than five years that I have served in your name and the name of Jesus in this venerable parish have brought a satisfaction of the Grand Annual Goal in each of those years. We pray in hope that this year is no different. It is our hope that we can anticipate a generous response again this year. Last year we were able to provide new bulkhead doors to the church, a fresh color and paint to the front of the church and many others satisfactions. This year as you know we look forward to an improved air conditioning system and other improvements. This parish belongs to you and is made up of all of you who call yourselves parishioners of Saint John's. Please respond in goodness and with sacrifice to our call for assistance. This year I have set our goal at \$40,000 and am asking for a per capita donation of \$400. We know that some do not have the means to give this much, but that some can give much more. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this necessary request.

Remember too that we outlay 18% of our regular collection as a tax for Archdiocesan services as well as 6% in support of Archdiocesan schools, all this and more necessitates this request. Please be mindful that the outcomes of the Grand Annual Collection remain entirely in the parish for its regular operation. Thank you for your gift and God bless you and your families.

Sincerely in Christ,



Fr. Joe