St. John the Evangelist 2254 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA 02140

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October 8, 2025

Dear Parishioners,

October brings with it our Grand Annual Collection in which we ask for a generous contribution from each family and/or individual, which allows and encourages us to make improvements, both visible and unseen, to our parish, which are necessary for our growth and sustenance over the course of our year. During the course of our last fiscal year, we have made substantial improvements both to the rectory and to the church, which have been necessary for upkeep and development so that we might keep up with those things that need to be done, both for safety and improvement.

Last year, we saw increases in the cost of electricity, snow removal, water costs, and such, which were satisfied in part by your generosity to the 2025 Grand Annual, and so we ask as we head into 2026 for the same purposes. We have had a need recently to make substantial improvements to the sound system in the church, to essential lighting at the church, to service on the exterior windows, and to a complete overhaul of the main bathroom in the rectory, the last of which came at a cost of over \$75,000.00. The regular collection does not satisfy such needs. We rely on bequests and other generous contributions, inclusive of the Grand Annual Collection, and so we are called to ask in this regard each year. As well, we have unanticipated and unexpected costs which arise each year, and we must be prepared through your generosity.

On the back of this letter is a synopsis of the profit and loss for fiscal 2025, a comparison to the previous fiscal year. We thank you for your prayerful consideration of a generous gift to this year's Grand Annual Collection in the amount of a minimum of \$500.00 per individual and or family. We thank you for your continued practice of the faith here at Saint John's and your enjoyment of our parish life. May God bless you and your family over the coming year.

God Bless,

Fr. Joe