To my fellow parishioners of St. Francis By the Sea Parish/Hilton Head Island:

Probably like many of you, my wife and I were a bit surprised when we first learned of the Parish's announcement of a fund-raising campaign to construct/install a "Pipe Organ" in the Church sanctuary. We knew little about such musical instruments, other than they were often seen in cathedrals and other "majestic" churches throughout the world. After hearing the presentation by the proposed builder of the organ and talking with our parish's Music Director/Matthew Meloche, we decided to donate.

One asset that we acquired over the years is stock that has appreciated in value - not in a 401K or other retirement account, but in an account that would incur taxes (federal and state) if we were to sell the stock.

We decided to take a portion of that taxable stock holding and donate it to the Parish for the pipe organ campaign. The Diocese sells the stock and then sends the total proceeds to St. Francis Parish.

By donating an asset that has grown in value, the Parish receives the full appreciated value of the stock and my wife, and I receive a fully tax-deductible donation.

Everybody wins - the Parish receives an enhanced donation, and we receive an enhanced deduction on our tax return.

If you have questions about this, I suggest that you talk with Father Mike, Matthew or Dion Jenks.

By sharing our "blessings" with St. Francis Parish as explained above, we will be able to enjoy a worship experience that all members of our parish, young and old, will cherish for many years to come.

God bless us all.

An Anonymous St. Francis Parishioner"