November 1, 2026

Dear Friends,

As we begin this month of November, we enter into our annual renewal of our stewardship of treasure. This is the time of year when we are invited to reflect on the many gifts that God has blessed us with, and how we can make a return to the Lord in thanksgiving.

Thank you for the support you provide to our parish which enables us to carry out the mission of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in the heart of Seattle. Because of your financial support, we are able to gather for worship, serve those in need, and form children, young people and adults in the faith. Without sacrificial financial gifts, we would not be able to do any of this. Your faithful stewardship allows us to extend God's love and care throughout our city.

Now, my ask. If you have not made a Sacrificial Giving commitment in the past, please consider making one this year. While we have been able to do amazing ministry with the resources you have entrusted to us, we have also done this while seeing the number of donors decline over the last several years. The fact that our regular Sunday giving at all three of our parishes has remained relatively "flat" is a testament to the generosity of our givers. But to our many new parishioners and new Catholics, I would simply say: we need you! We need your support so the parish you love can continue to thrive.

Finally, I invite us to go back to where I began--with **gratitude**. This is where Christian stewardship really begins: in recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God. The very word for our central act of worship - *Eucharist* - means "thanksgiving." Each time we gather for Eucharist, we come with grateful hearts for all that God has done for us in Jesus. A natural response to such generosity is to ask with the Psalmist, "How can I make a return to the Lord for all that the Lord has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12). In that question is a paradigm shift that is subtle, yet profound. If I can live from this place of gratitude for all that God has given me, then I am not so much *giving to a need* as I am *needing to give*.

In the coming days I invite all of us to spend some quality time in prayer, reflecting on all the blessings in our lives, reflecting on all that God has given us. From that place of gratitude, let us ask the Lord to help us discern what an appropriate return in thanks looks like for our sacrificial giving pledge this year. If we enter into this prayerful discernment together, then we will be responding not just to the needs we have, but more importantly, to our need to make a return to the Lord in thanks.

May the Lord bless us in our discernment in these coming days!

In Christ,



Father Gary F. Lazzeroni
Pastor