



APOSTLES PETER & PAUL

Catholic Area Faith Community

Dear Parishioner,

October 4, 2024

I write to you concerning the Fall increased giving appeal. As I mentioned last Sunday at each of the Masses, reviewing the summary of revenue and expenses for 2023-2024 as well as the revenue and expenses for our current budget, I noted that half of the Employee Retention Credit money we received was spent in 2023-24, and the other half will be spent in our current budget. This \$93,000.00 revenue stream will no longer be available beginning July 1, 2025. The Administrative Committees recommend that we be proactive and move forward with an increased giving appeal to address this expected loss of revenue.

We have approximately nine months to significantly increase revenue in order to support the core ministries of our area faith community. At the same time we will be good stewards as we explore ways to reduce spending before we begin our new fiscal year.

It is encouraging that the Churches of St. Peter and St. Paul does not have debt. Parishioners St. Peter responded generously to the building of this structure after the tornado. The recent capital campaigns raised the necessary funds for a new roof, resurfacing of the parking lots, and pay off the mortgage on the rectory. Clearly the parishioners have responded generously to the financial needs that we have faced in the past. I join the Administrative Committees in assuring you that we have been fiscally responsible in order to continue the ministries that have been part of the fabric of our area faith community.

I ask you to take time to reflect on your level of giving and prayerfully consider whether an increase in your giving is possible. For some, a dollar increase each week is difficult; for others, an increase of \$20 or more is possible. For your convenience, there are options available for giving – weekly envelopes, electronic (ACH) and online giving (We Share).

Once you have decided what is feasible for your household, please complete the enclosed Increased Giving Response form and place it in the enclosed envelope and drop it in either parish collection basket, mail it, or bring it to the parish office. If this could be completed by November 1, 2024, this would be appreciated.

Thank you to the many parishioners who model stewardship by consistently giving of their time, talent and treasure to build up the Body of Christ in our parishes. Be assured of our prayers. May your commitment to stewardship be a blessing for us to remain strong and vital for years to come.

Sincerely,

Msgr. Douglas L. Grams
Pastor