



Saint Joseph Catholic Church

For the LORD your God is bringing you into
a good land with streams and pools of
water, with springs flowing in the
valleys and mountains.

Deut. 8,7

www.mammothcatholicchurch.org

58 Ranch Road / P.O.Box 372 / Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 Phone (760) 934-6276

January 6, 2019

My Fellow Parishioners,

As the Diocese of Stockton emerged from bankruptcy, Bishop Blair appointed a Financial Recovery Task Force to make recommendations that would strengthen the financial future of the Diocese and its parishes. All recommendations were reviewed with The Diocesan Finance Committee and the Consultors. One of the recommendations was to conduct an Offertory Program in every parish. This process will provide some funds to the Diocese through the Service Fee (7%) but much more to the growth of ministries of each parish (93%). Bishop Cotta concurred with the recommendations.

We all must address finances as we look to the future. Without enough financing, little else can happen. This is as true for a parish as it is for a person. Future income, living on a budget and spending our money wisely is part of our daily life.

Our parish does meet its normal operating costs. But, beyond those, we have an obligation to assure that future ministry as well as maintenance and renovation of our facilities can be accomplished so that our parish will always be ready to provide much needed ministry and service.

The Finance Committee and I try, always, to be as conservative as possible when the budget is prepared each year but, no parish can provide all of the ministry that we are called to do.

Therefore, I have decided to request to our parishioners to examine their Offertory giving prayerfully on an annual basis. Each active parish household will be asked to examine their weekly giving and to decide if it is too much, just enough, or too little and, then, to respond accordingly. At all Masses on the first two weekends in January, we will ask each parish household to make a specific commitment to weekly offertory giving. The activities on that weekend, and the follow-up process to contact those who do not respond, will stress the necessity of having every parishioner contribute regularly using envelopes. I believe that this will put us in a position where we can continue to grow as a parish community.

In the past, our Offertory has changed very little (with the exception of our seasonal peaks and valleys). Most of us have, long ago developed our giving habits and continue them week-to-week. Also, it is rare that we ask people to consider how much they give. The annual process that we will use does not ask for an increase in giving. Rather, it asks each of us to consider what God has given to us and to decide if what we return each weekend is enough, too much or not enough. Then, based on prayerful reflection, each of us will decide whether to increase, decrease or continue the commitment we are currently making. **If you change the amount that you give, please begin giving the new amount by the end of January.**

I hope that each of you will welcome this request and accept the call to reflect upon whether your financial gifts represent an adequate thanksgiving for the many blessings God has bestowed upon you.

If you have any questions about this program or the parish budget, please call the parish office and I will be happy to answer them. Then, please respond to this request with charity and love.

Prayerfully yours,

Rev. Jorge Alfonso Román Del Real

Rev. Jorge Alfonso Román Del Real

CURRENT OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS
November 1, 2017 through October 31, 2018

Registered Parishioners	Donors	Zero Donations Listed	Donors	Total	Average Per Donor
Local Receiving Envelopes	38	3	35	\$37,728.00	\$1,077.94
Visitors Receiving Envelopes*	41	11	30	\$17,135.00	\$571.17
Not Receiving Envelopes	246	227	19	\$12,280.00	\$646.32
SUB TOTAL	325	241	84	\$67,143.00	\$799.32
One-time donors /unregistered parishioners (check or online)			457	\$167,827.63	
TOTAL donors in 12 mo. period for offertory and other donations			541	\$234,970.63	\$434.33
<i>* These are out of town donors and it is expected they donate elsewhere half of the time.</i>					
TABULATION OF TOTAL DONATIONS DURING 12-MONTH PERIOD					
Offertory Income					
Mammoth			\$129,925.50		
Lee Vining			\$25,397.00		
Bridgeport			\$5,811.00		
Coleville			\$6,753.00		
TOTAL OFFERTORY				\$167,886.50	
Non-Operating Revenue					
Lee Vining			\$9,354.48		
Bridgeport			\$525.00		
St. Joseph unrestricted			\$33,097.00		
S. Joseph restricted			\$118,053.35		
TOTAL NON-OPERATING				\$161,029.83	
TOTAL DONATIONS				\$328,916.33	
Envelopes, online, checks				\$234,970.63	72%
Cash donations				\$93,265.70	28%
				\$328,236.33	100%

I ask that every parishioner consider the gifts that God has given to him or her. Then, compare those to the amount that you return in gratitude for those gifts.

Reflect your spending on items such as fast food, movie attendance, cable TV and internet services, cell phone service and equipment, going out to dinner etc. How do these expenditures compare to your support of our parish? A look at the above chart will indicate that the average St. Joseph's parishioner probably spends more in a week on pizza than on assisting in the mission of our parish.

Ask yourself if the portion of your income that you give to the work of the Lord is enough, too much, or not enough to serve as a sign of your gratitude for the gifts that God has given you. Look at the sample of the commitment card that is on the last page of this brochure. Then, decide what amount you will indicate, when you receive the card for your household, at Mass this weekend.

Without receiving a commitment card from each household, we have no way to predict our annual income. It is our firm belief that through sound planning, we can avoid any financial crisis and preserve our parish's wellbeing now and, in the years to come. We pray that parishioners will carefully review the chart above and the succeeding pages of this brochure and will respond generously.

St. Joseph Parish
ESTIMATED Budget – Fiscal Year 2019

EXPENSES

Clergy Expenses (including compensation, living expenses, travel)	\$37,931.18
Administration (including wages, payroll taxes, benefits, insurance, vehicle expenses, supplies, computer expenses, bulletin)	\$58,593.76
Property and Facilities (includes utilities, fees & assessments)	\$70,958.59
Children's Religious Education and Liturgy	\$7,631.08
Ministries (including music, special ministries, social justice, missions)	\$53,912.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$229,026.61

INCOME

Offertory	\$167,188.04
Sacramental Offerings	\$9,136.00
Other Revenue	\$1,800.00
Property & Facilities Revenue	\$5,750.00
Children's Religious Education Income	\$3,150.00
Special Ministries	\$150.00
Lee Vining Ministry	\$27,863.17
Bridgeport Ministry	\$6,471.66
Coleville Ministry	\$7,611.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$229,119.87
NET OPERATING REVENUE (LOSS)	\$93.26

COMMITMENT WEEKEND

At all masses the first two weeks in January you will be asked to indicate the amount that you wish to give weekly. If you give monthly, quarterly, etc., please indicate the average weekly amount of that gift. A sample of the offertory commitment card is shown at the bottom of this page.

Please carefully consider the gifts that God has given you and contribute part of them to help with the work of the parish. Come prepared to complete the commitment card that will be provided. **If you change the amount that you give, please begin giving the new amount by the end of January 2019.**

HOW MUCH SHOULD WE GIVE?

Many people ask whether or not there is a standard for giving. Each person, or family, must arrive at that conclusion independently. However, the following scale is provided in order to serve as a guide for those that are interested in using it.

SUGGESTED WEEKLY OFFERING (Note: Amounts are rounded upward)

Annual Family Income	5%	4%	3%	2%
\$10,000	\$10.00	\$7.00	\$5.00	\$4.00
\$15,000	\$15.00	\$11.00	\$8.00	\$6.00
\$20,000	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$11.00	\$8.00
\$25,000	\$24.00	\$19.00	\$14.00	\$10.00
\$30,000	\$29.00	\$23.00	\$17.00	\$12.00
\$40,000	\$39.00	\$31.00	\$23.00	\$15.00
\$50,000	\$48.00	\$38.00	\$29.00	\$19.00

The following is a sample of the card that you will receive at mass this weekend. Please determine which member of your household will complete the card and what your commitment will be before coming to church.

Sample Offertory Commitment Card

Commitment of Treasure

"GIVE TO THE MOST HIGH AS HE HAS GIVEN TO YOU, GENEROUSLY, ACCORDING TO YOUR MEANS, FOR THE LORD IS ONE WHO ALWAYS REPAYS, AND HE WILL GIVE BACK TO YOU SEVENFOLD." SIRACH 35:9-10

I understand that St. Joseph Church is asking all parishioners to review the amount that they give to the parish offertory and to determine whether that amount is enough, too much, or not enough. My/Our new average commitment per week for the next 12 months is:

\$100.00 \$75.00 \$50.00 \$40.00 \$35.00 \$30.00 \$25.00 \$20.00 Other \$ _____