

Pastor's Column

“Money doesn't grow on trees, you know” – The Sequel



About this time last year, I wrote in a bulletin article how my father engrained in me the fact that money doesn't grow on trees. That thought is part of who I am.

As I celebrate my second anniversary as Pastor of St. Francis (August 10), I have learned first-hand that it takes an enormous amount of money to operate a parish, church and school. There are salary and benefit expenses, significant utility costs, and monthly expenses for office supplies, maintenance, groundskeeping, security, liturgy and music, and the operation of spiritual, social and ministry activities. This year, we add to that list the cost of sanitizing and other expenses related to the pandemic.

I take this opportunity to thank all who have supported our parish financially in this extraordinary year through envelope usage, the loose collection and Faith Direct (which provides a monthly income even during a pandemic). I know that giving money is a sacrifice, particularly during Covid. Thank you for your sacrifice that enables us to fulfill the mission of Jesus to spread the gospel.

I also wish to thank the organizations, individuals and families who have made *particular* donations for projects and services, including donations to our Food Bank and to the A/C upgrade in St. Joseph Hall. Without your special gifts, we could not provide our current level of services.

Finally, please continue your generous giving. Consider using Faith Direct (see the link on our parish website). Be on the lookout for the biannual Parish Finance Report in the next Pastoral Bulletin. And remember that it is ingrained in me to think: “Money doesn't grow on trees.”

God bless,
Fr. Joe