

"Where your treasure is, there your heart also is." Matthew 6:21

November 9, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

This is my third stewardship letter to you as we all have come together to fully support our parish with our gifts of prayer, time, talent, and now, we discuss treasure. Thankfully, our parish has grown and with this growth has come increased financial obligations. Just as your own family budget needs increase over time, so has your parish's budget increased. As we celebrate our Dominican parish's 180th anniversary with much excitement, we also must acknowledge the considerable on-going maintenance needs for our historic church and our expanding operational costs.

Our new three-year strategic plan has tapped the imaginations of many of our parishioners who have prayerfully reflected on how, with greater resources, we can better serve you in growing your faith and spirituality.

Our parish is flourishing and blessed with an increasingly younger population with children who need religious education to augment their parents' teaching role. In addition, our young adults need more inspired opportunities to learn and grow in their faith which are outlined under vital signs on the enclosure.

With your increased stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, we can be a more impactful source of true evangelization and outreach to the unchurched and our neighbors in need.

Today, I ask you to reflect on the stewardship principles outlined in the enclosed brochure:

- Making an intentional pledge at the beginning from "first fruits"
- Giving in proportion to your appreciation for all God's many blessings
- Working toward the biblical tithe which for Catholics includes for the parish, the Diocese, and other Catholic organizations such as schools, charities, etc.

I invite you to make stewardship a meaningful part of your spiritual journey. As you review the enclosed Stewardship Calculator to determine what percentage of your income was given to St. Peter Church during recent fiscal years, ask yourself if it adequately reflects "where your heart is," as St. Matthew proclaims above. Please consider pledging at a level that will properly reflect your gratitude for all of God's blessings on you and your household.

We look forward to the flourishing of the fruits of our new parish plan, thanks to your continued generosity. Thank you for making stewardship a way of life through your financial support of St. Peter Church.

Yours in Christ,

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Your recorded total offertory giving for:

Fiscal '19 (July '18-June '19)\$X,XXX

Fiscal '20 (July '19-June '20).....\$X,XXX

Fr. Augustine DeArmond, O.P. Pastor