



**The master said, "Well done, my good and faithful servant.  
You have been faithful in handling this small amount.  
So now I will give you many more responsibilities.  
Let's celebrate together!"**  
*Matthew 25:23 NLT*

Dear Parish Family,

Sometimes students teach teachers. That truth is inspired in my heart by how you have given of yourselves so freely these past few years to God and the Gospel ministry of All Saints Church. It is time for the Rector's annual letter requesting the generosity of our people. The more appropriate message is one of celebration, gratitude, and inspiration because of what you have already done. You have taught me, and anyone else who has been paying attention, how to be loving, sacrificial, and obedient to the Lord. You have proven your selfless generosity to those in need, our ministries to God's people, and to His holy church.

The underlying emotion of this note to you is one of deep, profound, and humble thanksgiving. The incredible generosity and love our people have provided so joyfully, have brought new and abounding fruit in our outreach to the poor, the appearance of new clergy and ministry leaders among us, the vastly improved pastoral care of our elderly, the physical renovation of our 100+ year old building, a new emphasis on mission, and a soaring presence of the Holy Spirit among us all.

All Saints Church is right now a glowing, overflowing, loving, harmonious, healthy, giving, and thriving family in the Lord. I am overwhelmed, moved, and profoundly grateful to you for all of that.

This is the time of year when our regular annual operating pledges are made by our parish family members. In joy and with cheerful hearts, we hand them in before our Parish's namesake day – All Saints Sunday, November 4. Normally it would be the Rector's role to write some words of encouragement and exhortation to inspire you to give bountifully. But you have already dramatically shown your love of Jesus, your extravagant generosity, and your heart for those in need of Christ's love and service.

Your pledge card accompanies this letter. Please, in all good spirit, go ahead and do what you will with it. Your incredible love and response to the needs of the church have shown that your spirit is trustworthy and your heart is full. You have taught me to trust and admire you as the disciples of Jesus you are.

"I thank our God for you every time I think of you." *Philippians 1:3*

In Jesus' love,

Ed

**Because you have opened your heart to the Holy Spirit in extravagant generosity,  
we have been able to do these things this past year:**

Lives have been changed by THREE new clergy – one full time, two part time!

Our parish mission ministry has expanded and a new Missioner is among us.

Our parish administrative staff has been significantly improved.

Our new clergy and volunteers have dramatically increased our pastoral care to our elderly.

Our new clergy have dramatically impacted our ability to counsel those in struggling marriages.

Your giving has produced upgraded food and other offerings to those who come to us in need.

Your giving has enabled us to make referrals for some with mental health needs..

Your giving has helped us to guide and assist some who are unemployed.

Your giving has helped us to assist some who have come to us with addictions.

Your giving has helped us provide more relief for those in household crises.

Your giving has greatly improved our educational offerings for children and adults.

Your giving has revived the wonderful kitchen ministry of Chef Glenn.

Your giving has enabled an historic and successful capital campaign approaching \$5 million.

That campaign has been blessed by sacrificial pledges, a large bequest, and our roof campaign.

Your weekly and capital giving have together dramatically improved and restored God's church.

**These challenges are still ahead of us as we continue to open our hearts  
to the Holy Spirit and give as generously as we have in the past:**

Expanding our outreach to the poor around us and relationships with area ministries.

Providing the resources needed for our new "Family Table" Sunday morning praise service.

Providing the resources needed to fulfill our ministry to our children and teens.

Providing resources for our new local relationships with culturally different churches/ministries.

Expanding our mission work among our local and global mission partners.

Enlarging and expanding our Parish's music ministry.

Providing merit raises for our clergy and church workers for the first time in at least eight years.

Witnessing that there is no greater cause than the Kingdom of God and the Gospel.

Acknowledging that our church leadership is trustworthy and faithful to apply our gifts.

Demonstrating that the most blessed and loved people in the world give to God to change lives.

**Jesus said:**

**If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me.**

**If you would only give what you have to the poor, everything you do would please God.**

**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**