

# SAINT JOSEPH RECTORY

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November 12, 2008

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones from Fr. Joe and myself!. If you can work it into your schedule, do join us at the 8 AM Mass on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Sometimes in family life, the only thing we can do is pray for one another.

I did not get out a letter last month in anticipation of the Grand Annual collection. Even without it, many of you already have contributed \$34,000 towards our \$80,000 goal. That is truly an amazing amount when one realizes that 250 of you have pledged over \$480,000 to our Capital Campaign.

This letter is a financial report to every parishioner. You can review it on the backside of this sheet. However we include a "Grand Annual" envelope for those of you who might not receive envelopes. As you know from past experience, we hope that folks would consider \$250 as a donation and a great help to balance our "working budget." At the same time we all know how bad the economy is. People do what they are able.

We all get begging letters, and the first instinct I have is to pitch them. However, some I put in my desk draw for further attention. May I ask you to do the same? When the economy turns, or you hit the lottery, you might be able to help.

I appeal specifically to you who do not attend church on a regular basis. You come for baptisms, first communion, confirmation, funerals, weddings, Ash Wednesday, Christmas, and Easter. (The Christmas and Easter collections do not stay in the parish.) The church is always immaculately clean, thanks to semi-weekly maintenance and a score of volunteers.

It is warm in the winter and cool in the summer.  
It makes a beautiful backdrop for weddings, especially.  
I challenge any Church in the diocese to match its beauty.

So if you have not already done so, please consider helping to keep us in "the black" by contributing now, or at some future date when you are able.

Fr. Joe adds: "Don't forget how much God loves you."

Again, Happy Thanksgiving!



Fr. Patrick McLaughlin  
Fr. Joseph Diem