

Dear Parish Family,

Today's readings extol the virtue of gratitude. We hear first from Naaman, a foreigner, who is so grateful to Elisha and the Lord for curing his leprosy that he returns to offer gifts. In the Gospel, another foreigner— a Samaritan—returns to Jesus to offer thanks after his leprosy is cured. May we be as grateful as them for God's blessings upon us, starting with our "thanks be to God" for the saving power of God's word.

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the many ways our parish community has grown in faith, fellowship, and service. We are pleased to share with you the Annual Parish Report, a snapshot of the blessings, milestones, and stewardship that shaped our journey together.

Inside the report, you'll find:

- Highlights from our ministries and outreach programs
- Financial overview and Stewardship updates
- Sacramental celebrations and parish events

Total income has increased over the last fiscal year mainly due to interest and investment income (as we continue to move savings to higher interest accounts). Special gifts, bequests and fundraising have also had a positive impact. We thank you for your generosity.

Expenses have been reduced mainly due to reduced heating fuel and electricity costs because of our more efficient equipment and milder winter. We also had reduced property insurance and archdiocese assessments now that the St. Emeric campus has been sold. This positive shift strengthens our foundation and allows us to focus more fully on our mission: serving one another, deepening our faith, and reaching out to those in need.

Our Total savings (in our local bank accounts and at the Archdiocesan accounts) are still healthy but we did use some of these for capital projects such as the new Church boiler and necessary repairs of the rectory and driveways.

In summary, the parish financial picture is improving. We are closing the gap on having our regular income covering our regular operating expenses. We still have potential expenses coming during the next few years for funding our hospitality and evangelical programs which we plan to expand to grow our church membership.

The Finance Council and Facilities Committee continue working on a long-term plan to budget for all our capital needs.

Thank you for being a vital part of our parish family. May God continue to bless you and guide us all in the year ahead.

With heartfelt thanks,

Fr. Edmond