



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST STEWARDSHIP REPORT

7/1/23 – 6/30/24

Inspired to build a community together.

Dear St. John's Parishioner,

From the Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis, *Lumen Fidei* (Light of Faith) number 37, we read that "Those who have opened their hearts to God's love, heard His voice, and received His light cannot keep this gift to themselves." Inspired by the pope's words, I feel exceedingly joyful to introduce the 2023-2024 Parish Annual Stewardship Report to our parishioners. My primary intent is to thank you for your membership and continued sharing of your gifts to support our Parish Community through your financial contributions and ministry involvement.

Thank you for considering reading the report as you appreciate the ministry of those who put it together for us. Please understand that the pictures, financials, and data on ministries, sacraments, RE/FF Programs, and membership connect to tell our collective story of hope, faith, and love expressed in various ways in the parish from July 2023 to June 2024. As you read it, I hope that you find some striking details that will stimulate greater openness of your heart to God's presence in our parish and your role in extending this presence.

While we notice our blessings this past year and thank God for them, we also realize some deep challenges including a drop in registered parishioners, a rise in the number of families unable to financially support the parish, and the lack of the sacrament of marriage. Our immediate concern should be to pray for God's assistance for all parishioners who face poverty and other issues that affect their faith and membership in the parish. Again, thank you for living out your faith and sharing it with us in the parish.

-Fr. Andrew