

LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF NOTRE DAME PARISH
from
Fr. David Medow and the Parish Finance Board

November 26, 2018

Dear Notre Dame Parish Family:

Greetings to you in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

As the members of this parish know, God has blessed Notre Dame Church in so many ways over the years. Even now, there is much to be thankful for, rejoice in and celebrate about the Lord's love alive and active among us.

With all this good news about our parish, for over a year a gentle but important message has been offered to the people of Notre Dame: there is a worrisome and serious decline in the financial support for our parish life coming from our parishioners.

Despite another successful Dinner Dance, we missed our annual budget goals by a significant margin for fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 (please see following report). Even more troubling, net financial results were well below the prior fiscal year as the Sunday offertory continued a downward trend.

While it is true that Notre Dame Parish is blessed with individuals and families that are wonderfully generous with their time, their talents and their financial gifts, even those blessings from key people have not reversed the downward direction of our parish financial health. Over the last five years or more, our collection revenues remained essentially flat even as overhead expenses increased. In the past year, our giving has actually declined while inflation, utilities, required benefits for employees and contractual obligations increase our expenses - despite reductions in staff and ongoing efforts to reduce operating costs.

We are in a crisis now and we – the Pastor and the Parish Finance Board – need both to alert you to the situation and appeal to you to take steps to turn this situation around. At this point early in our fiscal year, we are \$50,000 short of the revenue needed to sustain our bare-bones parish budget. If this trend continues, we project that by the end of the fiscal year (June 2019) we will be \$150,000 short of needed revenue - representing a shortfall of over 10%.

None of us can allow ourselves to think that the solution to this situation is someone else's business. It requires a positive response from each and every one of us. Here are some suggestions for what you might do to help:

+ Increase your own giving to the parish by \$5.00 to \$10.00 per week;

+ If you are a "snowbird" household and are soon to leave for warmer weather, please help to sustain the life of the parish with your financial support during your wintering elsewhere or leave a significant financial contribution before you leave for the season;

+ If you are able, give a significant gift of cash, stock, etc. to the parish to assist with making a significant reduction in our ongoing and anticipated shortfall: making that donation before the end of the calendar could provide tax-deduction benefits to you while blessing the parish at the same time.

A lot of the “heavy lifting” of the financial aspect of our parish life has, historically, been done by a few individuals and families. Their generosity has brought untold blessings and benefits to us all. However, the urgency of our current condition requires that *everyone* respond quickly, positively and effectively.

The only way that our parish family can be faithful and successful in taking on the work that God has given us to do is if we can pay our bills, pay our staff and provide a secure financial footing so that we can walk the path of holiness with each other and with the Lord who loves us most of all.

Your servants in the Lord,



Fr, David Medow, Pastor

Bill Strening, Parish Council President

Finance Committee

Brian Monahan

Debbie Hultquist

Don Price

Gary Clarin

Jason Elk

John McMahan

Mark Haraburda

Tim Nickels

2017/2018 Stewardship Offering

<u>Amount Given</u>	<u>Number of Contributors</u>	<u>Percentage of Contributors</u>	<u>Total Given</u>	<u>% of Total Amount Given</u>
\$0	649	41.10%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
\$1-100	180	11.40%	\$ 8,690.77	0.85%
\$100.01-\$250	117	7.41%	\$ 20,694.00	2.03%
\$250.01-\$500	162	10.26%	\$ 61,412.94	6.03%
\$500.01-\$750	88	5.57%	\$ 53,997.50	5.30%
\$750.01-\$1,000	62	3.93%	\$ 55,738.00	5.47%
\$1,000.01-\$1,500	124	7.85%	\$ 154,582.00	15.17%
\$1,500.01-\$2,000	55	3.48%	\$ 96,561.08	9.47%
\$2,000.01-\$3,000	64	4.05%	\$ 156,577.37	15.36%
\$3,000.01-\$5,000	50	3.17%	\$ 197,462.54	19.37%
\$5,000.01-\$10,000	24	1.52%	\$ 153,035.30	15.02%
\$10,000.01-\$15,000	4	0.25%	\$ 60,430.00	5.93%
Total	1579		\$1,019,181.50	

Average contribution of those giving \$1,095.89

Average contribution of all families \$ 654.46

Note: The total amounts given include credits and non-cash, but not additional gifts.

Notre Dame 2017-2018 Financial Statement

	<u>2017/2018 Budget</u>	<u>2017/2018 Actual</u>	<u>2016/2017 Actual</u>
<u>OPERATING ACTIVITY</u>			
<u>Church Operating Revenue</u>			
Collections			
Sunday collections	\$ 1,203,938	\$ 1,125,827	\$ 1,178,484
Christmas collection	105,000	107,715	103,299
Easter collection	50,000	50,230	57,086
Other collections & revenue	63,936	74,882	104,644
Dinner dance net proceeds	36,000	80,106	81,002
TOTAL CHURCH OPERATING REVENUE	<u>1,458,874</u>	<u>1,438,759</u>	<u>1,524,515</u>
<u>Church Operating Expenses</u>			
Salaries and benefits	751,894	807,225	721,749
Building operation, maintenance and utilities	121,415	124,794	130,828
Materials, supplies, services and other expenses	152,565	169,227	179,411
Diocesan assessment	89,688	89,688	88,188
TOTAL CHURCH OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>1,115,562</u>	<u>1,190,933</u>	<u>1,120,176</u>
<u>Parish Investments</u>			
Investment in school	253,323	256,120	245,987
Investment in religious education including youth ministry and adult education	76,437	75,599	64,117
Capital Expenditures from Current Period Funds:			
Worship space and other facilities	-	-	-
Repair & Maintenance Capital Reserve	-	-	40,000
Reserve for School improvements	-	-	49,013
School	-	-	-
TOTAL PARISH INVESTMENTS	<u>329,760</u>	<u>331,719</u>	<u>399,117</u>
TOTAL CHURCH OPERATING EXPENSES AND PARISH INVESTMENTS	<u>1,445,322</u>	<u>1,522,652</u>	<u>1,519,293</u>
PARISH OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)	<u>\$ 13,551</u>	<u>\$ (83,893)</u>	<u>\$ 5,222</u>
<u>Funds Held at Diocese of Joliet</u>			
<u>Restricted Funds Increases</u>			
Columbarium donations & interest	\$ 10,850	\$ 23,868	\$ 15,003
Capital campaign donations & interest	20,520	246,921	785,635
Capital reserve donations & interest	7,880	5,775	6,878
Technology - school	9,705	10,251	1,131
	<u>48,955</u>	<u>286,814</u>	<u>808,647</u>
<u>Restricted Funds Expenditures</u>			
Church Lighting	-	6,500	38,765
Engineering Study	-	1,512	-
Church Sound System	-	81,695	15,360
Capital Campaign Consultant	-	-	55,000
Capital Campaign Materials	-	-	5,300
School - School Building Envelope	-	70,524	-
School Playground	-	8,107	35,769
Columbarium	-	3,219	2,779
	<u>-</u>	<u>171,558</u>	<u>152,973</u>
Net Change in Restricted Funds	<u>\$ 48,955</u>	<u>\$ 115,257</u>	<u>\$ 655,674</u>
<u>Capital Expenditures from reserves on hand</u>			
Landscape Improvements		1,752	14,975
Church and parish common areas		6,840	14,549
School		10,661	11,947
Rectory		12,026	15,379
Equipment		2,240	15,394
Security		-	8,286
Total		<u>\$ 33,519</u>	<u>\$ 80,529</u>

NOTRE DAME STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

As part of the Notre Dame Stewardship of Treasure Renewal, the Notre Dame Credit Card Authorization Program, Automatic Withdrawal Program and our E-Giving Opportunity, have been designed to help parishioners simplify their consistent giving. These programs also increase the value of your gift by helping us to reduce administrative costs and improve the day-to-day financial situation of the parish and school. To participate, please complete one of the following forms and return it to: Notre Dame Parish Office, 64 Norfolk Avenue, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. For more information contact: Colleen Barrett, Director of Development, 630.601.1758; email: cbarrett@notredameparish.org.

E-GIVING OPPORTUNITY



E-Giving is a secure, automatic transfer program that lets you choose how to make electronic contributions. From a computer, log onto <https://giving.ncsservices.org/g3/>, and follow the simple directions. Or if you have a QR code reader app on your smartphone, just scan the code on the right, to go directly to Notre Dame's E-Giving. To donate directly from your smartphone go to: <https://giving.ncsservices.org/mobi/?uid=ncs-2034>.



CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM

I/We hereby request that our **monthly offertory** of _____ be automatically charged to my/our credit card:

\$ _____

VISA MasterCard Discover

Card No. _____ Security Code: _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Date _____

PRINT NAME HERE:

NOTE: Notre Dame Parish has advised me that the automatic charge to my credit card account will occur on the 15th of each month.



AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL PROGRAM

I/We hereby request that our **monthly offertory** of \$ _____ be automatically withdrawn from my/our account on the 15th of each month.

Account # _____ Bank Name _____

Bank City/State _____ Beginning date of withdrawal* _____

*in effect until further instructions provided

These funds are to be credited to Notre Dame Parish Account #0350000468 at Clarendon Hills Bank. Notre Dame Parish has advised me that the automatic withdrawal will occur on the 15th of each month. All account owners have signed below. A voided check has been attached.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

PRINT NAME(S) HERE:

Attach voided check here