

ST. STEPHEN CATHEDRAL

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November 9, 2016

Greetings St. Stephen Cathedral parishioners!

At this time of year, it is a tradition in this parish to consider our blessings and make a discipleship commitment. This gives everyone the opportunity to pledge both annual service in ministry and annual financial support to our parish.

Giving. As you pray about your annual financial pledge (Sunday giving), consider whether your offering is planned (*does it involve making advance decisions?*), proportionate (*is it a percentage of your income?*), sacrificial (*is it taken off the top, not from what's left?*), free (*is it unconditional?*), and a prayer (*of gratitude to God*). Decisions for giving should be made prayerfully and according to our means (remember the parable of the widow's mite? Luke 21:1-4).

Information regarding Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), a convenient option for making your contributions, is enclosed. We are in the process of upgrading our EFT program; a user-friendly online program will be available soon, or you may use our current option by completing and returning the enclosed EFT form.

Serving. Recognizing and sharing our talents (*and we all have God-given talents!*) gives glory to God, the Giver of all gifts. Take time to review the ministry descriptions in the enclosed brochure, and pray about how you can offer your time and talent to serve God, each other, and the greater community. Then indicate the ministry choices for you and your family on the pledge form. Whether you are a new volunteer, continuing your current involvement, or changing your ministry selections, please complete and return a pledge form. Your service is appreciated and essential to the success of our many parish ministries.

Praying. Whatever your level of financial and ministry commitment, join me in praying for the success of our Time, Talent, and Treasure renewal, for our parish, and each other.

Kindly complete and return the pledge form by Thanksgiving Day, **November 24**, by mail or in the offertory collection at Mass. We need you! Please know of my continued gratitude for all you do for St. Stephen Cathedral and beyond. May God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Father Jerry Riney
Rector

*The Cross of Christ in the center of the rose stained-glass window in St. Stephen Cathedral
is the symbol of the well-ordered soul. When we make God the center
of our life, everything else falls into place.*