

Parish Letterhead

December 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue to be impacted by the coronavirus outbreak, may you be comforted and experience hope through your relationship with Christ. In His love, our Lord offers us the opportunity to take time to strengthen our faith through attending Mass in person or viewing live streamed Masses, through more time in daily prayer, through spending time in Scripture. He also offers us the opportunity to look beyond ourselves and put our faith in action.

As we approach the celebration of the Birth of Christ at <name> parish (and school), I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the many ways you share your gifts of time, talent and treasure with our parish family during this challenging time. Your participation in the diverse works of our Church and community demonstrates that the light and love of the Christ Child shines brightly in our parish and throughout the community.

I am particularly grateful for our dedicated parish staff, lay ministers and dozens of volunteers who give generously of their time and talent to make great things happen here at <name>. They are a true gift to our parish family.

Recognizing that this is the season of gift-giving, I am writing to ask you to prayerfully consider putting our parish on your year-end Christmas giving list. As we strive to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of the parish family, we must also recognize the practical and financial needs of maintaining our parish on a day-to-day basis. With that objective, I appeal to each parishioner to help us raise the additional funds (\$XXXX) needed to meet our budget by the end of December. We also pray to reach our Priests' Retirement and Benefits collection assessed goal. We are currently (\$XXXX) short of that goal.

In addition to helping your parish, a year-end gift will increase your charitable tax deductions for 2020. You may want to consider a gift in honor or memory of a loved one. A one-time cash gift can be placed in the regular offertory envelope or on line. Should you wish to make a gift of appreciated stock or an IRA rollover, please contact the parish office or a member of the Finance Council. Your financial advisor can help you determine the best type of year-end gift to meet your individual situation.

During this Advent Season, I ask you to spend some time reflecting on the many ways God has blessed you here at <name> parish even in this challenging time. Join me in a prayer of thanksgiving for the kind and supportive members of our parish who give us so much and in so many ways. Please show your gratitude through a generous gift to the parish. Thank you for putting <name> on your Christmas gift list, and be assured of my remembrance of you in my daily Mass.

Gratefully yours in Christ,
Pastor