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Dear Friends:

The one who listens attentively to the Word of God and truly prays asks the Lord, "What is Your will for me?" — Pope Francis, May 29, 2014

 <p><u>Educating Kids</u> 13:1 Student to staff ratio</p> <p>327 Total # of Students</p>	<p>31  Baptisms</p> <p>14 Weddings</p> <p>14  Funerals</p>	<p><u>Human Concern</u></p> <p>200 470 Shoes Collected People Fed at the Winter Farmers' Market Meal</p>  <p>\$15,800 20 Donated to Local Charities Active Vincentians</p>
<p><u>PAL Program</u> Kids in the Summer program</p> <p>129</p>	<p><u>Total Giving</u> 2017-2018 \$ 790.809</p>	

At Saint Sebastian Parish we live our faith through celebration, learning and good works. Each week the bulletin is filled with activities giving us the opportunity to share our values and beliefs with like-minded people. In addition to our sacramental and formation celebrations, we do many things together – like fish fry, auction, Cabaret, Christmas Boutique, sheepshead, Spring into Service, school fundraisers, Saint Vincent de Paul visits, shoe drives and relationship building with the Teosinte community in El Salvador – creating stronger connections with each event. In all these ways, we live our mission to *proclaim Christ and grow believers through the sacramental life of the church in an inclusive and responsive Catholic community*. Whether you participate by singing, playing sports, organizing, teaching, learning, being part of a service activity or caring for the facility, your personal growth depends on and contributes to the strength of others in this parish.

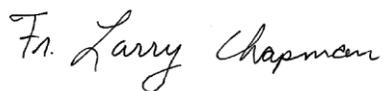
We are blessed to have those who say we can do better. They are willing to challenge the status quo, because they see what matters and connect with others to create something new. This year in our offertory pledge campaign, we are calling on you to consider how you live with purpose. What are your plans for being involved at Saint Sebastian Parish? What time, talent and treasure do you have to offer? We want to help you ask “why?” you are called to be here. Please spend some time reading and answering the questions on the enclosed *Reflection Card*. This is for you to keep.

Through September 30 of this year, your family has given \$<donorgift> towards your pledge of \$<donoramt>, and we thank you for your generosity. This record reflects your contributions toward our regular offertory only. At this time, I ask that you pray and reflect on making a sacrificial commitment to our regular offertory of \$<newdonoramt> each month. Please know that if you can commit to a larger gift, it will be greatly appreciated. On the enclosed *Pledge Form*, you can select how often you would like to contribute and, if you like, to use online banking. This is for you to return to us in the enclosed envelope.

How much should I give? Financial support of the parish is more than a number on a giving chart, a gift of habit, or a hurriedly picked “comfortable” dollar amount. The question of how much to give rests between each individual and God. The answer can only be found in prayerful, purposeful reflection of the true extent of God’s generosity to us. By tithing we acknowledge that everything we have really belongs to God. Living with purpose calls us to find the courage to increase our financial support step by step - enabling ministries to flourish and multiply.

As Catholics we certainly don’t get all things right, but when we see the wrong and work to change it, we become better than we were. It is our faith that leads us in the church of God, not the church of humans. I am confident your gifts of prayers and your time, talent and treasure will allow this Catholic faith community to thrive for years to come.

With Gratitude,



Fr. Larry Chapman, Pastor

Here are some more interesting facts about our Parish:

- 1,175 family units and 3,450 Parishioners
- 72% have been members for over 9 years
- The average age is 37 years old
- 11% are 10 years or younger in age
- 65 people are employed in the parish and school
- The School Foundation was created 35 years ago and has contributed \$2.4 million to the School. It has a net worth of \$3.4 million as of June 30, 2018. For the 2018-2019 school year, the Foundation will contribute \$153,000 to support current operations of the School.