



A Fruitful Harvest

Thank you to all who have so generously contributed of your time, talent, and treasure over the past year. Through your stewardship to our parish, St. Maria Goretti continues to grow, reaching out to more and more members of our parish family, extending a hand in true community, and offering us all an opportunity to belong to something far greater than we alone can be.

During the autumn harvest, our season dedicated to the Stewardship of Treasure, we welcome you to once again prayerfully consider your pledge of financial support to St.

Maria Goretti's Annual Fund for parish operating expenses.

- **COMMITMENT** Your contributions to the Annual Fund provide the only means to meet our budget for parish operating expenses including salaries for our parish staff, utilities, insurance and ongoing maintenance, as well as support of our Parish School.
- **CONTINUED GROWTH** Our parish now serves over 2,300 households/families. Last year, while 1,600 of you contributed on a regular basis, only 1000 chose to turn in a pledge card. Surely it is easy to understand that with such a large parish, a proper plan is needed to ensure all of our financial obligations can be met.
- **EXPANDED FACILITIES** Our building project is complete and what great facilities we now have in which to worship, educate, work, and socialize! With expanded facilities, however, come expanded operating expenses. Your contributions to the Annual Fund help us to plan in the most effective way possible, to take care of these expenses.

Please help us achieve our budget goals by turning in your PLEDGE CARD this year.

Over the next two weeks, you will hear more about the annual budget and how pledging can help your parish family be better stewards of the gifts to which we have been entrusted. You will learn more about what it costs to operate our parish and come to understand the concept of "proportional" levels of giving. Finally, you will have an opportunity to complete a pledge card on Commitment Weekend, November 14-15. Please plan to listen, pray about your own level of commitment, and decide to participate in a meaningful way.

"Much is required from the person to whom much is given" (Luke 12:48).

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Stewardship Prayer

Gracious and loving God, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
You have gathered us as Your Church and called
us to be your disciples.
You are the Creator of all that we are,
the Giver of all we have.

In Your wisdom and love, You have provided all we need
To accomplish the work to which You call us.
Gather us in, Lord, as we seek to meet the needs of our
local church through Fruitful Harvest.

Help us to call forth from each other the gifts You have so
generously given.
May our willingness to share those gifts be the hallmark of our discipleship
And a sign of our gratitude.

We ask in Jesus' name,

Amen.

