

November 11, 2021

Greetings and blessings to you! It is wonderful to see so many of you returning to Mass, and at our 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Lately we have spoken about stewardship as a way of life at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. We invited you and your fellow parishioners to reflect on how God has blessed you, and to consider your response to His blessings through your gifts of prayer, tithe, and service.

***What is stewardship, and what does it mean in my life?***

Living as a good steward acknowledges God as the Creator and the Owner of all. Christian stewards see themselves as caretakers of God’s gifts. Gratitude for these gifts is expressed in our prayer, worship, offerings, and action. Stewardship is a way of thanking God for our blessings as we return a portion of the many gifts that we have been given by God. Stewardship is a lifestyle that begins in prayer, knowing God as a friend. It is a life of accountability and responsibility.

You will find our 2022 Stewardship of Tithe pledge card with this letter. Please take some time to reflect on the gifts that God has entrusted to you, determining how you can share these gifts to serve others. Your generosity remains essential to continue supporting the ministries of our parish in worship, education, pastoral care, and outreach to people in need.

***Thank you*** for your past support through our 2021 Stewardship collections. As of today, through your generosity, we’ve received over $2,100,000. This is a little ahead of what was received last year during the height of COVID-19. So again, thank you.

I invite you to prayerfully consider your tithe to our parish and join with other parishioners by completing and returning your completed Stewardship of Tithe card at Mass on **Stewardship Commitment Weekend, November 20-21, 2021** (or simply by mail if you will not be able to join us that weekend). My hope and desire is to have **every family/household** from our entire OLG parish community participate by returning your 2022 Stewardship of Tithe card.

With all that 2020 and 2021 has brought upon us, our financial needs have increased as we strive to offer much needed support and ongoing ministry through such unprecedented times. It is my hope that in 2022 you will be able to collectively commit to an increase of your current annual giving by 10% or even 20% over last year’s to help address these needs.

Together, with your generosity, we shall continue to do extraordinary work in our community and beyond, fulfilling our mission of *making Jesus Christ known and loved*. May God bless you for sharing your gifts of tithe to the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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Pastor