

December 15, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

I hope you are enjoying the Christmas season. The enclosed envelopes and coupons remind you that we are beginning a new year.

Each month you receive envelopes along with your own personalized coupons. The envelopes are self-addressed in case you are out of town and would like to send your contribution by mail. If you made a weekly commitment on Stewardship Sunday, the Sunday coupons contain the weekly amount that you indicated. If you choose to contribute monthly rather than weekly, you need only put one coupon in the envelope with your contribution. Regardless of the date listed on the coupon, your contribution will be posted for that Sunday on which it was received. Some people give us a check and want us to post the contributions for four weeks in one month and four different weeks in a different month. We cannot do that, for we are obliged to follow auditing and accounting procedures. Feel free to return to the parish office or in the collection basket any unused envelopes in your monthly packet.

Please use the coupons with your contribution, for it assures a more accurate posting of your contribution in our records and saves us a lot of time and effort. When we receive only a check without the coupon, we have to write out the information by hand for computer entry. Contributions are deposited immediately. During the week, someone else records your contribution in the computer.

Throughout the year we announce several special collections. Some may have greater appeal to you than others. To help your planning of donations to the year in addition to the regular Sunday donations, I have listed on the other side of this letter the special collections that will be taking place this coming year. If you are contributing on a given Sunday to more than one collection, e.g., the regular Sunday collection and a special collection, you may write one check and mark the amount of your donation on each coupon. Thus you let us know how much of your donation you want allotted to each fund. In other words, one envelope can contain one check and several coupons.

As we begin this new year, you might consider giving electronically, through *Faith Direct*. Several hundred parishioners, including me, have already switched from traditional check writing to online giving using a credit card or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. If you're interested, check our parish web site for instructions. There is no cost to you, and the benefits to the parish are many, including fewer mailings such as these. You will still receive my monthly letter via email, and *Faith Direct* will provide you with coupons to place in the offertory basket as a sign of your support.

Your statement of donations for 2015 will be sent to you this coming month. I hope they help you in preparing your tax returns. If we have made any mistakes in our calculations, don't hesitate to call the parish office. Andrea Fowler (ext. 154) will happily make any adjustments.

Thank you for your generosity both to your parish and to the various other causes you have supported throughout the year. May you have a blessed 2016!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork
Pastor