

ST. MARK'S PLAN FOR GIVING AND SHARING – 10/07

We recognize that we have a commitment as Catholics to support our parish community, the Diocese of Paterson and the needs of the Catholic Church universal. In order to do this and be faithful stewards of the limited resources of St. Mark's we are adopting the following Plan for Giving and Sharing.

- **There is one regular collection each Sunday of the month and on holy days.** Each family decides what they can give. A good guide is the scriptural suggestion to give 5% of our weekly income. We urge you to register as parishioners and to use the envelopes that are mailed to you. You can use on-line banking payments or make other arrangements with your own bank for payments that can be sent to St. Mark's on a weekly, bi-weekly or month basis.
- **There is a second collection on the first Sunday of the month for "Parish Past Debt Reduction".** The contributions to this collection will help us meet our obligations from the past. We ask that each family consider a minimal suggested donation of \$20 each month. Our current mortgage payment is \$7,300 a month.
- **The Third Sunday of each month - 2nd Collection is for our "St. Mark's "Extended Catholic obligations" -** This collection combines all of the 8 national collections that we are asked to support throughout the year as well as our obligation to the diocese for "Project Faith". This collection helps us try to stay current with our current financial obligations to the diocese and other outside obligations without accumulating more debt. We ask that each family consider a suggestion minimal donation of \$20 each month.
- **The envelope packet for the third Sunday also includes a "Building Fund" envelope. There are four reasons why this collection envelope is included:**
 1. We have never taken this up as a collection but ask you to put the envelope in the regular collection.
 2. There are some parishioner families who are still paying off their initial pledge to the new church through this envelope.
 3. There are some families who are in a position to continue to support the church fund and we appreciate their support.
 4. We hope that our newer families who have joined us since 2002 (and older families who did not pledge in the past) will make a pledge in their hearts to help us meet our obligations for the new church. Please consider supporting us with this envelope at \$50 a month of three years or four years.

In Summary: There will only be 6 collections taken up per month at St. Mark's.

There will be no other collections taken up throughout the year. If there is an event e.g. Hurricane Katrina we will have free will offering baskets available for anyone who wishes to give donations. If there is a guest speaker who wishes to speak to the parish community about their particular needs we will also have a free will offering baskets available for anyone who wishes to give donations.