



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

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Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

I've been very impressed to see the great generosity that our parishioners have shown over and over again. This generosity has been evident in mission appeals held at our parish, in the house that we built for the family in Haiti, in little things like collections for Christmas and Easter flowers, and in our normal Sunday collection. I want you to know that I appreciate your generosity!

The generosity of our parish has been highlighted in a wonderful way through three very significant gifts that were given by parishioners who have gone before us in death. Just since last July, the estates of Dagmar Foley, Thomas and Marie Greve, and Edna Schwander left generous gifts to support the parish that they called home for so many years. The gifts received from these generous parishioners totaled nearly \$450,000! One of the gifts even stipulated that a portion should be given to some of the families in need within our parish. We are blessed that these gifts are not needed for parish operating costs, and so they have been added to our parish savings.

I highlight these gifts for two reasons. First, I think it is important that all of us are able to express gratitude to these parishioners and friends who have supported our parish. Our expression of gratitude can take the form of prayers and Masses offered for the repose of their souls. As Catholics, we know that our prayers are a real help to the souls of family and friends who may be in Purgatory and who are awaiting the everlasting reward of heaven. And so, we should never neglect our duty to pray for those who have departed this earthly life.

Second, I highlight these gifts to encourage you to remember our parish in your financial and estate planning. Generous gifts like these can help the parish to tackle future projects that would otherwise be impossible. And they help ensure that this beautiful and holy parish will be here for future generations and future centuries.

To Jesus through Mary,

Fr. Jonathan

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