

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Of course, given today's date, many people, including priests, have to think about paying taxes to the government. Most adults have no choice by law but to pay taxes, or at least file tax returns.

For Catholics, and many other church-goers, there are choices to be made in terms of charitable giving. In other words, we are not required to donate to charities or our church, but we should feel an obligation to support church or charities in some way. For some people, that might mean time or talent. For others it might mean mostly donating money. For some, it might not be possible to help at this time.

It is amazing how generous people are to charities and our church. Week after week, people support charities and our parish in a tremendous way. Our parish is in a better than 'break even' situation and other causes do well here when we have a second collection or a drive for a special purpose.

The Capital Campaign for the Archdiocese is well underway in many parishes. We are still in the early stages in our parish, and I have to contact more people individually. In about a month, I will open it to the whole parish. We already have pledges of about \$600,000 toward our goal. We have a ways to go and I will keep doing my part in asking for donations above and beyond normal contributions. Sometimes it seems like a lot to ask, and sometimes it is, but people have to know I only hope for the best. If someone cannot make a pledge when the request comes, there is no reason to feel bad. With the generosity of so many in this parish, I know we will provide well for the parish and archdiocesan goals in this Campaign. I did not come up with the ask amounts for the Campaign, but like every Pastor, I simply have to ask everyone to contribute if they can. I know you will do what you can, as will I when I make my pledge.

Please pray for the success of the Campaign to keep our parish and archdiocese strong. The most important thing is to live our faith.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.