



ST. MARGARET, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND

ST. THOMAS CHAPEL • SPRINGFIELD

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26 July 2020

The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Friends in the Lord:

Everything we have is truly a gift from God, and the Lord encourages us to generously share those blessings with others. When we do, we accumulate lasting treasure. Because we define giving as an act of love and because we measure it against the great gift of God's Son, then giving generously and sacrificially is exactly the point. Prayerfully, we give with generous hearts. At St. Margaret and St. Thomas, we have much for which we are thankful, and we are mindful that these things – our health, our homes, our relationships, our communion with Christ and other parishioners, all of our earthly treasures – are gifts from God's hands and are entrusted to us with his blessing, that we might live as his own and honor Christ by sharing. We honor Jesus when we give. Giving is planned, proportionate, sacrificial, born of free expression, and prayerful.

On the obverse of this letter is a generic financial report for the 2019/2020 fiscal year – proof to you that God has blessed this community abundantly and that we continue to use these gifts as “good stewards” – a theme that has long been a hallmark of the administration of this parish. I am especially grateful to all of you for your increased stewardship this past year; together, **you have generated an increase of some 16% in general receipts as compared with last year!** Even with economic fears because of COVID-19, our parish managed to continue to preserve our mission while looking forward to the future. Thank you for your generosity! Let's make 2020 equally as successful!

As a result of your generosity, we were able to do many great things on our campus and in our community including moving toward virtual outreach. As the parochial administrator, I again commit that we will use the temporal gifts you give to us prudently. **Please feel free to call me directly should you have any questions about this report** as it is often difficult to read. We were able to even put money back into savings this year despite beginning to reduce debt incurred by our construction project.

We have recently begun a new fiscal year, and there are many ministerial and physical plans that we hope to accomplish together over the next year. Would you consider being a continued “good steward” by investing in St. Margaret your time, your talent and your treasure and continue to give *prayerfully* with your generous hearts? As we begin a new year of ministry, we continue the work of a faithful Catholic community whose every effort is a work of faith rooted in a generous heart and spirit!

Yours in the Lord,

Very Reverend Jamin Scott David
Pastor