

September 28, 2017

Dear Members and Friends of St. Joseph Church,

As we face the autumn season, it is important to stop and give thanks for the rich variety of blessings God provides in our lives. The more we recognize God's loving presence in our experiences and activities the more we authentically celebrate the Eucharist and live as a Christian community. I am convinced that God gives us our abilities, our resources and life itself so that we can gratefully share whom we are and what we have with praise and thanksgiving. Each of us is called to intentionally, thoughtfully, and proportionately share something of our time, talent, and treasure with our Church and with charities. This prayerfully planned sharing of ourselves is one of the ways we live the Eucharist in our daily lives. For a gentle reminder to see just how much you are already living as good stewards of God's gifts, take the time to do this little exercise. Look at your checkbook and your calendar for the last month. Calculate how you have spent your time and money over the last 30 days. Describe how you have used your abilities for the sake of people beyond your immediate family. I am confident that some meaningful percentage of your resources has been spent out of gratitude to our Loving God. Our faith community is as vibrant and alive as each of us is willing to share of ourselves.

**Here are some of the highlights for the month of October:**

- 1: The St. Vincent de Paul Food Truck will be in the parking lot for donations brought to Church.
- 2: Divorce Care meets in the Blue Room at 6:30 pm.
- 8: CCD Parent Open House after 8:30 Mass. The Parish Life Committee meeting is at 8:30 in the Social Hall.
- 10: The Finance Committee meeting is at 6:30 pm in the Rectory.
- 21: The Annual Octoberfest will be held at 5:30 pm. More information will follow in the bulletin.
- 22: The Growing Families Program will begin in Church following the 8:30 am Mass.
- 24: Anointing Mass at St. James in North Jackson.
- 28: The Knights of Columbus Hoagie Dinner after 4:30 Mass.
- 29: The All Saints Parade will begin at 10:15 am.

Two new members of the Parish Staff will be introduced at weekend liturgies this month. Deacon Jim Massacci will be introduced on September 30 & October 1. Tom Sauline, our new pastoral associate will be introduced on October 21 & 22. I am very happy and excited to have these fine men join our ministry team. I am confident you will enjoy them as well.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Rev. Gregory F. Fedor/Pastor