

THE CARPENTER'S NEWSLETTER



The Official Newsletter of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Oshawa

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY - 5:00 PM

SUNDAY - 9:00 & 11:00 AM

MONDAY - SATURDAY 9:00 AM

FIRST FRIDAYS - MASS & ADORATION -
7:00 PM



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Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of the parish through your regular parish offerings. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, the parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account. There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish.

For information on how to enrol, please contact your parish office or email development@archtoronto.org.

PASTOR'S DESK

Dear parishioners,

Peace and blessings of the Lord be with you. I know winter is giving its bite, but then we know after this last frosty time comes the warm sunshine. We hang on therefore, making the best of the time right now.

In the coming weeks, we shall make available the schedule for our Lenten program: Retreat, Day of Confessions, Schedule of programs. We look forward to that extraordinary renewing time for the rejuvenation of our faith and our spirit.

I wish to seize this opportunity to congratulate all married couples as we celebrate Marriage Sunday this year. And in particular those who celebrate some milestone anniversaries. The universal Church of God rejoices with you, and so do your brethren at St. Joseph the Worker Parish. Many more years of joy, love, vigor and good health. Page 3 has more information for those celebrating milestone anniversaries.

May the good Lord fill us all with his spirit and bless our days.

Fr. Victor Amole
Pastor

Advantages for you:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish.
- Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away.
- Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish.

Advantages for the Parish:

- Regular, dependable contributions to the parish.
- Reduction of cash on hand.
- Reduction of paperwork.

We thank all of our parishioners for their generous donations during this difficult time.

GOSPEL INSPIRATION

TO NURTURE OR BE NURTURED?

Written by Fr. Victor

If you see charity, you see the Trinity.

-Augustine, De Trinitate, VIII, 8, 12: CCL 50, 287

The biblical figures of Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus, are prominent for the average Christian. In the story recounted by the evangelist Luke these two sisters seem to represent the faces of hospitality and discipleship respectively.[1] They appear as symbols of arguments regarding the importance of nurturing on the one hand, or being nurtured on the other hand. On a certain occasion that Jesus was on a visit to the sisters' house, Martha got all busy with entertaining him as any good host would. Mary however simply sat at his feet, literally glued to the words that flowed from his mouth, conversing with him and learning from the fount of wisdom.

In several Christian discourses these two apparently opposed behaviors of the two sisters of Lazarus have received different evaluations. While some argue that Martha's care for the visiting master was appropriate, many others oppose a flight after material preoccupations while ignoring the source of all good in the person of Jesus. And the last argument often seems to have the upper hand as Jesus himself had lauded Mary's choice as the best.

The question I often ask myself on reflecting on this dilemma of a seeming oscillation between nurturing like Martha or being nurtured like Mary is "did Jesus eat of the food that Martha was preparing at the end of his discourse with Mary?" Answer that question and you will not but have a strong urge to laugh. I would say he must have. He came to be entertained anyway; he was a visitor. Knowing him from the way He is presented in the scriptural accounts, Jesus was a homely, social person. The gospels had made reference to him as the son of man who "came eating and drinking." [2] So what do you think? Jesus condemns Martha as running about while he commends Mary as having chosen the better part only to turn around to feast on Martha's food? Oh yes that seems to be the case, hilarious as it may sound!

This turning around to feast on Martha's food however shifts our focus somewhat, making us see Jesus' take on the dilemma in a more lucid manner.

He was surely not condemning the act of nurturing. Hospitality is a Christian gesture, and Jesus himself had encouraged at different instances in the scriptures the importance of being hospitable and kind. His presence at different dinners and feasts underscores the point. At a point in time he even invited himself to Zacchaeus' house.

Rather the point of Jesus at the sisters' house is an opening of the eyes to the primary while not forgetting the secondary. It is not so much the lauding of Mary as a listener while condemning Martha as a busybody, but the presentation of values in their proper order. If Jesus is the fullness of all good and in him inheres all virtues, there is no doubt all hospitality and all nurturing flows from him. Thus while Mary is lauded because she sat at the master's feet learning and drinking from this source of hospitality, the learning period or this period of being nurtured must have to come to an end and then flow into another important period in time: the nurturing period. There is no true listening to the Word that ends at listening. The Word is always heard in order to consequently galvanize us into action. We refer to that as 'bearing fruit' in the gospel language.

Thus even Mary, who is here lauded, would eventually have to arise from being nurtured and go nurture, from listening to doing, from taking to giving. True Christian charity begins from a learning of what charity means. It begins from an alignment with Charity itself; it begins with being formed in the school of the master. Schooling at the master's feet is however ridiculously useless if the student would not eventually act on the knowledge gained, like the true scribe who becomes a disciple and, having being taught, "brings out from his storeroom new things as well as old." The one who is truly nurtured learns to emerge from the gift of being nurtured to the field of nurturing.

This again is one of the lessons of Jesus to the twelve on the evening before he suffered. He washed their feet individually. It is a sweet experience to be pampered, cared for, nurtured, and taught. But he says to them, "I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you." [3] The ultimate desire and obligation of a Christian is to nurture after being nurtured.

[1] Luke 10:38-42

[2] Matthew 11:19; Luke 7:34

[3] John 13:15



UNIVERSAL INTENTION OF THE POPE

Religious Sisters and Consecrated Women

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

AROUND THE PARISH

REGROUPING OF THE CHOIR

We are in the process of getting our choir together again. The hope is to hit the ground running as soon as we are able to have congregational singing again in the Church. Please indicate your interest by calling the office and we will get you listed and be in touch as soon as it is safe to meet.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS AND ADORATION

March 4th is the first Friday for the month. As usual we shall have Mass in the morning at 9 am and also in the evening at 7pm. Followed by an hour of Eucharistic adoration while confession is also available. Come let us adore the Lord.

PARISH NEEDS

Many thanks to all of you for your contributions to the good of the church. And particularly to the individuals that have taken up one item or two to sponsor in the list of the needs of the parish. May God replenish you abundantly. Thank you. Hopefully and gradually we can get all the items on the list attended to soon.

SHOPPING GIFT CARD PROGRAM

The Knights of Columbus Council 9989 of St. Joseph the Worker Parish would like you to know about our great Shopping Gift Card Program. When you purchase a Shopping Card from us you receive a Card for the same amount, we as a Charity buy the cards in bulk and get a rebate, then use the money to help support our Parish Community through our many programs.

For example, when you purchase a \$50 Shopping Card for a Grocery Store or Gas Station etc... you get the full \$50 Card you asked for with No extra fees to you. We all buy groceries, gas, items from the dollar stores, Lowe's, Tim Hortons etc. Why not buy the cards from us, then you also support the Knights of Columbus supporting our Parish Community. You can buy Cards in any denomination you want and as many as you wish.

Please give us a try as with these Covid restrictions over the last many months our fund raising programs have been limited and we would love your support. Thank You for always stepping up to help out and from the Knights of Columbus here at our Parish... We appreciate all that you do.

Shane James
Grand Knight

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE SUNDAY MASS WITH BISHOP KASUN

Celebration of Marriage Sunday Mass with Bishop Kasun, CSB – February 13, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. As part of Marriage Sunday 2022 celebrations, Bishop Robert Kasun, CSB will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2022. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 13 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). Due to distancing measures, cathedral attendance is limited to pre-registered couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries. Please see <https://www.archtoronto.org/marriage> for more information.

LETTER FROM FROM CARDINAL THOMAS COLLINS TO MARRIED COUPLES

Download a copy of a letter from Cardinal Collins to mark the celebration of the Marriage Sunday and celebration of milestone anniversaries at <https://bit.ly/MS-LetterToCouples>

BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM

The New Beginnings Bereavement Introductory Program offers both women and men a learning environment which is safe, welcoming and non-judgmental. The program provides 4 weeks of psycho-education which assists and accompanies the bereaved in exploring grief, experiencing healing and renewing faith. The program resources include PowerPoint and time will be allocated for questions and group discussion. See <https://nbb0203.eventbrite.ca> for more information.



CHAPLAINCY NEWS

THE GREAT OPPORTUNITY

The Totus Tuus Program is making a comeback this year and the Office of Catholic Youth is on the look for new missionaries! So what is the program all about?

Totus Tuus is a missionary program organized by the Office of Vocations and the Office of Catholic Youth that offers post-secondary students, recent graduates and seminarians an opportunity to spend their summer (June to August) sharing their love for Jesus with children. Live in community, travel with your fellow missionaries and serve children and teens after formation and training with great leaders and former missionaries. Visit the website <https://www.totustuustoronto.ca> to apply!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 2022

10 RELATIONSHIPS' PANEL

This event is hosted by our friends at the UTSC Chaplaincy. We are happy to share that our own campus minister Conchita and her husband Rafael are two of the panelists for this evening! Listen to their story as well a recently engaged couple and a couple who has 30+ plus experience married! Bring all your questions on dating, engagement and marriage. Register for the event via the link in our instagram page @oshawacatholic. See you on Zoom on February 10th from 7-8 p.m.

11 ENCOUNTER

Adoration, praise and worship music, prayer, and confessions. Join us on February 11th at 7 p.m. sharp for a testimony shared by a Keith Diaz, ReGen Missionary & facilitator of the chaplaincy men's group! We cannot wait to see you for our first Encounter of 2022!

14 MEN'S GROUP

Interested in growing in community and building good friendships with your fellow brothers in Christ? Men's group features fellowship, prayer, study and discussion where life's questions are explored in a safe and friendly setting. Contact us for more info and how to join the Chaplaincy gentlemen on February 14th in the evening.

16 WOMEN'S GROUP

Calling all ladies! Come join us and chat about some pressing topics of today while discovering the feminine genius and growing more fully into the woman God has called you to be! Our next topic on February 16th will be, 'Envy versus Intimacy'. See you at 6 p.m.

FUN IDEAS TO CHASE AWAY WINTER BLUES

Bundle up and go outside for a walk | Work out | Call a friend | Come to a chaplaincy event | Have a little piece of dark chocolate | Try out a fun new recipe | Host a friend for a meal or sleepover | Watch Encanto | Read an adventure book | Watch Fr. Michael Schmitz on Ascension Presents!

HAVE THINGS ON YOUR MIND?

Graduating soon? Starting a new job? Navigating relationships? Have a lot on your heart? We get it, we've been there before! Talking and chatting with someone really helps to tame the thoughts that might have become giants in our mind. Know that your campus ministers are always here to grab a coffee with you, chat your heart out and help you discern your next steps. Need spiritual direction? We have some amazing people on speed dial whom we can connect you with. And let's not forget about our Chaplain Fr. Victor who is also ever-ready to help you in this New Year.

So go on, don't be shy! We are just a call, text or email away.

LET'S

DEMYSTIFY

What is chastity?

The word "chastity" isn't synonymous with the word "abstinence". Within this context, abstinence is defined as refraining from sexual intercourse.

1.

Abstinence is an aspect of pre-marital chastity but isn't the endgame. Chastity runs much deeper by giving us a deep reverence and respect for both our eternal souls and the heart of God.

2.

Loving someone never means sinning with them. Whether you are single, married or ordained you too are called to honour God through your body.

3.

Sexual intimacy is way better when it's founded in real love. Real love is worth it and chastity is the way to get there. It's no surprise that Saint John Paul II said that chastity is the "sure way to happiness."

5.

Chastity is a virtue; in other words it is a good habit that unites us with the Lord. Virtues propel us to what we truly want- God's plan and Will in our lives!

4.

The virtue of chastity equips us to love with authenticity. It requires, and fosters, and reinforces our abilities to moderate our behavior, to govern our appetites, and to transcend the urge to use each other—traits that make love possible.

6.

1-4. Katie Hartfiel, The Chastity Project
5. Forest Hempen, The Chastity Project 6. Arleen Spenceley, The Chastity Project

SAINTS OF THE MONTH

SAINT FEAST DAYS & QUOTES

February 2 - The Presentation of the Lord

February 3 -Saint Blaise and Saint Ansgar

"Father of mercy and God of all consolation, graciously look upon me and impart to me the blessing which flows from this holy Sacrament. Overshadow me with Your loving kindness, and let this divine Mystery bear fruit in me." (Saint Blaise)

February 5 -St Agatha

"Lord, my Creator, You have protected me since I was in the cradle. You have taken me from the love of the world and given me patience to suffer. Now receive my spirit."

February 6 -St Paul Miki and Companions

"Like my Master I shall die upon the cross. Like Him, a lance will pierce my heart, so that my blood and my love can flow out upon the land and sanctify it to His name."

February 8 -St Jerome Emiliani and Saint Josephine Bakhita

"In God's will, there is great peace." (Saint Josephine Bakhita)

February 10 - St Scholastica

"I asked you and you would not listen. So I asked my God and he did listen."

February 11 -Our Lady of Lourdes

"I do not promise you happiness in this world, but in the next."

—Our Lady to St Bernadette

February 14 -St Cyril Monk and St Methodius Bishop

"Behold, my brother, we have shared the same destiny, ploughing the same furrow; I now fall in the field at the end of my day. I know that you greatly love your Mountain; but do not for the sake of the Mountain give up your work of teaching." (St. Cyril, Monk – on his deathbed – to St. Methodius, Bishop)

February 17 -Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

February 21 -Saint Peter Damian

"Do not be depressed. Do not let your weakness make you impatient. Instead, let the serenity of your spirit shine through your face. Let the joy of your mind burst forth."

February 22 -Chair of St Peter

February 23 -St Polycarp Bishop

"Let us, therefore, forsake the vanity of the crowd and their false teachings, and turn back to the word delivered to us from the beginning."

February 27 -St Gregory of Narek

"You found me, a sinner, lost in darkness crying like the psalmist in prayer, and because of Your willing care you were called Shepherd, for not only did You care but You sought, not only did You find, O worker of miracles but with the goodness of Your love, a love that defies description, You rescued me, lifting me upon Your shoulders, to set me down alongside Your heavenly army, the heirs to Your fatherly legacy. "

STORY OF A SAINT

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

(13th Century)

February 17

Patron Saint of The Servite Order, Devotion to our Lady.

In thirteenth century Florence , a group of seven wealthy noblemen banded together to give their lives to the Lord. At first they joined the Confraternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary . Then upon Mary's request in a vision , they decided to withdraw from the city and dedicate themselves to a life of prayer and penance.

The men left Florence , Mary then appeared to them a second time and encouraged them to wear a black habit and adopt the rule of Saint Augustine . From then on , they were called the Servants of Mary . All were ordained to the priesthood except for Alexis Falconieri , who wanted to be a lay brother. The order combined a monastic life with active ministry , praying, caring for the poor , teaching and preaching . The men also sought to spread devotion to Mary .As the group grew they started foundations in many countries. Today the Servites are found throughout the world.



FAQS ON THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality: a two-year global process of listening to the faithful that will help the Church reflect on how we can do God's will in the world today. The comments of the faithful will ultimately be discussed at a meeting of the bishops in the Vatican in 2023. To learn more about the Synod on Synodality and to share your thoughts, please visit: www.archtoronto.org/synodality.

1. What is a Synod?

The meaning of the term "synod" comes from Greek: walking together on the road. In a synod, bishops from around the world are called by the Holy Father to come together to pray, reflect, and discuss important issues for the Church. It is a process of discernment, of listening to the Holy Spirit guiding the Church. A synod typically concludes with a formal statement that gives guidance and direction for the entire Church.

2. What is the Synod on Synodality?

Pope Francis has called for the Synod on Synodality to be a time of prayerful reflection and discernment on the way that the Church, that is, the laity, pastors, and the Holy Father 'journey together', or walk together on the road. The focus of the Synod is on Communion, Participation, and Mission. It is a two-year process of worldwide consultation, beginning an invitation for people in every diocese to share their thoughts and experiences. It concludes with the Synod of Bishops, who will receive a synthesis of the responses and discern the voice of the Spirit in the Church of the Third Millennium. The Preparatory Document for the Synod states that the purpose of the Synod is "intended to inspire people to dream about the church we are called to be, to make people's hopes flourish, to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to weave new and deeper relationships, to learn from one another, to build bridges, to enlighten minds, warm hearts, and restore strength to our hands for our common mission." (PD 32)

Listen to Cardinal Collins on the Synod on Synodality:
<https://bit.ly/CardinalCollinsSynod>



3. When is the Synod?

The synodal process began in October 2021 and will conclude in October 2023. There are three main phases or stages:

- Diocesan phase: October 2021 – August 2022;
- Continental phase: August 2022 – March 2023;
- Universal Church phase: October 2023:
XVI Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in Rome.

4. Who participates in the Synod?

Everyone is invited to participate in the Synod. The Bishops need to hear from people in all situations so that they can hear the voices of the entire People of God. This means we need to spread the word about our local survey, especially to those who may not hear about it in church or on a parish website.

5. I don't go to church regularly. Should I still participate in the Synod?

Yes! Every voice needs to be heard. Please respond to the survey and tell us about your experiences.

Synod
2021
2023

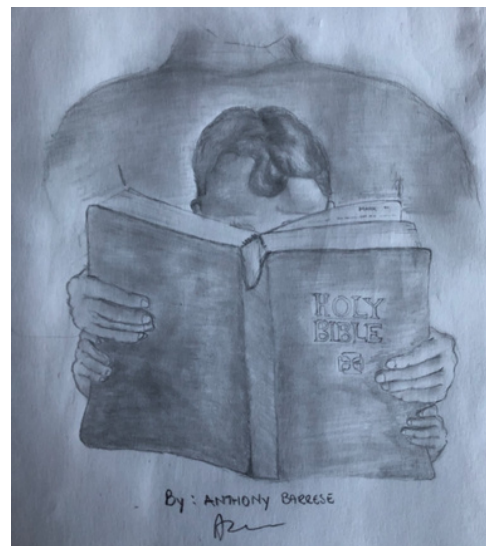
For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

ANECDOTE OF THE MONTH

A door-to-door salesman from a publishing house asked a lady if she owned a copy of the Bible. "I certainly do!" she replied with some pride. To his next question, did she read it regularly, she responded, "Oh, yes!" and sent her little daughter to get the Bible from the table drawer. As she showed it to the man, her spectacles fell from between the pages. Without thinking, she exclaimed, "Oh, here are my glasses! I've been looking for these for 3 years!"

Do you know where your bible is?
Do you read it at all? 😊

Special thanks to Anthony Barrese, a member of our parish community who drew the illustration to accompany the anecdote of the month. Have drawing talents and want to be featured in our Newsletter? Contact the main office for more details on how you can be the next artist!



HOW TO CONTINUE GIVING

We know that many parishioners would like to continue to donate to the parish on a regular basis during this time. As a non-profit organization, our parish relies heavily on your financial assistance, but especially since we are unable to open for Mass due to the current health crisis. Here are some ways to continue giving:

SECURE MAILBOXES AT THE PARISH

If you would like to make your usual weekly donation or otherwise support us in this regard, we invite you to make a donation at the parish.

We now have TWO secure mailboxes available for our parishioners.

The mailboxes are locked and under 24 hour surveillance so your donations are secure and will be checked daily.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING (PAG)

If you are interested in pre-authorized giving, please contact the parish office to obtain a registration form. Once the form is completed, feel free to email the form along with a scanned copy or photo of a voided cheque to development@archtoronto.org for processing. Contributions would then be withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.

ONLINE GIVING

If you would prefer to donate online, there are various options available:

1. Contribute via credit card as a one-time or recurring contribution
2. Contribute via online banking by emailing your name, address, parish name and municipality (e.g. Durham and Scarborough) to campaign@archtoronto.org, in response to which the Archdiocese of Toronto will email you account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese as a payee for the purposes of online banking. Your one-time or recurring gift will then be forwarded to our parish.

We thank all of our parishioners for their generous donations during this difficult time.

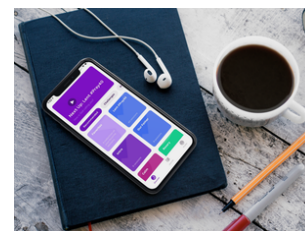
WILLS

Do you know a bequest in your Will to our Church is an acknowledgment of your returning to God a portion of the gifts He has bestowed on you during your life-time. Charitable bequests can have a favourable impact on your overall estate plan and positively affect gifts you make to your loved ones. Gift of securities too can support your parish. Please call the office to find out more or see <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/social-justice--outreach/development-and-sharelife/home/planned-giving/>

INTRODUCING HALLOW: THE #1 CATHOLIC APP

Hallow is a Catholic prayer app that offers audio-guided meditation sessions to help us grow in our faith & spiritual lives and find peace in God. Explore over 1,000 different sessions on contemplative prayer, meditation, Catholic Bible readings, music, and more. In today's world with its distraction, stress and anxiety, Hallow becomes a one-stop app that helps us to pray as Catholics and also doubles as a formidable tool for meditation. There are other functions that the app could offer. It is definitely worth a try.

Hallow has a free version and a subscription version. But even the free version does give abundant resources that can aid us in our journey of faith. No wonder the app has remained on the top list, actually the very 1st Catholic app in mobile apps' store. Check out the Hallow App on your phone's app stores and benefit from its abundant resources. As we look forward to the beginning of Lent by March, this app is truly a needed tool in our spiritual arsenal.



Hallow
Catholic Prayer & Meditation App

THE CARPENTER'S NEWSLETTER



The Official Newsletter of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Oshawa

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CONTRIBUTIONS

If you are interested in contributing towards this new parish initiative (i.e., the printing costs associated with this publication) please contact the Parish Office. We thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

If you are interested in advertising your professional services in the Carpenter's Newsletter, please contact the parish office for more details.



SING A NEW SONG UNTO THE LORD: CALLING FOR CHOIR MEMBERS

It is ironical, given our current practice of not having congregational singing, to talk of forming a choir. But then we are an Easter people, Alleluia is our song. As Christians our vision is always future-oriented, working on our today to make the future better. We therefore need to begin to plan for a post-pandemic time even from now. Music is at the heart of our liturgy and worship. Our cantors have been doing a great job, but there is always room for improvement. This is why it is my desire as your Pastor to form a choir that will animate our liturgy and assist us better in worshipping the Lord. Please contact the parish office to indicate your interest. Let us praise the Lord with all we are blessed with, including our voice. It is a wonderful means of prayer as Saint Augustine tells us. See also Psalm 95: 1-11; James 5:13; Psalm 150:6. God bless you.

OUR PARISH NEEDS

Sincere thanks to all who have specifically donated towards the list of our special parish needs. A good number of the items have now been donated for and are gradually being fulfilled. There are some three items that stand out and we still stand in need of: Newsletter Sponsorship, Repairs of walkways and steps at the back of the church, changing of our pod lights to LED to help save cost while making the church brighter, and replacement of the steel stairs at the back of the church. We are grateful for your generosity and may God bless you.



Dear Parishioners,

Merry Christmas!
Thank you sincerely for your generosity to your parish community. Some of the items have now been taken care of and ticked off. The metal steps and pavements behind the church are big ones and continue to call for our attention. The estimates we just got show this is going to be capital intensive.

And yet necessary, especially for safety reasons.
I'll be so glad if you can help us achieve these milestones. Please call the office or email me. All donations have tax receipts. May the joy of Christmas be born in your heart! Amen.

SET OF CHASUBLES	\$5,000	
ONE CHASUBLE	\$700 - \$1,000 range	✓
CHALICE FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS	\$2,000	✓
NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIP	\$500 per month	
REPLACEMENT OF STEEL STAIRS BEHIND CHURCH	\$50,000	
SET OF CIBORIA	\$1,200	✓
REPAIRS OF WALKWAY/STEPS (BACK OF CHURCH & HALL)	\$30,000	
PROCESSIONAL CROSS	\$3,000	✓
LED POD LIGHTS	\$10,000	
FESTIVE ALTAR LINENS	\$600 each	✓

May God Bless you always.

Tax receipts will be given for all donations

