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September 25, 2017

When I stood in front of you last year, jokingly telling you that I looked for the most challenging volunteer opportunity at St. Michael's (Stewardship Chairman), I didn't let myself down. With the challenge of being Stewardship Chairman came multiple blessings that I didn't expect. Mainly, I learned of the generosity, love, and support that my fellow parishioners (each one of you) have for St. Michael's, each other, and for God. I learned how incredibly generous you ALL are with your time, talent, and treasure.

It's that time of year again; we, the Stewardship Team, are asking not only for a commitment of money, but also a commitment of your time and talent. As Father Perkins generates a new level of excitement here at St. Michael's that we all feel, we must all understand that our financial giving is necessary to pay salaries, utilities, and support the outreach that we provide to those in need. Over the past 4-5 weeks we have taken a transparent approach to leave brief 'Stewardship Messages' in the Sword to inform you where your treasure is dedicated. Our hope is that you recognize these various programs as the living body of St. Michael's, programs that on some level touch the lives of each one of you. Without your support of time, talent and treasure, St. Michael's will not survive.

We are very sensitive to those caring for elderly relatives, those in between jobs, and those who are dealing with health concerns and the medical expenses that accompany those needs. In that light, we don't want to place undue financial hardship on anyone as we ask for a pledge commitment. Neither should your pledge be easy. We ask you to please pray about your pledge amount, and consider what St. Michael's means to your own spiritual well-being and that of your family, the place where your children will be educated and cared for in Christ, and the place where you continue your own search for religious meaning.

Enclosed is your 2018 pledge card and a listing of all the ministries which serve St. Michael's. The pledge card is a commitment of your treasure. The ministry form is for a commitment of time and talent. Please consider increasing your total commitment to St. Michael's.

Please return your pledge card and ministry form to the church before October 31, 2017. God bless you and your family, and may God bless St. Michael's.

Tim Raynor, Stewardship Co-Chair

