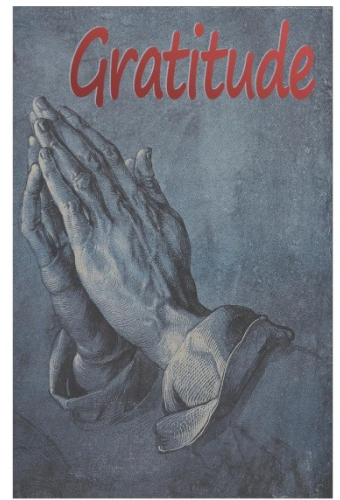




647 Dundee Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010
www.stmichaelsbarrington.org
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October 3, 2018

2018 has been an exciting year of spiritual growth for St. Michael's. Together, we have grown as a faith community, as we have experienced the changes, challenges and blessings that are a part of our everyday life. These challenges and blessings come to us in many forms: our work and employment, our family responsibilities, our health and financial changes, and the impacts can be felt in so many ways in our lives. In all of these blessings and challenges, thankfully and gratefully, we can feel the hand of God assisting us and helping us manage personally and professionally through both success and adversity.

In recognition of how God helps us each and every day, our 2019 Stewardship Campaign theme is **GRATITUDE!** We sense God's help as He provides us with strength, comfort, wisdom, perspective and the ability to discern our path in life and the next right thing. As faithful stewards of God's gifts we are able to work and serve others and to participate in a community of similar believers – St. Michael's.

This year, we ask that you contemplate the ways in which God has helped you and your family, and specifically, how the St. Michael's community has contributed positively in your life. We ask that you recall those moments of blessing and grace and to give thoughtful prayer and consideration as to how those gifts can be reflected in your pledge.

Our pledge goal for 2019 is \$700,000. This reflects the current operating expense of the parish. You may remember back to this year's annual meeting in January, we faced a potential shortfall in our operating budget to support the work of St. Michael's. While we have been careful stewards of our income and expenses this year, additional budgetary challenges exist and fully meeting our 2019 stewardship goal will enable St. Michael's to continue God's powerful work in our parish, our community and in the world. As you may know, St. Michael's, like all parishes, will continue to see some erosion in our pledge base as parishioners retire and relocate as part their next phase in life.

We know that we each have our own financial priorities and unique circumstances and it may be a challenge to commit a greater amount this year. We ask that your pledge to St. Michael's can be based on prayerful contemplation of God's presence in your life. We ask that you recognize the value of St. Michael's in your life, in your family's life and in the lives of those in our parish and beyond, and to pledge accordingly.

Please return your Pledge Card to the church on or before November 11, 2018. May God bless you and your family and may God bless St. Michael's.

Jim Stevens

Stewardship Chair

You can return your pledge card using the enclosed envelope by US Mail, on the offering plate, or in one of the boxes at church.

