My fellow parishioners:

The objective of this letter is to give you a clear picture of our weekly offertory collection and show you how we are faring when it comes to meeting the Basilica’s budget. The accompanying graphic will become a regular feature in our church bulletin and on our website, www.basilicaofsaintmary.org.

As you may know, the budget pays to keep the lights, heat, air conditioning on in our church and office. It also pays salaries, support ministries, help to fund church events, and much more.

Unfortunately, in each of our last two fiscal years, we have experienced a decrease in offertory giving that has forced us to decrease our budget.

As we near the close of the 2019 fiscal year on June 30th, we are facing a similar decline. To date, our offertory collections are 37% below projections for this fiscal year or $179,000 less than we budgeted to operate our church.

We understand that much has been asked of our church Family as we deal with this historic $6.1 million restoration, but we feel it is imperative to share with you this decline in our offertory. Should it persist we will have to consider more cuts to church programs.

The Finance Council thanks you for the gifts you have given. If you can find it in your hearts and budgets to give more, we want you to know that your generosity would greatly help our church.

Thank you for all you do in support of OUR Basilica.

God Bless,
Arcino Quiero Jr., Finance Council Chair

Our current position indicates that we are 37% behind our annual budget. Although there was a slight increase in our February giving which improved our monthly budget from 23% below in January to 17% below in February, we continue to fall behind our budget.