

*From our Pastor:*

Dear Friends,

*"I asked Jesus, 'How much do you love me?' And Jesus said 'This much.' Then He stretched out His arms and died."*

*I am writing to you today about one of the simplest yet most profound truths of our faith: God has loved us to death in Jesus.*

*God loves us without limits. We feel this love in many ways, some spiritual and others tangible. In the silence of my prayer with God late at night or the joyous praise of the assembly at worship I experience God's love. Every time a child runs toward me and wraps their arms around me I feel God's tender love.*

*God blesses each of us with that love with one expectation—that we in turn love without limits.*

**Love without limits** – the sick and elderly by sharing Eucharist with them.

**Love without limits** – the children, teens, and adults as they learn about faith.

**Love without limits** – the poor in our area

**Love without limits** – the entire congregation by supporting quality worship and trained ministers.

*All of the ministries that are the heart and soul of our parish are alive in love because of your generous and consistent support.*

*Later this month we will be asking you to make your annual commitment of financial support for our parish. I encourage you to take some time to thoughtfully and intentionally consider your gift which will enable us to serve countless individuals through our ministries. Pray for the grace that we all need to share in proportion to our ability – to truly love without limits.*

*Thank you for your continued support of our parish and its ministries.*

Peace,

*Fr. Mike*

*"Parishioners must accept responsibility for their parishes and contribute generously - both money and service - to their programs and projects. The success or failure of parish programs, the vitality of parish life or its absence, the ability or inability of a parish to render needed services to its members and the community depend upon all."*

— U.S. Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter:  
Stewardship A Disciples Response

*"Each of us has a part to play, a gift to share, a service to offer, for building up the Body of Christ in love."*

— Pope Francis

Please remember our parish  
in your estate planning.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH MINISTRIES



*Extending Love  
Touching Lives  
Serving God and Others*



**St. Joan of Arc**

120 Nashotah Road  
Nashotah, WI 53058

[www.sjarc.org](http://www.sjarc.org)



## Why should I give?

As good stewards, we come to the realization that everything we have - every blessing, every breath - is a gift from God. He has generously given us everything we need with the expectation that, in Love, we will share what we have with His Church and with those in need.

Your financial support enables our parish to operate and provide ministries to people in our community and beyond - to extend love beyond the limits of our individual reach.

The most important reason for giving, is to remember and respond in faith, hope and love to the greatest gift of all.

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” — John 3:16*

## How much should I give?

Financial support of the parish, given in love, is more than a number on a giving chart, a gift of habit, or a hurriedly picked “comfortable” dollar amount. The question of how much to give rests between each individual and God. The answer can only be found in prayerful, honest reflection of the true extent of God’s generosity to us.

Faithful stewards understand that all we have, including our financial resources, is only ours to manage in this life according to God’s plan and that God’s generosity to us knows no bounds. The example of Jesus; loving without limits and giving all, stands before us. How will we respond?

## How does a discussion about income and expenses translate into tangible ministry?

In any conversation about our parish operating costs it is important to remember that what we are “operating” is not simply a business. Our parish is a faith community with members called by baptism to love one another. This puts “operating expenses” into a whole new light. Here are some of the ways your financial support extended love here in our parish this past year:

- We baptized 20 children into our Catholic faith
- 34 children celebrated their first communion
- 32 young people and 3 adults were confirmed
- 3 people were received into full communion
- Hundreds of calls were made to the sick and homebound, bringing God’s comfort to them
- 279 children and teens grew in their faith through our Day School and Christian Formation programs
- Your healing hands touched lives through St. Vincent DePaul, Family Promise, Garden of Eat’n, and local food pantries.
- We welcomed 31 families new to our parish
- 6 couples celebrated the sacrament of marriage and 18 parishioners passed from this life to God

## What does all this mean to our Parish as an organization?

The ability of our parish to continue offering current ministries, and look toward the needs of the future, rests with each of us. Generous financial support is critical to the future of our parish.

## What does this mean to me as an individual?

Through your financial support of our parish you pass the faith on to our children, share in the joy of weddings and baptisms, comfort the sick, console the grieving, and feed the poor. Financial giving is one way to follow our Lord’s example to Love without Limits.

*“Lord, help us to live the virtue of generosity, to love without limits.”*

— Pope Francis

*“How can I repay  
the Lord for all the great  
good done to me?”*

— Psalm 116 Verse 12

