St. Ann Parishioners,

We have a healthy parish. Our spirituality is strong. We are growing in faith, and we are learning to share our love for Jesus with everyone that God directs us to.

Last Saturday / Sunday at Mass, Jim Schaller, a member of our finance council, told us about our financial state. The parish has little income except for what we decide to give. So, like in all things, when you are deciding how much of your income to share with your parish, first ask God, then listen.

Next, use your reason. You might say, "I got a 5% raise this year, so I am going to increase what I give by 5%." You may say, "I did not get a raise this year, so I won't be able to increase what I give this year." Or you might say, "I am getting less this year, so I will have to give less."

You might also look at what is happening in your life. Maybe your expenses are increasing, decreasing, or staying the same.

I cannot tell you how much you should give; God and you can figure that out. I can tell you that we will use your money wisely. We do not waste it. We strive to use it as God wants it used. I can tell you that St. Ann Parish is about loving God and His people; that we are working to help more and more people have a loving relationship with Jesus.

Our finance council has told me, and I agree, that EFT, Electronic Funds Transfer, is a good way to give, as it is easier to keep track of what you have given, and it is easier to be consistent in what you give.

There are two ways that I know of to set this up:

- 1. Go to your bill pay service at your bank. Some of them give this service for free. Set up the weekly gift.
- 2. Contact the parish office and ask us to assist in setting it up.

Thank you for all you are doing for God and His Church. Thank you for loving God and His people.

Father Randy