***First Mailing with Stewardship Pamphlet***

***March 28, 2016***

***Dear Saint Michael Catholic Church and School Parishioners,***

Spiritual growth and renewal are a continuous part of the life of any Christian. They are also vital to the life of our parish. An important aspect of this spiritual growth is embodied in the principle of stewardship. Through stewardship, we thank God for all His blessings by returning to Him a portion of the time, talent and treasure He has given to us.

During the next month, you will be hearing more about stewardship and what it means in terms of your personal spiritual lives. You will be asked to reflect on three areas of stewardship and how they are lived out in your life. Among the important questions are:

• Your Time- How much time do you set aside each week in prayer and involvement in volunteer activities in your parish and in our community? For many of us, time is our most precious commodity. The demands of work, school, community, parish and family are overwhelming at times. Occasionally, when we feel out of control, we must get off the merry-go-round and rethink what life is all about. We must seek to balance our time against what we know we must do. I would hope that you consider reexamining your priorities to give more of your time to prayer, formation and service.

• Your Talent. How you are using your talents for the betterment of our parish family and for the community as a whole? Every one of us is talented in some way. It may be in music, art, writing, organizing, planning, driving a car, supervising a project, and even making other people laugh. Our parish provides each and every one of you with an opportunity to use any talent you have for the betterment of all. I hope you will consider committing a greater share of your talents to our parish and community.

• Your Treasure. What percentage of your annual income do you presently give to support your church and charity? Your financial support is a major reason why we are able to continue to provide our religious, educational and social ministries. The primary source of our parish’s financial support is the weekly offertory collection. Stewardship of treasure involves committing a regular portion of our income to our church and other charities. Please review how much you financially contribute to our parish community, and consider a percentage increase this year.

Next weekend at all Masses you will be hearing from xxxx who will talk about their personal experiences with stewardship. During this Easter season, I suggest that you and members of your household spend time in prayerful thought about stewardship and your relationship with the Lord. The enclosed brochure will help you understand the true meaning of stewardship. Please take the time to read it.

Sincerely,

(Pastor’s Name)

***Second Mailing with Commitment Pamplet, List of Ministries***

***April 4, 2016***

***Dear Saint Michael Catholic Church and School Parishioners,***

Over the past week, I hope you have had the time to look over the stewardship brochure you received, and have prayerfully considered how you share your time, talent and treasure with our parish community. To further encourage your stewardship journey, enclosed is a commitment card of time, talent and treasure, and a listing of our parish ministries for your family to review.

Each of us is blessed in different ways. We are asked to look at our blessings, our talents, our monetary resources and see if what we are returning to the Lord is proportionate to what He has given to us. It is a very individual decision to be made by each person or family.

Please fill out the enclosed commitment card. Indicate those ministries with which you are currently involved, and any new ones you would like to begin for the coming year. I have provided a complete list of the various ministries that Saint Michael Catholic Church and School currently offers.

As you complete the Stewardship of Treasure portion of the commitment card, please review the giving guide and consider increasing your contribution to the parish offertory.

Bring your commitment card with you to Mass this coming weekend. We will be presenting these as a parish. It will be a great day for all of us in the parish as we continue to build a community of faith.

I am touched by the past generosity of all of our parishioners here at Saint Michael Catholic Church and School and I am confident of your continued commitment to stewardship of time, talent and treasure. For your own spiritual growth and also for the parish’s spiritual growth, it is important that everyone in the parish be involved in stewardship. Your commitment to our Lord and Savior will continue to building a community of faith.

Please be assured that you and your loved ones are in my daily prayer.

In Christ’s name,

(Pastor’s Name)