



The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption

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Dear parishioners,

Thanksgiving Day will soon be upon us; affording us the opportunity to express our thankfulness to God and others. You have my gratitude for your support of me as your pastor and the support you give our parish. This past year has been another year of growth for our Parish. The completion of the St. Mark Assembly Hall at Emerald Campus provides the parish with its first substantial venue dedicated to education and faith formation, and for hosting receptions. The renovation of the rear of the 1907 (west) school building nears completion, with updated restrooms, a new discovery area for the preschool, and renovation of the rear entrance. While these improvements are important, they are only half the story. The other half is that we have grown in our mission and ministries. There are too many to list here, so please go to the parish website or pick up a hard copy of the Ministries Booklet to see how our parish is reaching out to others and how you can become involved in the mission of St. Mary Parish.

This growth was only possible because of the financial support of parishioners like yourself. Many parishioners raised their Annual Diocesan Appeal pledges for a second year, helping fund these projects. Thank you for accepting that challenge, as well as making and fulfilling your pledge from last year's offertory program drive. This past weekend Jamie and Kristin Garrabrant spoke at the Masses on how they put their faith into practice by tithing financially to our parish and in sharing their time and talent. Please join me in thanking them for their leadership and for speaking about what it means to be good stewards.

During this week prayerfully consider the percentage of your income you will tithe to our parish in 2026. By prayerfully and intentionally making this decision your tithe becomes an act of worship, a sacrificial gift. Then please complete the enclosed pledge card and return it via the collection basket, mail, or parish office.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Please pray for me as I seek the grace to be a good pastor and know that you and your family remain in my prayers.

Very Rev. Msgr. Craig R. Eilerman
Rector