

Pastors Comments after Communion – Kick off weekend, October 25/26, 2025

As the Fall Season approaches, it has been our tradition to kick off our annual Stewardship Campaign Appeal. We are in this ninth year; and in collaboration with our Finance Council and Pastoral Council, the goal has been raised from \$150,000 to \$200,000 thousand dollars (last year we achieved over \$223,000).

The Annual Stewardship Campaign Appeal is a part of our strategic plan to emphasize our mission to grow disciples and make Church matter. We are striving to put into practice the spiritual and corporal works of mercy: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, comfort those who are mourning, bury the dead, educate and catechize, and evangelize, as well as pray and support each other. Through our experiences and encounters, nourished on this campus on Sundays and throughout the week, we can participate personally in the call to discipleship, just as Jesus has commanded us to do.

Just recently, Pope Leo XIV issued his first Apostolic Exhortation entitled, “I Have Loved You.” This teaching calls for a renewed commitment and closeness to the poor and needy who we find everywhere. We do this through concrete charitable actions and efforts that are key to addressing the greater systematic issues that create endless cycles of poverty throughout the world. Pope Leo writes, “A Church that sets no limits to love, that knows no enemies to fight but only men and women to love, is the Church that the world needs today.”

The annual Stewardship Campaign Appeal helps us to create resources for our ever growing and successful pastoral efforts namely:

- Evangelization –
 - A major initiative includes the continued growth and expansion of media and technology along with our safety and security system,
 - Out-reach to our Spanish speaking communities,
 - Out-reach to members who do not attend Mass at all or only on an occasional basis,
 - The addition of the newly created position of Adult Faith Formation to provide opportunities for our parishioners to nourish and enrich our faith,
 - Creative and interesting programs for our young adults, the youth and our children.
- Funding for our ministries, services and activities.
- Support to the infrastructure of our artistic and environmental enhancements.
- A contingency resource for unexpected costs which surely come up every year, as they do in your own homes.

All monies stay here within the parish.

In the coming weeks you will receive a letter from me, if you have not already, asking for your help to achieve our goal of \$200,000 thousand dollars. Members of the Finance Council and Pastoral Council will be in the back of the Church to answer any questions you may have. God bless you all. Be assured of my continued prayers for you and your intentions, and please, please pray for me.

You will find, online and in the bulletin, a report on where the monies were allocated last year.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, Pray for us!