



November 5, 2019

Dear Christ Church Family,

At the end of this month, our country will celebrate Thanksgiving with a fun parade and traditions, and of course well-appointed plates of turkey, potatoes, cranberries and family recipes. Even though that is four weeks away, I can say that I'm thankful already. I'm thankful because of people like Deanna for her work on the Stewardship Committee. I'm thankful for our speakers over the past few weeks- Tom, Lyle, Maureen, Felice, and Deb- all of whom offered their heartfelt stories about why giving to Christ Church is important to them and integral *for the health and vibrancy of our parish*.

I'm also thankful to be in a faith community that is growing in multiple ways. We are growing with new faces at all of our services while also growing in our faith, in our worship & music ministry, in our connection to one another, in our outreach, and in our recognition that all we have is a blessing from God, and that we are all *stewards* of those blessings.

As Jesus taught in sermons and parables, we are blessed by God with many gifts- more than we can ask or imagine- and we, in turn, are called to give back just as freely and abundantly. *Because of you and your willingness to share of God's bounty, we have seen a positive trend in recent years in the ability to do God's work in this community and beyond. And with your help, we will continue on that trend and shine our light even brighter in 2020.*

This letter comes on the heels of the Stewardship mailing sent out this week, and we are attaching the forms to make sure that everyone gets a copy. As we prepare to gather this Sunday for our annual Ingathering, I invite you on behalf of the Vestry to fill in these forms and return, mail or email them this Sunday or as soon as you're able.

Truly, we all have so much to be thankful for, and offering a percentage of those gifts back to God through our pledge of time, talent and treasure is what makes so more than any group or club... it makes us *disciples of Christ at Christ Church*. I am thankful for you and for your witness this coming year and beyond.

*May God bless you and our entire Christ Church family,*

*Fr. Tom*