



**St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church**  
**1100 West 15th Street Plano, TX 75075**  
**972-423-5600 972-423-5024 fax**

June 2010

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you for your generosity to our parish this past year. As I reflect back on the past twelve months, we have received many blessings from your generosity of time, talent and treasure. Our Bethany narthex has given us a wonderful gathering space to build community within our parish family. You continue to give of your time and talent through the efforts of our Stewardship Sundays by volunteering in areas to which God is calling you.

Each June a budget is prepared for the new fiscal year that begins on the first of July. This is a time when you are given the opportunity to make your financial commitment for the coming year to help us prepare a balanced budget. Your pledge commitment of treasure is an acknowledgment that all we have is a gift from God, and we are choosing to honor God by returning to him a portion of what we have received for the work of Jesus Christ through our parish community. Included in this letter is an envelope for you to record your commitment. Please make any corrections to your personal information included on the envelope and make sure you include your *email address*. We ask that you drop the envelope in the collection basket or mail it back to the Parish Office in the next two weeks.

Gifts for the general fund of St. Mark enable our parish to fulfill its mission "to worship together, serve one another, to grow in faith and to further the presence of God in the world." Regular offerings through the financial stewardship program support the operating budget, which is made up of annual expenses that provide for our facilities and support the many ministries of the parish, including liturgy, music, adult and youth education, family ministry programs and outreach activities. Gifts for the general fund can help the parish enhance and expand these important ministries.

If at this time you are unable to make a commitment please sign and return the envelope so we have a complete accounting for budget purposes.

**BUILDING FUND- LIFT HIGH THE CROSS**

The St. Mark community is blessed with a beautiful new narthex for our Community to gather and soon we will be opening a new Parish Center with new larger meeting areas and a new youth center. To keep the church looking its best requires ongoing attention to capital needs. Additional donations to the Building Fund are needed for projects

such as replacing pews and kneelers, new carpet in the Church, new larger Immersion Baptismal Font, stained glass in the new narthex and statues for the Columbarium.

### **PARISH TITHE**

Our Parish recognizes our responsibility to the needs of the community; The Parish Tithe provides ongoing support for the parish outreach programs that assist individuals, families and communities in the midst of extremely difficult circumstances. The Parish Tithe is 10% of the first collection of each month. The parish assists people through contributions to agencies such as:

- **ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY**
- **COLLIN COUNTY ADULT CLINIC**
- **CATHOLIC CHARITIES**
- **SAMARITAN INN HOMELESS SHELTER**
- **CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER**
- **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

### **WEEKLY ENVELOPES**

All registered parishioners have the option of giving through weekly/monthly envelopes. We send out a packet of envelopes every other month. The Envelope Program is a great way to make your regular intentioned commitment to St. Mark. You can also sign up on our parish website ([stmarkplano.org](http://stmarkplano.org)) to have automatic donations made through a credit card or direct bank draft. Any questions regarding envelopes or online donations please contact the Parish Office at 972-423-5600.

### **MEMORIALS**

A wonderful way to remember a loved one or special friend is by making a memorial or tribute gift. Gifts may be made in any amount to remember a deceased loved one or to honor a birth, anniversary or a special person in your life. Send your donation to St. Mark along with the name of the person you want to remember and a specific purpose you would like the donation to be used. Please provide an address and we will send a memorial letter to whomever you designate, informing them of the gift.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Community. May God continue to bless your family and the work of our Parish Community.

In Christ Abundant Love,

Fr. Clifford Smith, Pastor

*“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” 2 Corinthians (8:7-8, 11)*