

# St. Thomas More Parish

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(Date)

(Name)

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Dear (Salutation),

Over the past few years, Pope Francis has called us to refocus how we evangelize while more deeply developing our relationship with Jesus. He writes, *“The spread of the Gospel is not guaranteed either by the number of persons, or by the prestige of the institution, or by the quantity of available resources. What counts is to be permeated by the love of Christ, to let oneself be led by the Holy Spirit and to graft one’s own life onto the tree of life, which is the Lord’s Cross.”*

In our new model of collaboration and Disciples in Mission we are refocusing ourselves through a renewed mission to model our relationship with Jesus and his Church. By seeking out and ensuring that all peoples encounter Jesus through the proclamation of the Gospel, we become more active evangelizers and witnesses of Him. Together, it is our duty to support our worshipping community, Saint Thomas More, in our mission to teach, serve, worship and reach out actively to this community of faith. To support this mission, all parishioners will be asked to prayerfully consider their current support of the parish and whether they are able to increase their regular commitment to Saint Thomas More.

We are all encouraged to support this mission with a just portion of ourselves and our gifts to further the work of God’s kingdom. The intention of this effort is to look within our hearts to examine our sense of stewardship for the times we live in. We have identified several key areas of need that the parish hopes to address by increasing our regular gifts to the parish:

- Provide faith formation with essential resources and programming that engages all parishioners and families.
- Satisfy our current obligations to staff, as well as operational and programming costs.
- Invest in vital maintenance and improvements, and budget for future planned maintenance.

Our present offertory support will not allow us to address these needs and to maintain, improve and expand ministry to meet the growing needs of our parishioners. The enclosed brochure describes the initiative and explains our parish needs in further detail. We are building toward June 18<sup>th</sup>, as our Commitment Weekend. All parishioners will be asked to make their decisions by that day.

On behalf of the entire parish, I thank you for all that you have done and thank you for the contributions you continually provide to the parish. In whatever way you are able to increase your support, please also consider utilizing online giving to automate your giving. Please know that you and your family remain in my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Sean Connor  
Pastor of Sacred Heart & St. Thomas More