

ST. WILLIAM PARISH

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Dear Parishioners,

Over the last six months, I, with the Parish Pastoral Staff, and the Parish Council and Commissions, have been discerning the will of the Holy Spirit for our Parish. It has become abundantly clear to us that our Parish is now being led to an intensification of Parish Life—specifically, in how we show our grateful response to God through prayer, family, treasure, and service. To summarize, it is nothing less than a ***Call to Discipleship***.

Disciples pray. And they come together to worship.
Disciples pay attention to their families and other important relationships.
Disciples financially support the work of the Lord, according to their ability.
Disciples serve the needs of others, as Christ came to serve.

In my homilies at Mass for the last two months I have been talking about various aspects of discipleship. At this point, we need to take time to focus on the particular area of financial support. All areas are important; we can't neglect this one and still say that we're responding wholeheartedly. And there are needs. The Parish cannot function without the financial support of the parishioners. Period.

As you pray about how to respond, discuss with God whether the support you give your Parish appropriately reflects your response to the ***Call to Discipleship***. Given the Parish's serious need, any increase you make will be very appreciated.

In Jesus,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Michael".

Rev. Michael G. Savickas, Pastor

P.S.: While we need desperately to increase our offertory income, I am not asking any parishioners who are already giving at a level that, for them, is a faithful response, to feel guilty because they can't give more. RATHER, I am asking *all others* to look to such people as models, and that whatever donation increase they make will truly be, for them, a sacrifice.