



## Holy Faith Church 2023 Annual Campaign

*"And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces." Luke 9:16-17*

### Frequently Asked Questions About Pledging

#### What is a Pledge?

A pledge is your best estimate of what you plan to give the church throughout the coming year. Your pledge can be stated in weekly, monthly, or annual increments. There may be times when unexpected personal financial burdens arise. Or perhaps an unexpected windfall is gained. Perhaps the parish has meant something extraordinary this year to you or those whom you love.

Because your pledge is not a binding commitment, at these times you should feel free to adjust your payment schedule as needed, by delaying, reducing, accelerating, or increasing your pledge. Please contact Holy Faith's Financial Secretary, Mike Centivre at [bmwcent@aol.com](mailto:bmwcent@aol.com).

#### What is an Appropriate Pledge Amount?

Whether you are a lifelong member, or a relative newcomer, your pledge will help fund Holy Faith's ministries for the coming year. In 2022, the average pledge was \$3,345. However, each person must decide what to give. Two households each giving generously could contribute very different amounts, due to differing circumstances. Consider how important your faith is for you and this community - what does your heart tell you?

#### I already contribute throughout the year by sending occasional donations. Why should I pledge?

Pledging is a way of making a commitment to God by joining with others to support the work of Holy Faith. A commitment made ahead of time allows us to plan the 2023 budget based on clear expectations of income. Occasional gifts are greatly appreciated, but do not provide a predictable income stream adequate to fund our operating budget.

#### I know I am unable to make any financial contribution in 2023. Should I complete a pledge card anyway?

Yes, in fact, this is helpful information. You could complete a pledge card and indicate "0," or you could email our Financial Secretary, Mike Centivre at [bmwcent@aol.com](mailto:bmwcent@aol.com). Either way, being in touch helps us plan and it will save you from receiving a reminder phone call.

#### Who knows what I pledge to Holy Faith?

Only our Financial Secretary (currently Mike Centivre) and Pastor Andrea may access giving information (and Office Manager Laurie Tikkanen if you submit your pledge online).

#### What has been COVID's financial impact on Holy Faith?

Through a combination of God's grace - and the dedication of our members - Holy Faith is financially sound. Our budget depends on the generosity of our community, and your generosity has continued throughout the pandemic.

#### What about the unexpected June flooding, which caused the need for emergency mold remediation and repair? Has that caused a financial crisis?

The flooding and the subsequent repairs have been a big deal, for sure. The total cost of the mold inspections, remediation, and renovations will be about \$30,000 and was not in the budget.

What is a blessing is that because of your generosity over the years - and through careful stewardship - Holy Faith has savings from which we could pay these bills.

The Parish Leadership Team would have liked to have spent those dollars more strategically. However, because of your faithful giving across the years, we are not in crisis.

At the same time, Pastor Andrea and Holy Faith's PLT applied for a diocesan grant to offset a portion of the expenses. We hope to know by the end of the fiscal year whether we will receive some help.

Incidentally, the diocesan grant money comes from a collection taken in diocesan parishes between 1928-1930 to establish a fund for the future needs of the church. If we are blessed to receive an offset, we can thank those who came before us.