



ST. MARGARET *of* YORK
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Beloved in Christ,

I hope you are experiencing the joy of the risen Christ in this Easter Season.

I am pleased to announce the kick-off of **SMOY Saints**, our parish's initiative which helps foster the co-responsibility of St. Margaret of York's parishioners in our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Visit smoy.org/saints to find out about more fully participating in the life of our parish with opportunities to be generous with our time, talent, and treasure.

For example, since I have been at St. Margaret of York these past four years, we have been participating in our All.In. capital campaign. Thank you for your generosity! As we look around our campus, and community at large, we can see the effects of our generosity.

At this time, many of us are finishing our payments we committed to the campaign. So, I would like to take this opportunity to ask that you please consider the ongoing operations of the parish as you make financial adjustments. Although I often point out opportunities to be generous to the poor, the suffering, and victims of natural disasters through local charities, I have not yet asked for an increase in the offertory for the parish until now.

Catholics are usually far outpaced by our Evangelical brothers and sisters, and those of the Mormon faith, who have strict policies of tithing 10% of one's income. The bishops of our country usually encourage the faithful, who are able to tithe, to give half of the tithe to the church and the other half to worthy charities. Assuming our parishioners are of average income in this area, a little census research shows that if we contributed the half tithe of 5% of our income, our parish would take in nearly \$8 million per year. Such generosity would allow us to do some amazing things to further our mission of making disciples and glorifying God. We could look at the possibilities of a school with free tuition for parishioners, paying off our debt, and enhancing our ability to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to youth and adults alike.

Since I have completed my commitment to the All.In. campaign, I am now in a position to increase my offertory contribution by 20%. I ask you to please take to prayer how much you may be able to increase yours. Perhaps you can also do 20%. Perhaps it is more. Perhaps it is less. Perhaps your increase will be in prayer, time, and talent. Visit smoy.org/saints to take part.

In our co-responsibility for this parish, we are called to make disciples in a world that uses the things of the world like money, material goods, time and human talents to bring about the Kingdom of God. Please visit smoy.org/saints to act now. With your help, we will do much more.

Be a saint! What else is there?

Happy Easter!

Reverend Jason E. Bedel

Pastor