



ST. THERESE – LITTLE FLOWER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 1, 2023

Dear Parish Family,

As I look back on my many years at Little Flower, both growing up going to Mass with my family and in my adult life as a priest and pastor, it has always be apparent that Little Flower parishioners continue to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us in Christ. I am extremely grateful for the ongoing support we continue to receive in all three areas of stewardship: time (prayer), talent (ministry), and treasure (finance). These gifts are not only our way of giving thanks for all that God has given us, but also they are a response to God's call to live our Baptism and carry on the ministry and mission of Jesus. Because of your generosity, Little Flower continues to live and proclaim the Gospel on the East-side of Indianapolis and to be the anchor of this neighborhood.

I am always pleased to witness the strong understanding of sacrificial giving our parishioners continue to demonstrate. I believe that all three areas are equally vital for a parish not only to survive but to thrive. We are all very fortunate that Little Flower offers various ways for its parishioners to give of their time, talent, and treasure.

Each year we ask parishioners to complete their parish stewardship commitment cards and return them to us. For the past several years, the number of cards that are returned to us continues to decrease. This makes it challenging for us to fully utilize the benefits of the information. For this reason, I urge you to take the time to complete the information, whether you use the paper copy of the commitment card or our user-friendly on-line version.

You will find the on-line version of the annual stewardship commitment card on the home page of www.littleflowerparish.org. There will be a link to the document which will walk you through the information in a step-by-step fashion with links to supporting documents available if you need them.

For those who prefer the paper version of the stewardship card, they will be available at all of the church doors and in the parish office. If you would like the stewardship card to be mailed to you, please call Jeannie in the parish office at 317-357-8352 and she will happily send it.

Enclosed with this letter you will find helpful ideas for the stewardship of time and a list of all the ministries where you can offer your stewardship of talent. You will also find a flyer for the upcoming Ministry Fair where you will have an opportunity to learn about all of the various ways you can get involved in the parish and also get a **free** breakfast!

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SERVING THE EAST SIDE OF INDIANAPOLIS SINCE 1925

Also enclosed in this mailing is information about making your regular parish financial contributions through electronic funds transfer, that is, through automatic withdrawal from your designated bank account or automatic charges to your credit card. One advantage of using this service is that you are able to meet your commitment even when you are unable to attend Mass in person at Little Flower. Please consider this information as well.

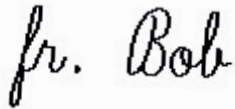
I would ask that each of you prayerfully consider your commitments of time, talent, and treasure to Little Flower and how you will respond to Christ's call for stewardship.

Intention Sunday will be the weekend of February 25 and 26. On this weekend we hope to see many on-line cards completed. If you have a paper version, you may drop your card in the regular collection or send it by mail.

My brothers and sisters, I leave you with a thought from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians: *Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.* [4:1].

Once again, thank you for your continued generosity of time, talent, and treasure and for carefully and prayerfully considering your stewardship commitment. May the Lord bless you abundantly for your generous support for the work of our parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "fr. Bob". The script is cursive and fluid, with the "fr." and "Bob" written in a single, connected stroke.

Reverend Robert J. Gilday
Pastor