

# MAKING YOUR COMMITMENT

Fill out the enclosed Stewardship Form and return to the office **OR** 

scan this QR code to fill out your Form online.



# FULFILLING YOUR NEW COMMITMENT THREE OPTIONS



Sign up for
ONLINE GIVING
or update your current
online gift amount at
kcascension.org/stewardship



Use your
OFFERING ENVELOPE
and bring it to Mass each
Sunday or mail it to the
parish office.



Explore using
TAX ADVANTAGED
CHARITABLE GIFTS
such as IRA Distributions,
Gifts of Stock, or
remembering the parish in

your will.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

The Church in the United States is in the midst of a national Eucharistic Revival, a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this Great Mystery by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Thus, we here at Church of the Ascension have selected "One Bread, One Body" as the theme for our annual Stewardship Appeal.

The Eucharist is the Source and Summit of the Christian life, "For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself..." (Catechism 1324). We believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship; for in the Eucharist we become one with Christ who becomes truly and really present at every Mass.

Since the Lord Jesus is the source of our unity, we are reminded of our mutual dependence on one another, how we are all members of One Body, the Church. Together we are called to carry out the Great Commission given by Jesus to make disciples, to baptize, to "do this in memory of me", to teach all that He commanded, and to serve and love as He loved.

Your membership here at Church of the Ascension presumes that you embrace the Commission given by our Lord. Our parish's commitment to stewardship as a way of life reflects the duty we collectively share to be "all in" as disciples of Jesus and heirs of the Great Commission. Your active involvement in our annual stewardship appeal by generously giving of your time, talent and treasure to support the work of the Church affirms your pledge to be an active member of the Body of Christ and work together with your spiritual sisters and brothers in serving and supporting the work of Christ's Church today.

I wish to thank you in advance for your generous gifts of time, talent and treasure that help our parish respond to Christ's call and to be the "One Body of Christ" that we become through the Eucharist.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life,

Fr. Gary Pennings, Pastor



FR. GARY PENNINGS

Pastor frgary@kcascension.org 913-681-3348

**CONNECT WITH US** 

**KAREN NEWKIRK** 

Minister for Stewardship knewkirk@kcascension.org 913-681-3348 x160

**SHARON WEEMS** 

Pastoral Associate for Administration sweems@kcascension.org 913-681-3348 x135

## STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

Church of the Ascension embraces Stewardship as a Way of Life. A life of Stewardship is rooted in Scripture and is a disciple's response to the mission and ministry of the local and universal Church in sharing the Gospel. Stewardship recognizes that we, as individuals, are not the owners of our lives, our time, our talent, nor our treasure, but stewards or managers of these God-given gifts.

Registered parishioners/families should be in good standing with respect to Stewardship by:

- Practicing the Catholic faith and living Catholic values.
- Sharing in the prayer life of the parish through weekly participation in the Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Supporting the life and mission of the parish through acts of service by becoming an active volunteer in our programs and ministries.
  - Parishioners are encouraged to volunteer for one or more ministry.
- Practicing financial stewardship to the best of their ability as an expression of gratitude to God for His blessings received.

Stewardship is our Time, Talent and Treasure returned to God in thanksgiving for all that He has given us.

Parishioners are encouraged to make and honor a sacrificial pledge to God of at least 10 percent of their annual household pre-tax income. The following guidelines are provided as a tithing guide:

5% -To our parish as general parish support

1% -To Archdiocesan support

4% -To other charitable causes or our parish\*

\*Note: School families are encouraged to give this additional 4 percent to our parish in support of our ministry of educating youth.

# WE WHO ARE MANY ARE ONE BODY

Since the Lord Jesus is the source of our unity, we are reminded of our mutual dependence on one another, how we are all members of One Body, the Church. Together we are called to carry out the Great Commission given by Jesus to make disciples, to baptize, to "do this in memory of me," to teach all that He commanded, and to serve and love as He loved.

3,289 our parish

8,760

Hours devoted to Eucharistic Adoration

> 89 **Baptisms**

113 First Communions 134

Confirmations

30 Weddings

33

Funerals

642 Children in School

(Preschool - 8th Grade)

Children in

Religious Ed

**Adult Faith Classes** or Retreats

1,026

Adults Participated in Faith Formation

225

Vacation Bible School **Participants** 

# FOR WE ALL PARTAKE OF THE ONE BREAD

As we strive to love one another better, good stewardship plays a key role. Stewardship isn't a code word for financial support. Stewardship is about doing the work of Christ, engaging our many resources to further the ministry and mission of Our Lord, and remembering that everything we have is a gift from our creator.

- \$274,986 donated to ministry organizations outside our parish
- 630 Visits by Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound
- 291 Parishioners served in Liturgical Ministry
- \$19,630 + 37,861 Pounds of Food Contributed to Pop the Trunk food drives
- \$11,385 raised for Baby Bottle Boomerang
- 463 Prayer blankets and quilts donated
- 475 Ascension Blood Drive donors
- 294 Turkeys and Hams + \$3,225 for Turkey drive





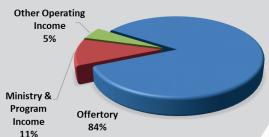




# **FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT: 2022/2023 FISCAL YEAR**

#### **OPERATING INCOME**

Offertory \$6,738,754.81 Ministry & Program Income \$856,041.47 \$385,920.10 Other Operating Income **Total Operating Income** \$7,980,716.38



### SPECIAL EVENT RECEIPTS

Celebrate Ascension Net Receipts \$158,529 Archdiocese Campaign Rebates \$117,691

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Salary & Benefits \$4,085,871.26 General Operating Expense \$1,342,290.31 Ministry & Program Expense \$1,138,729.25 Facilities Expense \$1,088,240.86 \$7,655,131.68

**Total Operating Expense** 

Ministry & Facilities Program Expense Expense 15% 14% General Operating **Benefits** 53%