Greetings to St. Jude Parishioners!

With spring budding new life, St. Jude is embracing this same growth. In the last two months 68 high school students were confirmed, 20+ people entered our faith at Easter and 54 children made their First Communion. Our 8th grade students honored their mothers and Mary at our May Crowning and will soon be graduating. To reach beyond our borders, another Social Justice trip to Ecuador is planned this summer. We truly are a blessed and vibrant parish!

Our rich traditions of active faith, community outreach, prayer, and worship cannot be accomplished without you. That’s right, you. We are nearing the end of the 4th fiscal quarter and facing a new budget beginning in July. This leads to the question of how are we called to continue on our Catholic path and support St. Jude parish that we call home? People, supplies, planning, and resources are needed to accomplish all the wonderful things and activities that make St. Jude a place where people are “Called, Nourished and Sent!”

Our parish staff, committee chairs, and parishioners that serve us at the parish strive to be good stewards of the resources you give. Still with these efforts, times change & expenses go up. Balancing the budget has consistently been coupled with rising costs. Much of our budget is beyond our control, e.g., utility costs, maintenance, etc. To present a balanced budget to the Parish Council for the upcoming fiscal year, all commissions were asked to cut 10% out of their proposed budgets while still maintaining the same programs to the parish.

As we look to the future, our Finance Committee is concerned with our giving pattern. Our weekly financials are displayed in the bulletin. With two months to go in the fiscal year, our regular giving is flat compared to last year. This leaves us falling short of our needs as they relate to the increasing costs of our parish.

We ask you to review your current support of St. Jude. Has your giving increased in recent years? Changing family situations are no strange circumstances to most parishioners. As our jobs change, expenses & commitments change, and our schedules place more and more demands on us, we need something to ground us and keep us anchored. This anchor is St. Jude Parish. Our faith community is an always strong and steady support system for us. The Scriptures challenges to ‘give to God the first-fruits of our lives.’ Does our giving to the parish reflect this principle?

St. Jude relies on its members to be the financial support for the endless efforts and offerings that enrich our lives. Through weddings, Baptisms, funerals, Vacation-Bible-School, prayer groups, helping the needy, programs for young and old and almost endless athletic opportunities, St. Jude aims to be a visible place of what it means to be a parish community in the eyes of God.

In closing, we ask that you consider your impact on the Parish community and your actionable giving through tithing to St. Jude. One way of doing this is Faith Direct (www.stjudeindy.org/faithdirect). It is an unfailing way to assure that your intention of regular, prayerful giving continues to be a reliable resource to St. Jude, all of its programs, and most importantly your community.

Lily Tomlin once said, “I always wondered why somebody doesn’t do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody.”

Be somebody, to every St. Jude Parishioner, today. Please go to our website to sign up for Faith Direct.

Thank you.

Parish Council & Finance Committee