

SJN Financial Stewardship Update: 1st Quarter Report

“Investing our Blessings in the Work of God”

Dear SJN Parishioners,

I am excited to report that we had an ***incredibly*** strong 1st quarter for our 2021-2022 financial stewardship year. You have continued to give generously and increase your giving, which advances our mission and helps us achieve our objective of eliminating our debt. **You'll see in the report below that we had a quarterly surplus at the moment for the first time in years!**

What's most impressive about this 1st quarter giving is that it is in response to our having increased the amount required to cover parish operations and make progress on debt reduction. I am thoroughly impressed by your generous response and, most importantly, extremely grateful. **Thank you for making such an impact, and let's all keep up the good work!!**

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Joe

SJN Financial Stewardship Year: October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022 1st Quarter Report (October 1, 2021 – January 9, 2022)

OCTOBER 1, 2021 – JAN. 9, 2022

Weekly Offertory (covers parish operations):	\$577,221
Debt Reduction:	\$217,416
Total:	\$794,637
Surplus/Deficit for the Quarter:	+\$18,087
Stewardship Year Goal (10/1/21 – 9/30/22):	\$2,692,040

COMPARED TO THE SAME TIME PERIOD LAST YEAR (OCT. 2020 – JAN. 2021)

Weekly Offertory:	\$421,168
Debt Reduction:	\$108,158
Total:	\$529,326
Surplus/Deficit for the Quarter:	-\$46,754
Stewardship Year Goal (10/1/20 – 9/30/21):	\$2,200,719

COMPARED TO THE SAME TIME PERIOD TWO YEARS AGO (OCT. 2019 – JAN. 2020)

Weekly Offertory:	\$402,202
Debt Reduction:	\$67,442
Total:	\$469,644
Surplus/Deficit for the Quarter:	-\$92,436
Stewardship Year Goal (10/1/19 – 9/30/20):	\$1,860,490

Some Important Notes and FAQs

In summary: The total given during this 1st quarter (**\$794,637**) is a **\$265,311 increase** over the same time period last year and a **\$324,933 increase** over the same time period 2 years ago.

More often than not this quarter, you have probably noticed that we have had a total deficit in the weekly bulletin financial stewardship updates. While our goal is certainly to meet our goal or maintain a surplus, **keep in mind that even when we have had a deficit at any point during the 1st quarter, we have still been on pace to experience another strong year of giving** (so do not be discouraged!). Last year, we had an approximate \$325,000 increase in annual giving over the prior year, and throughout this entire 1st quarter we have been on pace to have another significant increase. And, as you know, our goal this year is to raise \$870,000 more than last year's collections total, so it's all the more impressive that you have continued to increase your total giving.

Question 1: I notice there's a deficit in our Weekly Offertory to date but a surplus in our Debt Reduction. So how does that work? First of all, **what's most important is our overall goal this year of \$2,692,040**, which is a combination of these two funds. And while it's ideal to have a surplus in both funds, or at least not a deficit in one fund that is way off compared to the other fund, we will be in good shape as long as we achieve our overall goal (or even better, exceed it).

Question 2: Will our results fluctuate throughout the year? Yes, most likely, particularly since Christmas and year-end giving are always very strong, making the 1st quarter especially positive. But keep in mind that the 1st quarter comparisons in this report include Christmas and year-end giving, so again, this year's 1st quarter results represent an outstanding increase in giving. **But, of course, if we maintain this momentum our results will stay strong all year.**

Question 3: 100% of Debt Reduction funds exclusively benefit the parish and are designated 100% to our debt, correct? **Yes!**

Again, thank you for your very generous giving during this 1st quarter. If you do not currently give but are able to do so, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you are able to give additional resources, please prayerfully consider doing so as well.

To learn about how to make gifts through an IRA, donor advised fund, stock, life insurance, will bequest, etc., and the tax benefits associated with these gifts, please visit

sjnknox.org/plannedgiving

To give online, please visit sjnknox.org/give.

If you have any questions regarding giving to St. John Neumann Catholic Church and School, please contact Patrick Wade, SJN Director of Development: 865.777.3410 or pwade@sjnknox.org.