



St. Jerome Church
23 Half Mile Road
Norwalk, CT 06851
203-847-5349

October 26, 2007

Dear St. Jerome Parishioner:

Enclosed you will find the parish financial report for the last fiscal year ending on June 30, 2007. We had a very good year, which I attribute to three things. First, we received two gifts of \$20,000. One was from the Daphne Seybolt Culpeper Foundation and was used to renovate the downstairs hall. The other was from a former parishioner and was unrestricted. That gift went to our savings account for a rainy day. The second cause of the good year was the profit from the car raffle, which was \$29,000. Third, starting in January we instituted the Faith Direct program, which allows parishioners to make monthly contributions to the parish electronically. As a result, our checking and savings accounts grew by \$42,380.86. My thanks to all of you who so generously support this parish.

In the present fiscal year, which started on July 1, we already have had two unexpected expenses. One of the two air conditioning units in church broke down and had to be replaced at a cost of \$7,500. The other unit also needs to be fixed, which will cost another \$7,500. Then, in September, we discovered that the roof on the old section of the rectory had to be replaced. Fr. Joe had a leak in his sitting room, and behind the wall there were more carpenter ants than you could count. Thanks to Jerry Spenard we had the rectory roof replaced for \$4,700.

Each year, when we send out the financial statement, we also enclose an envelope that can be used for a capital improvement donation. This year we are assigning the money to the air conditioning in the church. We ask that you make a donation and either mail it in or put it in the collection basket. I am also enclosing information on the Faith Direct program of electronic giving. We have 66 parish families signed up, including Fr. Joe and myself. This program helps the parish to have a more stable income. I hope you will give it prayerful consideration.

I also want you to know that all the parish financials now are on a common server so that the diocese can monitor the financial condition of each of the parishes. We also have undergone a procedural audit and a report will be issued in the near future. Anyone who would like to take a closer look at our QuickBooks data is welcome to make an appointment, and when the audit report comes in, that also will be available.

Know that you are in my prayers and that if Fr. Joe or I can do anything for you, please do not hesitate to call us.

Gratefully,
Fr. David