



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

August 17, 2008

Dear Parishioners:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the parish financial statement for this past fiscal year. Although we came out ahead by \$5,663, without the proceeds from the car raffle the deficit would have been \$24,236. Things are looking tight this coming year. Let me give you a brief overview.

Our biggest worry, this year, is twofold. First, the raffle account which usually has a surplus of close to \$30,000 at this time of year, and which is used to meet unexpected bills, is down to \$3,000. Second, our budget for next year includes a deficit of over \$30,000. We plan to address the deficit in the budget with an increased Offertory campaign in the fall. Our immediate problem, however is the huge drop of money in the raffle account.

This past fiscal year we had losses of income because we took back one classroom from our daycare tenant. We needed the space because parish programs are growing. Second we had a number of expenses that could not be avoided. The roof on the rectory was leaking and cost \$4,750 (a great price because the work was done by Gerry Spenard). We were mandated by the diocese to put in new doors and locks to protect the daycare children which cost \$5,600. The wiring for the new church air conditioner, put in last year, was hit by lightening and repairs cost \$3,600.

We are including an envelope with this report in hopes that you will make a one-time gift to help with the cost of replacing the second half of the church air conditioner on the Reconciliation Room side. Anything over the cost will be used to replenish the raffle/rainy day account that has been so greatly depleted. Any one who would like a detailed look at our financial situation is always welcome to make an appointment with me.

Thank you for your generosity in the past and know that you are in our prayers.

Gratefully,

Rev. David W. Blanchfield
Pastor