

Sustaining St. Thomas



Through Gratitude

Annual 2018 Appeal

Greetings Friends!

We are excited as we begin this period of Transition — it offers us an opportunity to embrace one another in fellowship during a time when many may feel less secure. Regardless of how *we feel*, Christ provides us Good News which tells us *to not be afraid*. We are called to manage our own parish. This is our parish that we love, call family, engage with to further develop our spirituality, practice stewardship, and with whom we perform our calling and sustain Christ's creation. We look forward to several important events coming up in the life of our parish. (See the other side of this letter for our fall calendar.)

Our theme for this year's Annual Campaign is *Sustaining St. Thomas Through Gratitude*. As Stewards of God, we are grateful for His many gifts and we are here to sustain His creation. As Christians and members of St. Thomas Church, we are called to sustain and prepare our congregation for a new chapter in our Service to Christ.

St. Thomas Church will continue the many ministries we are called to perform including:

- Our Daily Bread to feed the hungry, be a safe place, and provide hope for many.
- Mission work as we celebrate a successful Belize mission trip and prepare for Navajo Land.
- Christian Formation as it's our privilege and responsibility to provide Christian education.
- Senior ministries, worship services, as well as many more important ministries.

A fresh opportunity to bring new direction, new ministries, and vitality to our parish is upon us as we prepare for a new Rector. Through the Transition process we must work together in faithfulness to Christ to maintain our beautiful campus, build upon our missions, grow our ministries, and continue our outreach programs. All this can be accomplished through this year's *Annual Appeal and Capital Campaign*.

In support of each other, we ask you to get involved as we *Sustain St. Thomas Through Gratitude!* The community is counting on us to be here daily — as St. Thomas has been here for us over 100 years. Can we count on you to increase your pledge today? Our goal is to increase membership by 1%, have 120 pledges and generate \$140,000 for the operating budget.

This is our invitation to you to commit and pledge as we continue to foster our commitment to Christ, develop our children's faith in Christ, and serve greater Taunton and the world. As Rev. Charles Cloughen, Jr. advised, *"Next time the offertory plate comes to you, lift up your heart in gratitude and give until it feels good."*

Yours in Service to Christ,

Christina Latour

Christina Latour
Annual Appeal
Co-Chairperson

Terry Ascì

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Annual Appeal
Co-Chairperson

Michael Stagliola

Michael Stagliola
Treasurer

Len Walker

Len Walker
Sr. Warden