

Stewardship 2023

Blessings abound here at Holy Innocents' and you should know that you are blessings to me, to each other, and to our communities, local and worldwide! God continues to grant us enthusiasm, presence, and interconnectedness so that we may further God's kingdom in the world today!

I am moved and encouraged by the multitude of faithful, hopeful, loving ways we continue to be the adaptive Church in-person, hybrid and online: supporting and strengthening one another and reaching out to all. Whether it's international ministry, Advent or Lenten series, a shared coffee, choir rehearsal, caring for our building and grounds, a hunger relief walk, a diocesan committee, helping others in need, the daily office or mass on the beach, phone calls, cards, or a drive to a doctor's appointment--we show God's presence to one another.

We cannot do it alone, but *Together We Thrive!* We are a people who act out of Jesus' love and teachings in the world. I invite you to help us continue this vital work together and ask that you consider taking a step up in faith and abundance in giving. May God inspire us to share the best of ourselves through our pledges and to live into the knowledge that we are better in ministry together!

May the grace of God's love be always with you and yours,
Mrs. Caroline +





A Message from Your Treasurer



Thank you for your continued commitment to Holy Innocents'. We have remained solvent throughout the Covid pandemic and the inflation that has challenged everyone's budget. Your partnership is essential in helping us to continue to move forward and maintain our strong financial position. We are watching closely as payroll costs, utility expenses and insurance go up. With your continued faithful pledges, we expect to reasonably estimate and budget to meet our operational expenses for the coming year.



These are some examples of areas that we have seen the most increases:

- Payroll:** The diocese recommended Cost of Living Increase for clergy is 4.5% and we are expecting a similar or higher recommendation for 2023.
- Utilities:** Year-to-date our expenditures are up over 32%. Thankfully this makes up only about 7% of our budget. Consumption was greatly reduced in the Rectory with the installation of gas hot water baseboard heat and tankless domestic hot water systems during the renovations in 2018. Good for the environment and good for our budget!

Our budget for 2023 represents both emergent necessities and promising possibilities. The biggest challenges are the capital expenditures required to maintain and replace key elements of our building, which is nearly half a century old. You undoubtedly are aware of the fundraising campaign to remodel the Parish Hall Kitchen with the hope that we can also replace the flooring throughout Martin Hall. Another area in need of repair is the parking lot, which requires repairs, maintenance and sealing. We are currently gathering estimates for both projects.

We have much to hope for in the year ahead, and your gifts help us to plan and meet these expenditures to maintain our building and grounds as well as to uphold and improve our worship, ministries, and missions. With your giving estimate, know that we will be able to keep the lights on, building warm and fully staffed. Any surplus in the budget is able to be used towards our capital projects.

Thanks to your generosity and faithfulness, those who call Holy Innocents' home understand the sheer power of working together and how it allows us to thrive together.

How to Give

Pledge Card

On October 30th our pledges will be blessed during the 9:30 service. Firepits & Fellowship Celebrations will follow with brunch and labyrinth walk outside for all.

Please return your pledge cards by 10/30 so our Finance Committee can budget for the year ahead.
All pledges are kept confidential.

Time & Talent

Fill out this survey to let us know how you can contribute: help with services, support our youth, work on a mission/service project, or join a fundraising campaign.

Yours in Stewardship of God's Gifts-- Larry Peacock

Yes, this is what a “*Together We Thrive*” commitment can accomplish as we share God’s abundant love!

Stewardship calls us to renew our recognition of God’s blessings and our commitment to supporting Holy Innocents’ during this season of thanksgiving. *Together We Thrive* captures the impact we each have on Holy Innocents’ when we work together. It celebrates our diversity of interests and appreciates our individual approaches to communicating with God. Our variety of ministries touches all our senses with music, worship, sustainability, hospitality and so much more. There is truly something for every gift we each have to share!

Everything we do here is made possible by your support. Your generosity safeguards Holy Innocents’ 140-year history today and for generations to come.

A Mission of Holy Innocents’ is to welcome everyone to worship and experience God; to openly share the Good News and to respond in love to the needs of our neighbors. These words serve as an inspiration for growth and improvement, helping to propel the good works done by the Holy Innocents’ community for years to come. We look to encourage and celebrate community-building events hosted by Holy Innocents’.



Together, we pray for God’s grace to provide a ministry of connections for all in 2023:

Christian Formation Classes offer a full complement of studies and fellowship opportunities, and our *Small Group Ministries* promise to build deeper connections among our members. Old favorites, such as *Game Night* and the sweet sounds of our *Music Ministries’* choir and guest performers provide enrichment, while new options such as *Environmental Stewardship* expands and enhances members’ lives. Our *Technology Team* has upgraded our camera system to keep everyone connected, continuing live streaming services and music, as well as providing tech support for isolated parishioners. We are thankful for our *Clergy* and our *Pastoral Care* and *Lay Eucharistic Ministers* who tend to those who seek prayer, guidance, healing and comfort. Our *Hospitality and Welcome Team* greets and nurtures *every* new member and visitor, providing a solid foundation for thriving in our community. *Outreach Ministries* continue to make a positive difference locally and beyond with holiday gifts, backpacks, shoeboxes and more.

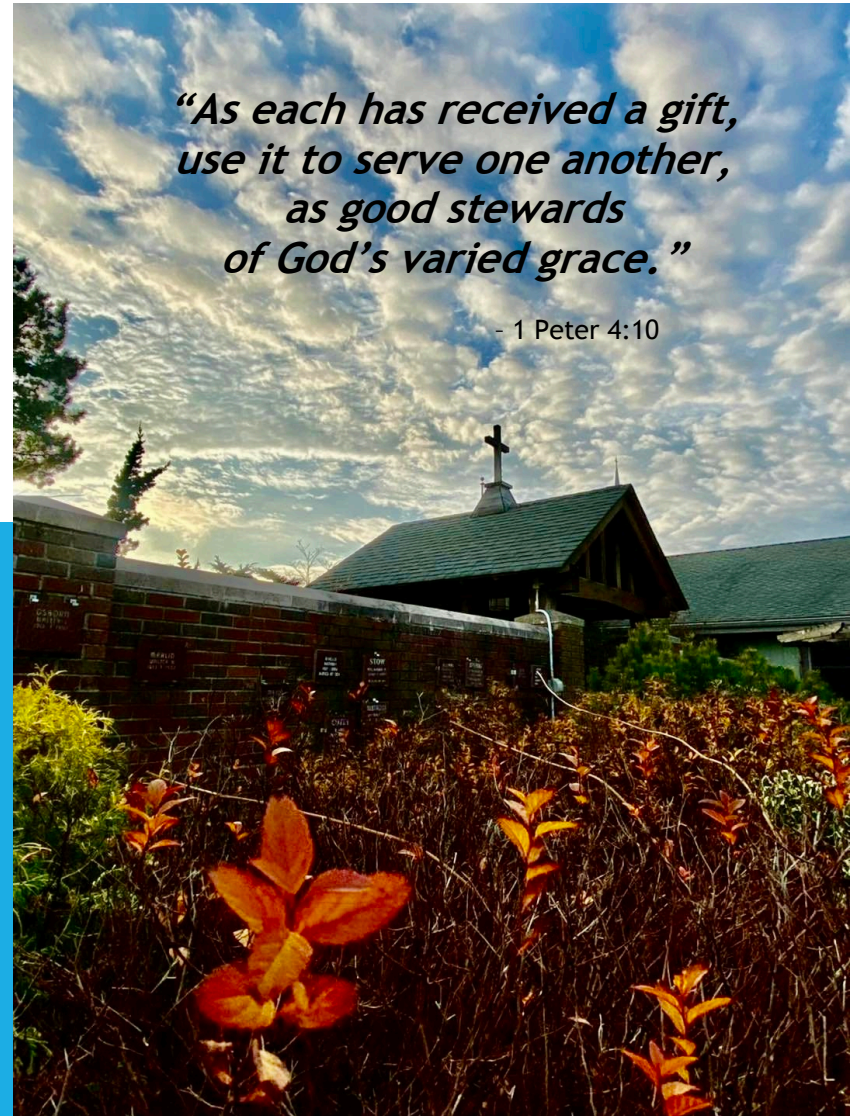
In 2023, we foresee updates to our spaces for community: recharging *Martin Hall* with a newly outfitted *Bible Study Room*, lending renewed organization to *Meeting* and *Storage Rooms*, and refurbishing the *Kitchen* to enhance our *Hospitality* and *Celebrations*. Further, investments in the *Memorial Garden* and other outdoor spaces will continue to preserve our campus.



*Prayerfully consider what Holy Innocents'
means to you and your family
as you prepare to make your pledge.*

Which ministries feel particularly personal to you this year? We see stewardship season as a time of spiritual growth set aside to reflect on our gifts from God and make a conscious decision to give a portion back to God.

You and your gifts are precious to us, and we are most grateful that with your help and God's grace, together we will thrive. Your generosity will enable the Parish to continue to meet opportunities for worship, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, mission and outreach. Every pledge makes a difference, whether it be large or small.



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- Pledges allow you to make intentional decisions about giving and to dedicate your gifts to the things you value most.
- Pledges allow the Vestry to know what to anticipate.
- Pledges are confidential. Only Bookkeeper & Stewardship Chair are privy to this information.

*To further discuss giving, please contact
Mother. Caroline, Treasurer Larry Peacock
or Stewardship Chair Pat Peacock*