

February, 2024

Blessings and Peace! I hope you are doing okay after the difficult storm and cold weather that affected most of our lives over the past two weeks. It was heartwarming to hear many stories of how we reached out to others and became neighbors to one another. The best of humanity is always discovered when we face adversities together.

Last weekend I shared at all Masses my hopes and prayers for our Parish to be a dynamic, vibrant and caring community. I was asking everyone to focus and celebrate our strengths as a faith community. It is time after the difficult years of our merger to move forward and believe and celebrate our new identity as **Mother of Perpetual Help parish**, with two sites but One Community. We will focus on building our community and caring for our members who are in need.

Some of the strengths I listed in my sharing were: the growing numbers of young families joining our parish, especially because the only Catholic school in West Allis is with us. There are amazing ministries our parish is engaged in which reach out to the poor and vulnerable and we regularly serve one another through our wonderful liturgical services and devotional practices. We also enjoy the renewed enthusiasm and commitment of our leadership as they help to build our fellowship as a community through various events. In addition, we are also blessed to have a sound financial situation as a result of your generous contributions and support. We have also created a better financial management system and process that are transparent and fiscally prudent. If we capitalize all these strengths, and many more I have not listed, we can truly become a vibrant parish in our neighborhood.

This monthly letter accompanies your yearly Stewardship summary. If there are errors in the amount, please call our office and we can send you a corrected statement. Thank you for your generosity and sacrifices in supporting our mission as a faith community. I am so pleased to see that more than 70% of our households are participating with financial contributions to the parish.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, we are beginning our Lenten season, a great time for our spiritual renewal. Through prayer, fasting and penance we prepare for the celebration of the paschal mysteries. May the Lord bless and guide us in our Lenten journey to renew and refresh us.

Commending you under the protection of our **Mother of Perpetual Help** and assuring you of my prayers and Blessings,

Yours in the Lord,

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI  
Pastor