Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

Dear Parishioners,

Just coming to Assumption parish this last summer, I am encouraged by seeing all of the different ways that people are involved, from young to old and from sacraments, to soccer, to St. Vincent de Paul. It is also good to see the rich history of the parish, hearing about it from parishioners who they and their families have been here generations, seeing it in the buildings, and recognizing it so clearly when walking through our cemetery. This makes clear that this parish, that started almost 150 years ago, and our Church, that began 2000 years ago, does not just continue without the faithfulness and stewardship of many people. We can see the evidence of the stewardship of people in the past though our history and where we are today, but we also have to assess where we are right now, the gifts we have, and how we are called to use them if we are to continue today and for the future.

To help be good stewards I have enclosed Commitment Cards. These can help each of us to consider what are the ways that I am called to participate with my gifts, to use them to help build up God's kingdom here on earth. I know just looking over them I recognize some of the things that I am doing, but also recognize the many different ways others are using their gifts around me. If we value our faith, if we value our parish, if we value all that God has given us, we need to show that by how we use these gifts to live out our faith especially here in our parish. Please take the time to sit down with your family and prayerfully consider how God is calling you to grow in service to Him this year with your time, talent, and treasure, and then fill out the included Commitment Card and return it to the parish.

To help me be a good steward in my role as pastor of this parish I would ask if you could also look at the back of this page. I have a few questions that I am hoping you can answer either using this page, on our parish website, or you will also find it in an upcoming bulletin. After receiving your responses, I will review them all and I am hoping to have three 'Town Hall Meetings' in October at which I can provide a summary of what I have heard from you and we could discuss in small table groups the areas that concern you the most. By hearing what you consider our strengths, our challenges, and our desires for the future I am hoping to better understand the gifts in our parish and to discern the best ways to use these gifts for now and the future.

Thank you for your warm welcome and all you have done in the past. I pray that we can continue to grow as a parish where we recognize and desire to use the many gifts God has given us to build God's Kingdom, and to be a place where people find Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Nick

Fr. Nick Kastenholz, Pastor

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Please bring your completed Commitment Card with you to Mass or use the enclosed envelope to mail it to the parish. Thanks and God bless you! Questions: (Please fill out and return with your commitment card, to the rectory, or via e-mail.) What would you like to share with me about your experiences with the Mass/Worship here at Assumption?

What would you like to share with me regarding hopes or suggestions for the future with our Mass/Worship here at Assumption?

What would you like to share with me about your experiences with the School/PSR here at Assumption?

What would you like to share with me regarding hopes or suggestions for the future with our School/PSR here at Assumption?

What would you like to share with me about your experiences with the parish in general here at Assumption?

What would you like to share with me regarding hopes or suggestions for the future with the parish in general here at Assumption?

What one thing do you wish to continue seeing?

What one thing do you wish to start seeing?

What one thing do you wish to stop seeing?

Name: _____