

## "Transforming Generosity"

"You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us" (2 Cor. 9:11)

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! Our 2019 stewardship campaign statement, "Transforming Generosity", is indicative of what we do in the life of this parish, through God's grace and your support. Transforming Generosity is precisely what we actually do through the gifts you give us in your financial pledge: we come together and worship with one another, but also transform lives in the process. This past year has been a difficult year for us financially and we face a substantial deficit as we begin our stewardship drive for 2019, we strive forward. This is where "Transforming Generosity" becomes apparent; because even though we have not met our revenue goals, focusing on the "WHY" we do all that we do gives us meaning and purpose. This past year, we have helped a tremendous number of individuals and families with their faith in joy and grief not only in the parish, but also out in our communities and beyond. This is one of the reasons I believe ECA is such an incredible place to be Christ's body, the church.

Each year, we make an appeal to ECA members to continue to financially support our ministry and mission, both faithfully and generously. We are transforming your generosity to make a difference in people's lives here at ECA, in our communities and out in the world. I have personally received and witnessed the great generosity this parish has to offer both in its faith and resiliency. There are, of course, difficult seasons and bad moments in all of our lives, which are beyond anyone's control. But even in the hard times, God is always present, God's grace prevails, and light overcomes the darkness. ECA is a place we can come together to praise and worship God whose presence makes a difference in all our lives and with those whom our ministry and mission affects. I ask for your continued generous financial support so we can continue to live out our mission statement in bold, new and exciting ways. "Our Mission is to bear witness to God's love and invite, encourage, and prepare God's people to share that grace with others." Please think about these things, and when the time comes for you to make your commitment, let the measure you give be the measure you get back. (Luke 6:38)

Faithfully, Fr. Paul+

Fr. Paul, Sandi Harden, Bruce Collopy, Penny Capawana, Ron Sedgley and Irene Griggs; Stewardship Committee