



*“Every generous act of giving, with **every perfect gift**, is from above...” James 1:17, NRSV*

October 26, 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

We want our message about our pledge campaign to begin with Gratitude, and that is how we begin our message to you this year. We continue to be inspired by YOU, by your generosity – by the grand acts that you accomplished this year, by your acts of love and kindness, and by the unseen work you have done in the service of God and to our church community. Through uncertain and difficult times, you have always supported the ministry of All Saints, and we cannot thank you enough. It is because of you that All Saints is a special community of believers who support one another.

Our pledge campaign this year focuses on our gifts; not just the gifts we wrap with paper and bows or put in envelopes, but how we give of ourselves throughout the year. **Every Perfect Gift** highlights all the ways in which we have been blessed by God and how that inspires us to give back to our neighbors, our church, and the world.

This year has been so different from other years in terms of what has been asked of us as individuals and as a community. There has been uncertainty and worry for many of us. Repeatedly we learn that the God we encounter, and the Jesus who we follow, keeps our family

Every dollar that we pledge has a face of a friend behind it, a story, a purpose. We not only use our financial gifts to serve God, but to care for each other and to show our love for our friends. What greater gift can there be for us to consider?

If you are ever in doubt about the impact of your giving, just look around you. Whether you have seen your church family and friends through a computer screen this past year or among you in the pews, every person that you see is part of **your** story. As you reflect on your sisters and brothers in Christ, consider how you have been impacted by each of them, by being at All Saints. How can you consider increasing your impact to this church and to each other? How will you be a blessing to others? What is the ultimate story behind your gift, and how will it unfold? This is the spirit behind our theme of **Every Perfect Gift**.

This year we encourage you to make your perfect gift reflect the gifts you have received from our Creator. We all pray in thanksgiving for the perfect gifts we have received from God and for the grace through which our faith has strengthened us during the pandemic and restoration of

our church. We all look forward to a new beginning in the coming year and invite you to prayerfully recommit to your ministry through unselfish sharing of not only your treasure, but your time and your talent.

On behalf of the Vestry and Stewardship Committee, we are enclosing a pledge card. We invite you to thoughtfully receive it with grace and prayer as you consider how you will share with God, with All Saints Episcopal Church, and with your friends by your commitment of your treasure through your response to **Every Perfect Gift**. As you consider your gift this year, think about how you might stretch yourself a bit from last year. Are you able to help us overcome our potential shortfall this year so that we can better serve each other in the coming year? Your pledge card may be mailed to the church office by December 2 or dropped into the collection basket during Sunday services. We will celebrate your pledge and everyone's generosity at our ingathering on Sunday, December 5.

Please contact either of us if you have any questions, suggestions, or comments. We would love to hear from you!

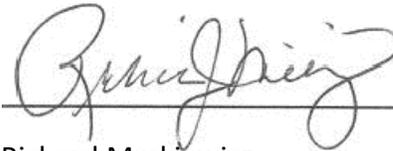
Join us in the prayer of St. Paul:

"Praise God for this *incredible, unbelievable, indescribable* gift!"
(2 Corinthians 9:15 – *The Voice*)

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. Leslie J. Hague
Rector
leslie@allsaintsfl.org
703-371-9433



Richard Markiewicz
Senior Warden
seniorwarden@allsaintsfl.org
774-239-1668

To: All Saints Episcopal Church members
From: Rick Vaughan, All Saints Treasurer
October 27, 2021

RE: 2021 Financial Status update of Projections and Concerns as we begin to budget for 2022

I have reviewed this information with the Finance Committee and Vestry this past week and I have summarized it for you to review as you consider your 2022 pledge to All Saints.

Our September financial reports indicate that our pledge revenue and plate revenue are down. **We are very concerned about a potentially serious shortfall for the coming year.** The majority of our expenses are consistent year over year, however, we worked diligently early in the year to cut as much as we could. Cutting expenses even further means seriously cutting into the life and ministry of All Saints. We do not want to lose what makes All Saints a vibrant parish for all of us.

With three months of financial results remaining:

- Outstanding pledges stand at \$112,649 or 30.6% of the total Pledges made. If members do not fulfill or exceed their pledges by year end, we are at serious risk.
- Our projections for the next several months also anticipated higher Plate numbers due to the holidays, but in-person attendance continues to lag, with risk to our projected numbers.
- Our major fundraisers, especially the boat parade, lie in this coming three-month period. It is hard to predict what impact the Covid pandemic will have on our ability to actually raise the funds we need to meet our projections.

As you know, our revised 2021 Budget contained a significant deficit. Even if none of the above risks become reality, our projection still shows us ending 2021 with an operating cash balance of approximately \$53,000 – compared to \$114,000 at the beginning of the year.

The trends are concerns that I expressed to the vestry and include:

- IF we miss our pledge projection/budget by \$10,000 to 15,000
- IF we miss our plate revenue projection/budget by \$5,000 to 8,000
- IF we miss our fundraising projection/budget by \$5,000 to 7,000

If we miss our budget projections, our year end operating cash projection of \$53,000 could dwindle to somewhere between \$20,000 to \$30,000. This would put us in a very difficult financial position.

I appeal to each of us to consider the importance that our support makes to the life of the church that we love. Please prayerfully consider helping by fulfilling or exceeding the pledge you made for 2021. Please also prayerfully consider increasing your pledge, if possible, for the 2022 year. If you have not pledged in the past, please consider doing so for this coming year. Your support is needed, and it is together that we work to make All Saints successful. Thanks for reviewing this information and for your continued support. Please reach out to Mother Leslie, Rich Markiewicz or me if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ,
Rick Vaughan