

June 16, 2010

Dear Parishioner,

This weekend – June 19-20 – will be my **final time** to lead you in prayer as your pastor. Thank you for welcoming me so graciously into your lives and for allowing me to serve and to lead you. Together we have created a very special and sacred experience of church that has touched so many lives. What a grace St. Anne has been to all of us! Leaving St. Anne will indeed be difficult for me. Your gracious support and constant encouragement, your spirited prayer, and your passionate faith have inspired, sustained, and changed me. If I have offended or hurt you in some way, I ask for your forgiveness. It has been a special grace to have planted some seeds and laid a foundation with you for a new church community. Trusting that the One who has begun this good work will continue to do so is the invitation before us all. We have had great experiences with the Risen Lord but His blessings have not been exhausted in our twelve years!

Unfortunately a **new pastor** has not yet been announced by the Archbishop for St. Anne. It is expected that a new pastor will arrive at St. Anne on July 13th. I offered to be the temporary administrator for these three weeks which means I will be responsible for the ongoing administration of the parish but will not be here on the weekends – since I will be at Holy Apostles parish in New Berlin. The following priests will preside at weekend prayer in the interim:

- Fr. Bill Cieslak on June 26-27 and July 3-4
- the Annual missionary co-op appeal on July 10-11

We have completed our 2nd year of the **Faith in our Future Campaign**. Thank you to the 274 households who are participating in this campaign. From June 2008 to May 2009 we have received \$224,107. 80% of these funds are being set aside for mortgage reserves to help us be in a better position to obtain a long term mortgage. 10% is set aside for parish projects. We have been able to replace and upgrade our technology equipment as a result. Another 10% is set aside as a contribution for a permanent homeless shelter in Kenosha. Your continued commitment in the last twelve months of this important campaign is critical for St. Anne and for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

From July 2009 to May 2010 we have spent **\$36,035** more than we received. Since April we have seen an increase in electronic giving, weekly collections, and SCRIP sales. Growing parish membership and continuing and increasing these gains are the challenge before us. Can you use **SCRIP** to help us close the gap? \$200 in groceries through SCRIP provides a \$8-10 donation to the parish. Can you sign up for **automated or electronic giving**? Can you give **\$1-2 more per week** or **\$10 more per month** to help keep what we have to come expect and love at St. Anne?

I ask for your continued prayer as I will continue to hold you in mine.

Peace and Blessings,

Fr. Don Thimm
Pastor