

July 30, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you know from the bulletin and from two letters I sent through the US mail, our Grand Annual Collection goal for this year was \$200,000. While we certainly will accept more contributions, the campaign has reached its end and I want to share the results with you.

Grand Annual 2010 Goal:	\$200,000	
Total Received:	\$220,410	110% of goal
Participating Households	358	27% of 1,300 registered households

On behalf of the whole parish, I am grateful to all who gave so generously and I'm well aware that in this economy every contribution was a generous one, without exception. I say that I'm grateful on behalf of the whole parish because it's the whole parish which will benefit from the efforts of just under a third of our parish membership. As I've said and written on several occasions, any and every contribution, large or small, is welcomed and gratefully received.

There are, of course, many ways to give. Through our Faith Formation program our parish received a call this past week for help needed at the **Cor Unum Meal Center** in Lawrence. Groups of Holy Family young people and their chaperones volunteer at Cor Unum once a month. Cor Unum came to be in Lawrence through the work of Fr. Paul O'Brien who was once stationed at St. Bernard Parish. Those who need the Cor Unum Meal Center aren't folks who leave on vacation during the summer but those who regularly volunteer are vacationing right now. Help is especially needed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday - August 5, 6, 7. Volunteering to serve a meal means that you need to be at Cor Unum from 4:00-7:00 p.m. (It takes about 45 minutes to get there.) **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?** Contact Tony Carbrello on our parish staff at 978-369-7442 Ext 223.

You can give by volunteering closer to home by signing up to teach or serve as an assistant in our **Faith Formation** program for the coming year. If you have interest or questions, please call Tony at the number above and he'll help you.

Another opportunity to give as a volunteer is detailed on the other insert in this bulletin which comes from the **Jericho Road Lowell** program for mentoring young people in the Lowell area in conjunction with CTI YouthBuild. Please take a few minutes to read the insert at least to learn about the program. And if you're interested or have questions, the contact information for Dan Holin is included.

And now for something completely different... Start humming *Silent Night* and *Jingle Bells* and give some thought to joining other parishioners for a trip to Symphony Hall for the *Boston Holiday POPS* on Friday night, December 10. We're asking you about it now because the tickets will be purchased on September 13! Please call Joanne Cormier (978-369-3085) or Bernadette Jaros (978-369-7687) *before the end of August* to secure your seat on the coach bus and at Symphony Hall! The cost of the evening is \$70.00 and includes the show and transportation.

I'll be on vacation from August 11-26. While I'm away, Fr. John Chrysostom from Uganda will be in the parish, staying at the rectory and leading you in prayer on the weekends. Please give him a warm welcome!

Sincerely,
Fr. Fleming