



November 7, 2016

“Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2:5). As I mentioned at the Marian Festival, Mary repeats this message over and over. The “good stewards” at the wedding at Cana did what Jesus told them and, because of their obedience, Jesus was able to begin his ministry on earth with the miracle of changing water into wine. I am contacting you to remind you that our annual Stewardship of Treasure campaign is happening now and I am asking you, through Our Blessed Mother, to “Do whatever he tells you”.

I invite you to take some time to review the many ways God is blessing you and your household; be prepared to listen to what God is telling you through these blessings. In gratitude for all that God has given you, I encourage you to prayerfully consider giving a portion back. The portion you give back is called the “tithe”. Scripture tells us that we are to thank the Lord by tithing, “A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.” (Lev 27:30)

To make your intentional financial commitment to St. Mary Parish and School, simply fill out your commitment card, tear it in half and place the “Return this Side” card in the envelope provided. If you are already pledging, please consider an incremental increase of 3 – 5% in your pledge. If pledging is new to you, please prayerfully discern what God is asking you to give and then make your pledge. For those who have just joined our parish family in the past few months and pledged for 2016, please return the enclosed card indicating that you would like your 2016 pledge to roll over into 2017 if that is your intent. Stewardship is the responsibility of every parishioner; please carefully discern the level at which you will participate.

I will be inviting parishioners to come forward at each Mass to present their gifts to the Lord, so don't forget to bring your return envelope with the card inside to Mass this weekend. (If you prefer, you can also give your gift in the offertory basket, mail it to or drop it off at the Parish office.)

As Catholics, our hope is always in the Lord. I am hoping and praying that God will continue to bless our beautiful “family of families” that is St. Mary Parish and School through our sincere gifts of Treasure, given back to Christ and His Church in thanksgiving for all that we have, all that we are, and all that is to come.

God Bless You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Javier Nieva", is written over a white rectangular background. The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops.

Fr. Javier Nieva, DCJM