

St. Joseph Catholic Church
717 North Bradford Avenue
Placentia, CA 92870-4514
(714) 528-1487

Dear People of God,

I write this letter on Christmas Eve afternoon. In just a couple of hours I will be celebrating the great Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord with people that I deeply love, the parishioners of St. Joseph Church in Placentia. Being a fussy host I was roaming around the church this morning double checking the lights, air conditioning, sound system and restrooms, making sure that everything was working just right. In the midst of my roaming around I paused for a few minutes and simply admired the work that we did this summer in **enhancing** our worship space. It was because of your generosity that we were able to refurbish our pews, install new kneelers and pew racks, put in new flooring and lighting on the sides and vestibule of our church, and augment our space with warm and welcoming colors. I am **honored** to be your pastor and I continue to be **edified** by the faith and generosity of the people here at St. Joseph Church as evidenced by the parish's annual participation in the **Pastoral Services Appeal (PSA)**.

PSA supports various diocesan services and outreach ministries-explained in the enclosed brochure-that no one parish can provide. Every parish in the Diocese is given its fair share of the total PSA budget. Our parish share is \$109,000. Once this amount is paid, all additional monies will be returned to our parish in the form of a rebate. The PSA is a wonderful opportunity to actively participate in the mission of the Church here in the Diocese of Orange.

Your **unwavering** support during the last three PSA campaigns **generated** the funding for the enhancement of our worship space. Perhaps William Shakespeare said it best, "I can no answer make but thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks."

A portion of this year's rebate will be used to **support** ongoing parish ministries such as bereavement ministry outreach to those who have lost a loved one and Faith Formation which includes sacramental preparation ranging from infant baptism to adult confirmation.

The major portion of this year's rebate will be used to **modernize** the student and faculty restrooms in our classroom facility. Our classroom facility is over fifty years old. In order to **extend** the life of this facility there is need for ongoing repair and renovation. Our first area of concern is the faculty and student restrooms. On a weekly basis, nearly **800** children and young people from both our parish and public schools use this facility for Faith Formation and other activities. The projected cost of the restrooms is **\$230,000**. With another **successful** PSA we will be able to complete the faculty and student restrooms during the summer of 2012. I will keep you informed of our progress throughout the winter and spring months in our parish bulletin.

I am inviting you to join me, and your parish family, in making your pledge on the weekend of **February 04/05**. The enclosed pledge envelope provides various paying options. Your support is an inspiration to your parish family.

Honored to be your pastor,



Reverend Timothy L. Ramaekers
