



Saint Columbkille Parish
Brighton, Massachusetts

November 21-22, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Saint Columbkille Parish,

Next weekend we will inaugurate our 2009 Grand Annual Collection, which, as you know, is a major source of revenue for both our annual operating expenses and for the continued development of our parish properties. Our Grand Annual Collection represents the third largest revenue stream for the parish budget after the Offertory Collection and the Rental Income we receive from the Charter School. To those of you who have already returned a contribution to this important annual appeal, I express my heartfelt gratitude on behalf of all of us parishioners.

The Grand Annual Collection is a wonderful opportunity and challenge for us to build up and to fortify our parish life together. Your generosity really does and will make a difference! As in past years, it is my hope to be able to join the proceeds of this year's collection to bequests we have received in order to continue doing major work in the church and on the grounds. As I indicated in my recent letter to you on the Finances of the parish, this is a very exciting time for the Parish. For the first time in a number of years, we have been able to plan for and enjoy some capital improvements of the splendid church and property left to us by our faithful and generous forebears.

The Finance Council has set a goal of \$60,000 for our Grand Annual Collection this year. It has also recommended that every working person in the parish consider a contribution of \$100.00 to the Grand Annual Collection. Some of you can and will make a contribution that is greater, often much greater than this recommendation. Others, especially in these very difficult economic times, will find it a challenge to give \$100.00 and will give something less. Every gift matters. The Parish is greatly blessed and I am deeply grateful for whatever you can give. What is most important to me is that each of us takes this opportunity to commit to the future of our community in Christ Jesus together. In the end, the success of our Grand Annual Collection is measured by our common participation.

If for some reason you do not receive my letter about the 2009 Grand Annual Collection, I offer a sincere apology. We are working on having as complete a parish listing as possible, but we are not there yet. If we missed you, I encourage you to help us out by completing the parish registration form in this week's bulletin. Naturally, you can accomplish the same by picking up one of the 2009 Grand Annual Collection letters at the doors of the church.

May the Lord Jesus bless and strengthen the strong community of faith we are and continue to become. And may God to bless you and your loved ones with every grace you need to live faithfully and joyfully in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Gratefully yours in the Lord,

Rev. Msgr. William P. Fay
Pastor