



16 Pacific Ave, Senneville, Québec H9X 1A3 • Tel: 514-457-3896 • Fax: 514-457-4801  
Email: office@corpuschristiparish.ca

April 22, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

Father Stephen and the Wardens would like to take a moment to thank you for your generous financial support in extremely difficult circumstances in the last year. Your contributions allowed us to keep abreast of our expenses. As you know, the parish relies entirely on your generosity for everything it does.

However, government anti-COVID-19 regulations continue to drastically reduce the number of worshippers permitted to gather. Despite lower numbers of congregants attending Mass, due to regulations and personal choices regarding risk, Corpus Christi continues to be required to meet all of its normal operational costs. This new situation obliges us to call again on your generosity to help us meet expenses. It also provides us with a good opportunity to inform and update you on the parish's yearly financial needs.

As many of you will have seen in last year's financial report (published in the bulletin), the parish operates with yearly expenses of \$140 000.00. This equates to a weekly bill of \$2,700. In the pre-COVID-19 period, we had roughly 80 families that were donating on a regular basis. Based on these numbers, the parish would require an average per family donation of \$34/week (or \$136/month) to continue to meet expenses.

To accomplish this, we ask that you consider increasing your weekly contribution or ensuring that the parish receives your contribution when not present at Mass.

We are aware that some of you and your families may be suffering from the adverse economic consequences of the COVID-19 shutdown. This must be a source of great anxiety to you and it is a source of great sadness to us. We hope that these conditions are of short duration and that you are able to resume your normal life soon. Rest assured that we are thinking of you and that you and your families are in our prayers. Families suffering financial difficulties at this time are not being called on to comply with this request.

We do not ask for any more of our parishioners than they are able to give. The numbers outlined are simply meant to paint a clearer picture of the parish's financial situation and to provide you, as parishioners, with sufficient information to do your part in contributing to Corpus Christi's financial stability.

May we suggest the following convenient means to make contributions:

- take this opportunity to sign up for Direct Deposit; this is a convenient and easy way to ensure your weekly contribution is received by the Parish and removes the bother of having to prepare weekly envelopes. Forms can be downloaded from the website in the "Giving" Tab, in the second section entitled "Automatic Pre-Authorised Direct Deposit", or are available from the Parish office (details below);
- click on the "Donate Now" button under "Giving" on the parish website; this will bring you to the CanadaHelps website where you can donate using a credit card or PayPal;
- send your contribution in by mail; or,
- if you prefer, you can place your contribution in the Rectory letterbox.

**Also, don't forget that contributions to the Parish are tax deductible (there is a possible 40% rebate on donations).**

If you have any questions about the budget, please feel free to contact one of the wardens. Their contact details are available in the bulletin.

Blessings,

Fr Stephen and the Wardens

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