Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It’s time for us to consider our stewardship. The Webster Dictionary defines stewardship as: 1) The office, duties, and obligations of a steward. 2) The conducting, supervising, or managing of something—especially, the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.

All of our possessions are a gift from God, to be used to His glory. It is true we may have worked hard to obtain our possessions, but all our achievements were accomplished by the grace of God. He is the one that gave us the gifts to obtain our possessions.

Thus, the Holy Scriptures set forth a giving of the first fruits, or 10% of our income to be offered back to God. In addition, the 10% also represents a thank offering for all God’s blessings. It also represents our love and commitment to Jesus and His Church. Our giving is a testament to our spiritual health. Therefore, I humbly ask you to consider increasing your pledge to a tithe, that is 10% of your income, or at the very least, increasing your giving toward a tithe.

Over the past several years we have raised our Sunday contributions significantly. In fact, the church is in good financial shape. However, our expenses are going to drastically increase, because of two main factors. For the past four years we have not been paying any cathedralicum to the Ordinariate—that is our fixed tithe to the Ordinariate. Bishop Lopes had generously waved our giving so as to allow us to become more fiscally sound in both the Academy and the parish. Now that the parish has reached that goal, the bishop is asking that we pay about half our cathedralicum, this year, that is $47,000 per year. The percentage we pay of our cathedralicum will increase in each subsequent year until we are paying our full amount to the Chancery. In addition, and most unexpectedly, our property insurance has increased over $70,000 a year.

Furthermore, and most importantly, God is blessing us abundantly with new membership, and with this growth comes growing pains. We have to try to keep up with what God is already doing. There are two projects we need to consider 1) extending the seating capacity of the church, and 2) expand our parking capacity.

The episcopal motto of Bishop Lopes is “Great are the works of the Lord.” Great indeed are His works here at Atonement. May we be found to be good stewards and provide for His work. Therefore, I want to invite all of you to join Vickey and me in giving 10% of your income to the parish—after all, “it is very meet and right so to do.”

Your servant,

[Signature]
2023 PLEDGE FORM

Name(s): ________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ___ Zip: ______ Phone: ________________

Cell: ____________________________ E-mail: ________________________________

Stewardship of Treasure

In response to God’s blessings, I/we COMMIT the following support for the 2023 Stewardship Campaign

Weekly Offering: $ __________

Monthly Offering: $ __________

Bi-Monthly Offering: $ __________

Total Annual Gift: $ __________

Weekly Tithe (Amount Based on % of Income)

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Ways to Tithe at Our Lady of The Atonement Catholic Church

☐ ONLINE GIVING (preferred) - If you are already enrolled, login to your parishsoft account and make changes. To set up an account go to https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/our1541159

☐ ENVELOPE (cash or check)
  If you do not currently receive envelopes, we will assign a box of envelopes and leave them in the narthex for you to pick up

☐ Don’t need Envelopes

☐ STOCKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
  Does your employer offer matching gifts or have stock options that you would like to use?
  Please contact Anastacio Hinojosa at
  (210) 695-2944 or ahinojosa@ourladyoftheatonement.org

Lord, help me recognize all the gifts you have given me, those seen and unseen. Help me to understand that I am accountable for these gifts and to share them joyfully just as generations before me have done.

Help me be more generous with all my gifts, without expecting anything in return. Through prayer, help me listen to your will and not to ask for my own desires.

Help me open my heart to be more grateful, forgiving and loving. Help me have the courage to be your hands, feet and voice to continue your work. Lord, help me be all you’ve called me to be and to always love as you love. — Amen