



Parish
Growth Campaign

Investing in our future 2015

[RETURN TO CAMPAIGN HOMEPAGE](#)

Letters from the Pastor

May 18, 2015

John Smith
1 Handsome Ave.
Sayville, N.Y. 11782

Dear John,

I've been looking forward to communicating with you again as part of our parish's ongoing Growth Campaign. We kicked off the Campaign back in January, as a way of deepening our sense of belonging to St. Lawrence the Martyr, celebrating what's already so vibrant about this parish, extending a "welcome home" to those who have drifted from the practice of their faith, and encouraging more people to become involved in some form of ministry here. But our continued growth as a faith family will only happen in fits and starts unless we address the issue of **money** (there, I said it!).

You have already been generous in your financial support to St. Lawrence, and the parish has benefited from that generosity in ways you may never even know! Any increase you feel able to make in your level of giving will help sustain what you already love about the parish, and help us to realize the dreams we have for our future. If this is not the right time for you to increase your giving, I hope you will continue to support St. Lawrence as you have before.



Enclosed you will find a simple form for making a financial commitment to the parish. In deciding what amount you can commit to, it might help to see what our records show as your regular offertory contributions for the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. (Please note that this figure does not include other contributions you may have made to the parish):

Annual Offertory Contributions: \$ _____

Please complete the commitment form and return it by mail, or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. If you prefer the convenience of going online, just go the home page of our parish website:

<http://www.stlawrencesayville.org> click on <**PARISH GROWTH CAMPAIGN**>, and then click <**MAKE A COMMITMENT**>. We've tried to make this phase of our Campaign as simple and straightforward as possible.

Your participation is extremely important to the vitality of our parish, and I am deeply grateful for it. Thank you for placing such value on your membership in St. Lawrence, and for your commitment to strengthening the future God has in store for us.

With gratitude and prayerful best wishes,

Rev. Brian J. Ingram
Pastor





January 12, 2015

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope the last few weeks have been festive, heartwarming, and richly blessed with the Good News that God is truly with us! Many exciting things are happening here at St. Lawrence, but today I'm writing with news about *a particularly exciting project* we'll be embarking on in the coming months. Our parish is humming with activity, and many of you are already deeply committed to the life of our faith family. Of course, as more opportunities present themselves and more people become involved, there's all the more we want to try! With the start of a new year, it's a good time to focus on our immediate and long-term future. That involves both nurturing what we *already have*, and at the same time working to responsibly *expand* our programs and services. We truly want to be the hub of your faith-life, and the best resource we can be in building God's kingdom.

To bring this about, we are initiating a comprehensive process called a **Parish Growth Campaign**. We believe the fruits of this process will help us realize the value of our community, uncover our gifts and talents, call us to service, and enhance our fiscal stability. The process will start immediately, peak after Easter, and point us toward new patterns of involvement and giving for next year. The Campaign has the following major aims:



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- Greater awareness of the value of St. Lawrence the Martyr in our lives
- Deeper awareness of the gifts and talents God has bestowed on each of us
- Expanding parishioner involvement in ministries and services at St. Lawrence
- Increasing our offertory income through financial commitment to the parish
- Substantially increasing the number of parishioners involved in financial giving
- Encouraging parish-wide electronic contributions

You are an important and valuable part of this community. The involvement of each and every one of us makes a tremendous difference in the vitality of our parish. We will be hosting a special Gathering in February to share with each other our excitement and enthusiasm for St. Lawrence and its future. There will be refreshments, and an opportunity to tell stories about how our parish has had a positive impact on our lives. Your participation is very important to our parish's enjoying a vibrant future! Please take a moment to let me know if you can attend one of the three Gatherings by returning the enclosed RSVP card to the Parish Outreach Office by February 8th.

May the Lord bless all that lies ahead of you—and us—in 2015. I hope to see you in February!



Rev. Brian J. Ingram
Pastor