



Last week, we began our annual *Giving Tree* project. I am always edified at the great outpouring of generosity that happens each year as gifts are placed around the tree. It is incredible how many families are helped each year. I thank Nick D'Addezio for coordinating this project again this year and all his family and friends who help with the sorting and directing of gifts to the proper places. Obviously, many people are experiencing the hard reality of the present economy. More than ever your generosity is needed this year!

Do You Hear What I Hear? Just a reminder that you, and your family, neighbors and friends, Catholic and non-Catholic alike are welcome to church tonight at 6:30 p.m. With the assistance of our music ministries, we will rediscover the symbols and sounds of Christmas and better focus on the right things in life as we move into this holy season of Advent.

Thank you to all who have returned the card of intent for the *Stewardship of Treasure for 2009*. I do ask if you have not returned it, to do so in the next two weeks. Remember, this is not a collection but an indication of what you think you will be able to contribute to our parish in 2009. Please do not send a donation with the pledge card. I realize that some may be unsure of this because of various financial challenges being faced today. You are not held to the pledge but it will be an indicator as to what income the parish can expect in the next fiscal year to carry on the work of God for our parish family. Please know I am most grateful for whatever you can do.

As you know, during the past month and a half, I have been sharing with you in detail, the work of the *Church Exploratory Committee*. The committee was established last year at this time and I promised I would keep the parishioners updated on their work. During the past year, there have been articles in the Parish newsletter which is sent to every home in the parish and periodically in my columns in the bulletin. These recent columns in the bulletin have been in more detail, so that the majority of parishioners will be aware of the work that has been done this past year and continues to be done so that you will have some pertinent background when consulted about the work.

These recent columns have been placed all in one spot on our parish website. Just go to the website and look for Church Exploratory Committee. If you click on that heading, all the columns will be available for your perusal. Of course, these can not possibly provide all the discussions that have gone on over the year but they do provide a good summary. Please feel free to give feedback to me or any member of the committee. The church columns will resume next week.

God Bless You All!

Monsignor Lynn

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