



Immaculate Conception Church
193 Main Street
North Easton, MA 02356

April, 2018

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This past March, our Holy Father Francis issued an Apostolic Exhortation entitled "Rejoice and be Glad" (The entire text can be found on our parish website). In this brilliant and thought provoking message, Pope Francis calls each of us to holiness. He addresses all people who seek holiness with the following excerpt:

"Let us not forget that Jesus asked his disciples to pay attention to details.

The little detail that wine was running out at a party.

The little detail that one sheep was missing.

The little detail of noticing the widow who offered her two small coins.

The little detail of having spare oil for the lamps, should the bridegroom delay.

The little detail of asking the disciples how many loaves of bread they had.

The little detail of having a fire burning and a fish cooking as he waited for the disciples at daybreak.

A community that cherishes the little details of love, whose members care for one another and create an open and evangelizing environment, is a place where the risen Lord is present, sanctifying it in accordance with the Father's plan."

As we prepare for the 77th Annual Catholic Charities Appeal, Pope Francis' words should compel us to realize the *"little details of love"* which we cannot overlook are the brothers and sisters among us who are in great need:

- + the homeless and the hungry
- + families in crisis
- + the refugee and the immigrant
- + the homebound disabled and elderly

These are among the *"little details of love"* who are cared for by our support and participation in the ministries of our Fall River Diocese. Attention to these *"little details of love"* are the way in which you and I grow in holiness. In the very beginning of his teaching, Pope Francis says, *"The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created."*

I invite you to first prayerfully reflect on the blessings which God has given to you and your family. Then, please consider how you might support and participate in the ministries of love which are made possible by our generosity.

Please consider a pledge of .50 cents a day, which totals \$150.00 per year (scheduled over a ten-month period). If you have contributed at that amount or higher in the past, please consider increasing your contribution by 10%. Of course, any amount helps.

You may make your pledge in three convenient ways:

- By check (you will receive a periodic statement to return by mail)
- Billed monthly or quarterly to a credit card
- Debited from a bank account you designate

Please review the materials included in this mailing and return them to the rectory by mail or in the Sunday collection.

On behalf of all who will benefit from your generosity, accept my thanks. Be assured of my prayers in this Holy Season of Easter.

Sincerely in Christ


Father Richard Degagne

Phone 508.238.3232

Fax: 508.238.7849

www.icceaston.org