



## Spirit of Christ Mission Finance + Stewardship Concerns

This past fiscal year (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) has seen a significant decline in weekly/monthly Stewardship offerings at Spirit of Christ. This has been clearly noted in the weekly bulletin report. Last year, in order to avoid this anticipated challenge, each parish household was asked to increase your *weekly* stewardship offering by a small amount. The hope for a small increase from each household has not been met, thus our significant deficit.

To meet the monthly deficit, Blessed Trinity has paid a significant amount of Spirit of Christ's expenses, with no reasonable possibility of being reimbursed. In order to begin addressing this concern the following has been determined and affirmed by the Parish Finance Councils of both Spirit of Christ and Blessed Trinity.

- ❖ **Beginning July 1, 2019 the Spirit of Christ BUDGET will be integrated into the Blessed Trinity budget. This means there will be ONE budget for both communities. This is in accord with the preference of the Diocese of Helena for parishes and missions and is the current practice of most parishes and missions in the Diocese.**
- ❖ **Income and expenditures for Spirit of Christ will continue to be accounted separately so that the financial situation of Spirit of Christ can be regularly and accurately monitored.**
- ❖ **The DIOCESE OF HELENA ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL goal and response will also be reported separately.**
- ❖ **Beginning July 1, 2019 there will be one parish Finance Council with representatives from both communities serving on the council. In other words the current Spirit of Christ Finance Council members will be integrated into the Blessed Trinity Finance Council.**
- ❖ **The end of the year Finance Report (July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020) will be one single Financial Report for both communities.**
- ❖ **The Diocese of Helena has strongly approved this plan.**

It is my hope that this decision will lead to an effective approach to our shared responsibility for the good stewardship of both Spirit of Christ and Blessed Trinity. Basically the ongoing monthly or weekly financial stewardship of Spirit of Christ must increase if the life and ministry of this small Catholic community of faith is to thrive.

May God inspire us to do the good work to which we are each called. *F. Ed.*