

Pastoral Reflection  
August 7, 2022

*“Much will be required of the person entrusted with much,  
and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.”*

Most of us at St. Cronan heed Christ’s message. We are probably one of the most generous parishes, relative to size, when it comes to providing money, clothing, articles for immigrants, refugees and the poor, even socks for the homeless! For the most part, we are a people to whom much was entrusted, and we take our responsibilities seriously when we are called to help. We are indeed fortunate to have saints among us: Fr. Jack, who teaches us and makes us think in his homilies; Dorothy Lucey, who works tirelessly to deliver goods and food; Kathy Hunn and her many volunteers, who run our food pantry; the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and Dan and Kim Madden, who are on another trip to the border to help newly arrived migrants and refugees, just to name a few. These people set a high example for us to follow. We see what they can do, and it inspires us to do more in our own lives.

Have you read the Disciple Maker Index summary that Melanie and Justin composed so well for us? If not, it will be attached to Monday Notes for you to see. St. Cronan, as small as we are, ranked in the top parishes on questions of satisfaction with our parish. How could we not be satisfied, when we know we are a true community and we keep Christ’s message so close to our hearts? We may have some room for improvement in some areas regarding the institutional Church, but for the most part, the survey, as difficult as it was, revealed what we knew all along: We are the Church and We are the Body of Christ.

And so I humbly boast of our wonderful community to anyone who will listen. I tell of the welcoming spirit and the generosity we share. I tell of our homilists who always get to the point and make us think. We are given much and much is required – and we answer the call. We are vibrant and we are a thinking people, and we love each other. What could be better? Of course, there is room to improve. We can love more. We can refrain from petty arguments and judgments about each other and those we meet. We can be kinder to people in our day-to-day lives, especially when our last ounce of kindness is enveloped in stress.

We are small, but we are mighty. Let us pray that, as a community, our gifts will be recognized by the powers of “All Things New,” and that, even if we no longer exist at St. Cronan, our community will find a home where we can still reflect all that Jesus has taught us and keep our community spirit alive.

*Diane Gozdziwski  
Pastoral Associate*