

Dear Little Flower,

We would have wanted to be the ones to announce the good news, but previous engagements beckon us to not be present tonight. We trust that Fr. Kerwin Gaza did a good job with Mass).

As you all know we have been working hard as a parish team to reach our goal for the Annual Appeal 2023. It is my joy to announce to you that we did it again! We reached and exceeded our goal this year - congratulations, Little Flower!

What does this mean for our parish? As of Tuesday, we have received \$72,243! This means that your generosity and stewardship will allow our parish to receive a rebate check spread out monthly throughout the fiscal year, and we would get a 2% reduction on our assessment this year. Moreover, these will continue to help us create more awesome events and gatherings for our parish.

And because we have reached and exceeded our goal, our community will help the ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark to provide food, shelter, and care for those who are in need, allow formation for our future priests, and care for our retired priests. Part of the money received above our stretch goal will be given to the Appeal in solidarity with those parishes that cannot make their goals this year, which consist of about a third of the total number of Archdiocesan local parishes.

But most of all, we, your priests, are encouraged by your generosity; because you have shown us your hearts of gold. It is true that a grateful heart is a joyful heart - and a heart that is joyfilled is a heart that is generous. Your generosity is a sign of joy in our community; your generosity signals the presence of God in our midst.

We thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many people.

Your parish priests,

Fr JC & Fr Matt