

To friends of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church:

This letter is an urgent call to action for the sake of our parish and its exceptional history. Since the laying of the cornerstone on Sept. 4, 1891, St. John has served the communities of Deer Park and Silverton with charity and pride.

We are appealing to parishioners, former parishioners, alumni and friends of our beloved faith community of St. John the Evangelist, asking for your help in keeping this pillar of our community from closing. St. John has been an important part of this neighborhood since it opened in 1891. Whether you attended school, went to weekly Masses, celebrated the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation, Holy Matrimony, Rite of Christian Burial, festivals or any of the many other events we have supported, we hope you value what St. John has meant to you.

Like many other Catholic parishes in our city we have faced the challenge of declining attendance and increasing costs, as we maintain our aging buildings. Thus, St. John has incurred a sizable debt. We will be working with the Archdiocese to pay back these loans.

We would like to retire this debt as soon as possible with your help! This is an immediate matter that directly affects the viability of our parish.

St. John has established the 1891 Fund to collect donations to pay off this debt. We will use social media and digital marketing to advertise our efforts and progress.

Here are ways you can help:

- Make a pledge of:       \$1,891 + to become a Gold Eagle contributor\*  
                                  \$891 + to become a Green Eagle contributor\*  
                                  All other pledges make you our MVP (Most Valuable Person)
  - \* Pledgers at Gold or Green level will have their names displayed in church.
  - \*\*There will be future means to donate electronically.
- Put cash or a check in the collection basket in an envelope marked "1891 Fund" by March 31.
- Mail a check to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 7121 Plainfield Road, Cincinnati OH 45236. On the memo line, write "1891 Fund." Checks must be received by March 31, 2020.

We hope you will contribute to this effort and pray for its success. Each one of us is part of the heartbeat of this exceptional parish, our beloved St. John the Evangelist Deer Park. We invite you to come celebrate Mass with your home parish; all are welcome in this place!

Please direct any questions to our business manager, Neil Bailey, at (513) 791-3238 or [NeilB@stjohndp.org](mailto:NeilB@stjohndp.org)

With prayers and appreciation,

St. John the Evangelist Deer Park Pastoral Council and Finance Committee