



'To Love, Praise, Welcome and Serve'

Dear St. Brendan's Family,

St Brendan's Church is the spiritual home year-round for a third of our parish family, and the center of a faithful community that is tripled in number by our seasonal members. An awareness of opportunities for greater ministry and engagement in the Deer Isle community and a strong commitment to the on-going health of our parish has led us to decision that the time is right for St. Brendan's to move toward having a priest-in-charge at least on a part-time basis.

Through the faithful and diligent efforts and steady financial support of many we find ourselves in a hopeful position. We can feel the positive energy! This flows from:

- (1) Weekly worship, using wonderful Supply Priests, and weekly web based communication, all on income at one half the pledge levels of 2015;
- (2) Completion and approval of a Parish Renewal plan, ably helped by Fr. Edward Dufresne;
- (3) Completion of a Sustainability Survey and our 2018 annual parish meeting votes directing the consideration of both a one-third time priestly presence, and the initiation of a Diocesan required discernment/search process.

Our Parish Meetings have directed us to begin the preliminary steps: the determination of timing and just what kind of clergy presence is best *and* whether we have the financial support to proceed. We now ask for your commitment. Help us to keep the spirit of St Brendan's moving forward!

We are pleased with the generosity reflected in survey responses, however in order to meet the diocesan requirement to proceed into a discernment/search process we must have an increase of \$16,000 in pledged income for 2019. This minimum amount would be 20% above current pledge levels.

To continue our forward momentum, we ask all prayerfully to consider what St. Brendan's means in our lives, the long term viability of St. Brendan's and the responsibility each of us has in its presence and ministry in this place. To the degree possible we ask you and ourselves to commit to greater giving. The needed increase is 20%. We are each in different circumstances. Some of us will not be able to meet such an increase. Some of us may be able to do more.

Thank you for your faithful participation in our community.

St. Brendan's 2019 Stewardship Committee: Miriam Antich, Pete Dane, Judy Miller, Curtis Flowers