

Treasurers Communique

2018-2020/07

March 8, 2020

Thank you to all the Diocesan treasurers who passed on their annual reports to me in February. Please thank all of your parish treasurers who submitted their online surveys in December. From what I saw, the survey still has some issues, but it is improving from the first year that it was implemented.

LENT

We all know that Lent is a time for fasting and almsgiving. There are a lot of different suggestions about how to observe the fast, but one of my Facebook friends posted this one:

Every day during Lent, find one item in your home or your closet that you no longer use. Put it in a box, and at the end of Lent donate the box to your local charity thrift store or similar charity. Of course, the item needs to be in useable condition.

When I was growing up back in the 1950's and 60's), we had what were called "Mite Boxes" in Lent. We children were encouraged to put our coins in these boxes, instead of spending on candy. Again, at Easter, this money was given to a Catholic Charity. I have a feeling that it was for the missions, but I may be wrong.

One of our pastors explained that when we give up something during Lent, we should be taking the equivalent amount that we would have spent on that item and giving it to a charity. So if we give up chocolate for Lent, then the amount we would normally spend on chocolate should be donated.

TAX TIME

Once again it is tax time. We are all obligated to pay our fair taxes. Jesus Himself admonished us to "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." While we may feel that our government is not always spending wisely, we also need to recognize the good things like hospitals that we have as a result of our taxes.

ANNUAL REPORTS

One of the items that I was very pleased to see on the annual reports was the improvement in the way our donations are reported. Although we did not have 100% of parishes reporting, those that did report gave a total of over \$400,000 to various charities in 2019. This is a testament to the hard work that all our members do to support God's people. Well done!

THANK YOU

This will be my last communique as treasurer. Again, I want to thank all the diocesan and parish treasurers who work so hard for their sisters in the League. God bless you all.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless us all.

Suzanne Eng
Treasurer