

TO GRADUATES – FROM PARISH
PARISH MEMBER OBLIGATION
SAMPLE LETTER
PARISH LETTER HEAD

Date

Dear Graduate (Enter their name),

Glory to Jesus Christ!

On behalf of your Parish Family we would like to congratulate you on your graduation from high school. It has been a long journey of growth and we have enjoyed being a part of that journey from child to young adult. We pray that your future is bright with God's promise in whatever path you choose to take.

As you open a new chapter in your life as a young adult, you gain new responsibilities and roles. Your place within (name of your parish) as a young adult has also taken on new aspects. As in any family, we must find ways to support our home and the needs of all of our family members, to do so we must pull together our resources to ensure that our family is well taken care of. Responsibility within our faith community is multi-leveled: we come together to pray and receive the Holy Sacraments, to donate our time and talents to God's Holy Church, to come together in fellowship and help our brothers and sister in Christ and to financially support Christ's Church. A Christian life involves not only giving of yourself but from yourself as well. It is not only what you can do but it is giving from what you possess because everything that we are and everything that we have is a gift from God that we return a portion of in thanksgiving. It is not just a financial obligation but also a part of our Christian faith and relief.

USE THE PLAN BELOW AS A SUGGESTION FOR YOUR PARISH POLICY OR INSERT YOUR PARISH'S CURRENT POLICY.

Our financial responsibly to (your parish name) is as follows:

1. Submission of Parish Member Application to the Parish Council
2. Meeting of Financial Obligations to the Parish

As a new graduate, we understand that it will take time to establish your finances in the next few years. We have developed the following plan to aid you in becoming an adult member of the parish:

College Student and those in Military Service

1. \$00 a year for Recommended Stewardship Offering
2. \$00 weekly envelope donation per year – Waived until college graduation or end of Military Term
3. \$00 Cemetery Fund – Waived until college graduation or end of Military Term (Where applicable)

College Graduates

1. \$00 a year Recommended Stewardship Offering
2. \$00 weekly envelope donations per year (beginning with the New Year following your graduation ex. Graduation June 2003 – Envelope Donation Begins January 2004).
3. \$00 Cemetery Fund per year (beginning with the New Year following your graduation ex. Graduation June 2003 – Cemetery Dues Begins January 2004). (Where applicable)

Please keep in mind that this is a plan devised by our parish to ensure that we can meet all financial obligations of our parish family. But there is an alternative, as set forth by our church called 'tithing'. "Tithing" is giving 10% of your earnings to your church as a gift back to God for shedding His grace upon your work. Included in this letter is information about tithing. You may choose this option – if you do – please indicate to the parish treasurer to place your donations from tithing toward your financial obligations and once they are met, any thing above that should be used where it is needed most. Keep in mind that in most parishes the Sacrament of Marriage and Church burial cannot be granted if you are not a contributing member supporting the needs of the parish.

If at this time you feel that you are unable to take on these new responsibilities as a young adult within the parish we understand. You will always belong to this parish as a spiritual child and may continue to receive the Sacramental gifts of Holy Confession, Communion and Unction as long as you continue your Spiritual growth and obligations within the parish. When you reach a time in your life that you may take up the financial responsibilities you only need to inform us. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to us or contact us.

Thank you and may God Bless you on your new and exciting paths in life!

Signature – Spiritual Father
Phone number

Signature – Parish President
Phone number