



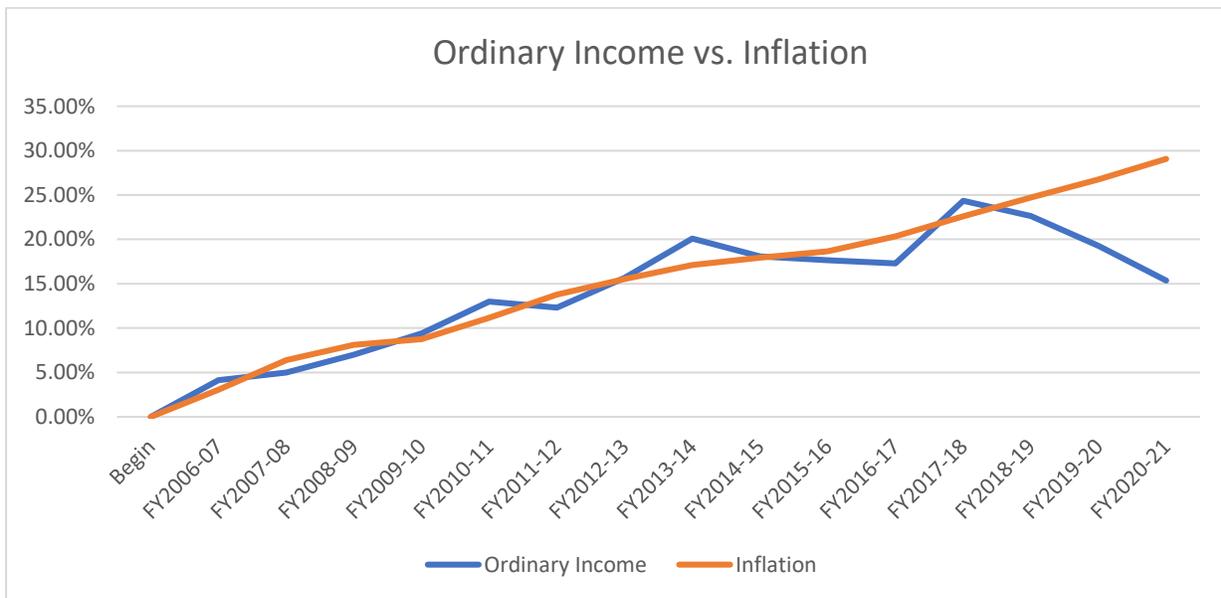
November 02, 2021

Dear Assumption Parishioners,

As I mentioned in my homily last Sunday¹, my message about tithing remains the same: tithing is a spiritual practice before it is a practical necessity. We tithe in order to guarantee that money and time do not become idols that we worship above God and neighbor.

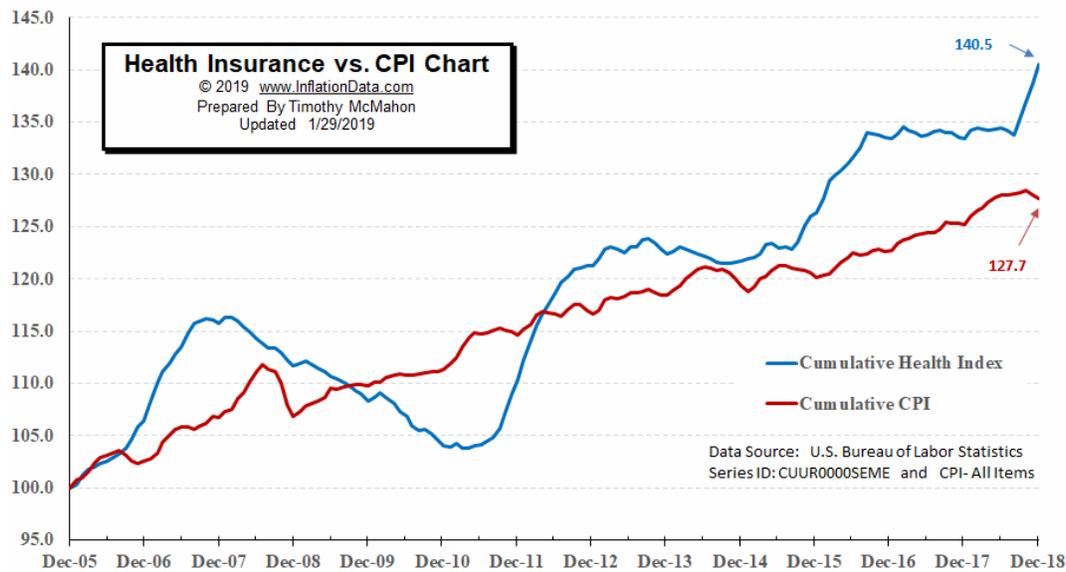
To assist with our planning for next year's tithe, the parish has provided a worksheet which can help us make a deliberate decision about how much money we plan to give away next year. That worksheet, which is for you to keep, can be found at the end of this letter, [on our website](#) or in the Gathering Space. We do ask that you tell the parish how much you plan to give specifically to the parish next year by turning in a pledge card. The pledge card can be found and submitted digitally [on our website](#) or by using the hard copies available in the Gathering Space, which can be placed in the collection basket.

To keep this letter interesting, however, I thought I might provide a graph of our parish income relative to inflation over the last 15 years.



Compare this to, for example, the rate of increase in health insurance:

¹ <https://frmoore.com/2021/10/30/october-31-2021-tithing-and-evangelization/>



Obtained from: <https://inflationdata.com/articles/2019/08/29/inflation-affect-cost-insurance/>

Again, to reiterate what I said in the homily, all of us ought to be tithing, and we ought to be tithing at an appropriate level. However, if your family is already tithing at a percentage that makes sense for you, and you have checked with the Lord that he is not calling you to an increase, then it does not make sense for me to ask for more money from those who are already giving.

Instead, the solution to our shrinking budget is the same as the solution to an increasingly secularized society, marked by divisions and a loss of understanding of human nature: **preach the Gospel**. If we take seriously the mission of the Church to preach the Gospel to all nations, then our congregation will grow, rather than stagnate, and our finances will follow.

So, in short, what am I asking?

1. Please be deliberate about giving your money away, by filling out the worksheet and a pledge card.
2. Please analyze your giving percentage from last year, to see if it needs to increase, decrease, or stay the same.
3. Please invite a fallen-away or non-Catholic friend to a faith event this next year, either Mass, a prayer group, or something else that might spark their interest in Jesus.

Blessings,

Jr. Moore

Stewardship of Treasure

Yearly Planning Guide



Assumption Parish provides this guide to help plan your yearly giving.

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

Malachi 3:10

GOOD STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE PRACTICES:

- **Planned**
A decision requiring thought & time so as not to give what is merely left at the end of a week.
- **Proportionate**
Our giving is proportionate to what God has given to us. We give in proportion to the gifts we have received.
- **Sacrificial**
We give back from our substance, rather than our abundance.
- **Grateful**
Acknowledging that God is the source of all our gifts, we freely, without reservation or condition, give back to Him by sharing these gifts.

ONLINE GIVING

At Assumption we provide online giving for your convenience. Visit our website at www.assumption.org and look for the Online Giving Button.



See other side for planning worksheet...

