



Saint Peter's Church on the Canal

October 9, 2025

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

St. Luke is a master storyteller. His narrative on the birth of Jesus Christ is the Christmas Gospel we know so well. An important detail in the story is Mary's visit with her "kinswoman" (cousin?) Elizabeth.

Mary visited Elizabeth because Gabriel, the angel announcing Jesus' birth, told Mary that Elizabeth in her "old age" was also pregnant. So Mary traveled from Nazareth in Galilee south to Judah, to see Elizabeth and confirm the strange announcement from Gabriel. "For with God nothing will be impossible." (Luke 1:37)

Mary's song of praise "magnifying" the Lord is the inspiration for our stewardship pledge drive for 2026. "Tell Out My Soul" is the hymn celebrating this great response. Mary learned that with God nothing will be impossible. And her response was to give herself to God, to Jesus, to the Church.

Our financial gifts to St. Peter's symbolize our belief that nothing will be impossible with God. Financial support for our parish is an act of faith, first and foremost. God acts through each of us as God acted through Mary.

Please use the enclosed card to make your pledge to St. Peter's for 2026. We will have an ingathering of our pledges on Sunday, October 26, and again on All Saint's Sunday, November 2, when our offerings will be blessed at the altar.

I appreciate the thoughtfulness and the prayer each of us makes to support St. Peter's.

Grace, Peace, Love,

The Reverend Robert H. Malm