

# St. Ladislav Parish

2345 Bassett Rd  
Westlake, OH 44145  
440-835-2300

June 5, 2012

Dear Parishioners of St. Ladislav,

In my remarks last Sunday at mass, I spoke about a new initiative at St. Ladislav parish called A.W.E.; **A**ffirming, **W**elcoming, and **E**ngaging. Today I am writing to acquaint you with this new initiative and to invite your input as we begin this process. Perhaps your first question is, "What has prompted this A.W.E. initiative?".

Christian churches across North America have experienced a decline in the number of people actively engaged in their church community. Research shows that 30% of all parishioners are involved, another 30% are uninvolved and 40% are actively disengaged! From the Gallup research of Christian churches there is the observation that people who feel they belong to a community become engaged in that community.

Through this A.W.E. process we want to reach out to all parishioners and by personal invitation and opportunities enable them to gain a deeper sense of belonging to their parish community. We hope that by more effectively connecting parishioners to the life of their parish they will experience a greater closeness with their God.

Please take a moment to answer the 3 short questions on the reverse side of this letter. Your responses will assist us in forming our plan of action to better invite, involve and welcome people to the parish. Included with this letter is a more detailed description of the A.W.E. process.

Next year 2013 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saint Ladislav parish here in Westlake. We anticipate this ongoing People Engagement Process will result in many more parishioners feeling a greater sense of belonging to our parish community.

Sincerely,  
Fr. Donald Snyder  
Pastor