



Beloved Community of St. Paul's,

As we reflect on our many blessings throughout 2024 and prepare for the new year of 2025, we focus on our Walk in Love as we are reminded in Ephesians 5:2 to "walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Our Walk in Love is truly growing, as both our expat and Mexican numbers have increased this year, and the ways in which we serve both within St. Paul's and in the greater community of San Miguel de Allende have grown.

Our many ministries include our weekly services in English and Spanish and the spiritual guidance and pastoral care provided by our clergy, our children's education and ministry with a growing Sunday School and youth program, our outstanding music program, our men's and women's spirituality programs, our book club, and our St. Paul's Community Development Project which serves needy families and offers free English classes, sewing classes, a haircutting ministry and paddle tennis classes for underprivileged youth. Our fellowship events have grown in both number and attendance, as both expat and Mexican members of our St. Paul's community frequently gather together to celebrate holidays and other special occasions.

In order to financially support all of our forms of ministry, we develop an annual operating budget to cover our expenses for our two paid clergy, our dedicated staff members who manage the office administration, building and grounds maintenance and repairs, set-up for all services, meetings and events, paid musicians, communications, utilities and other operating expenses. While we have made good progress in 2024 to bridge our budget gap, our income does not yet meet our 2025 projected budget expenses of approximately \$300,000 USD. We strive to provide a balanced ministry; now we need to achieve a balanced budget to support that ministry. Our goal is to achieve a fully-funded, pledge-based budget for 2025.

Whether you live in San Miguel full time, part time, or just visit occasionally, we need and sincerely appreciate your generous support. Your financial pledge will allow us to continue to grow, cover our monthly expenses, and support our ministries for the St. Paul's and San Miguel communities. We give because of our commitment to God who has provided us with many blessings and because of our commitment to walk in love and to continue Christ's work in and through St. Paul's.

Attached is a pledge card for 2025. It may be emailed to **StPaulManagementSMA@gmail.com**. Printed pledge cards are available at the church and may be placed in the collection plate, dropped off at the parish office or mailed to St. Paul's Church, 220 N. Zapata Hwy, #11, PMB 141A, Laredo, TX 78043. **An online pledge card and online payments are very easy to submit on the website: www.StPaulSMA.com**. Automatic bank payments, Zelle, cash or checks are preferred in order for 100% of your pledge to be received by St. Paul's. The parish PayPal account may be accessed through our website; however, PayPal deducts a 5% fee on every transaction. Every gift matters this year, and each will be gratefully accepted, brought to the altar and blessed before God and our St. Paul's community.

With gratitude and love,

The Reverend Canon George F. Woodward III, *Rector*
The Reverend Padre Miguel de Jesús Rangel Hernández, *Assistant Priest*
Andrea Spessard, *Stewardship Campaign Chair*