

**E Blast**  
**October 22, 2021**  
**Holy Currency Retreat Tomorrow!**

Tomorrow is the day and I hope you are planning to attend the one-day Holy Currency retreat from 9:00 in the morning until 3:00 in the afternoon. Hopefully by now you have seen the brochure about the retreat. This week I wish to briefly summarize the remaining four currencies that I began to reflect on two weeks ago. The retreat will be an opportunity to see how each of the currencies connect and work with one another to create a dynamic faith community. I hope that you will attend.

**The Currency of Wellness:** In order for the currencies to flow and to be effective it is important that we take care of our souls and bodies. Regular times of prayer and meditation, exercise, a balanced diet, proper sleep habits to name a few. We all know that daily life can be challenging and at times stressful and yet there is gratitude to be found in all of life. Wellness grounds us in being awake to these unexpected moments of grace.

**The Currency of Gracious Leadership:** At the moment we live in such a divided country. Everything has become so politicized (including the pandemic) that people on opposing sides of an issue don't want to listen to one another to work out a solution. It is very disconcerting that this is happening today and there is fear this will continue to the detriment of all of us. Gracious Leadership is based on bringing people together and encourage speaking to one another respectfully.

**The Currency of Time and Place:** The parish is a large building and there is a great deal of activity each day (a great deal less since the beginning of COVID, but more since some restrictions were lifted by the Governor). Friendship House is downstairs, Delaware Choral Arts rehearses and has their concerts, Network Delaware's office is in the education suite. Our church home though needs a great deal of upkeep, and the property committee has identified long and short-term projects that will be addressed. The parish is the entry point for many who come to SsAM, and it is important that we care for what God has given to us. It is a place of relationships, wellness, truth-telling and gracious leadership.

**The Currency of Money:** The place of money in this cycle of blessing that I have shared the last three weeks is important but is interdependent with the other currencies. A parish church is about the worship of God, equipping members to go out into the world to be disciples of Jesus, is to be a place of prayer and uplift for all and where people's opinions and feelings are respected and valued. All these activities require the support of the congregation both fiscally and offering time and talent.

This is a brief review of the six currencies, and I believe they can transform the life of a parish church. I hope you will join us tomorrow.