

2011-2012 Parish Review

From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

A note of thanks for your gifts of treasure, which allowed us to end the fiscal year in the black. You have some thoughts from Beth Mongeau, our Business Administrator, and JP Horvat, our Finance Council Chair as well.

You have heard me quote Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, spiritual writer, as saying that “The heart of the spiritual life is gratitude.” I would ask all of us to reflect, especially in this harvest time of year, on how well we are doing with our stewardship – which is an expression of our gratitude, and an external manifestation of the internal state of our soul.

Sometimes people say that they would be more generous if only they had more income. But the apostle Paul reminds us that in our giving we need to focus on what we have, not on what we do not have: “If you are not generous with a meager income, you will never be generous with abundance.” Whether we have a lot or a little, we are still called to tithe – to give 10% of our gross income – away. The church teaches that we should give 5% to our local parish, and the other 5% to our other charities – the BAA, Catholic Charities, the FOUR C’s, whatever charities we wish to support. It is a small way of saying that at least this part – at least this 10% of our heart – we are willing to give back to God. And then suddenly when we see it this way – we realize that we are not giving much at all – for God has given us all 100%.

Martin Luther once wrote that “A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and that suffers nothing, is worth nothing.” We have been given much – and much is expected of us. I would ask that we prayerfully consider our income – and what percentage of it we are actually giving to the parish and other charities. For many of us – we are giving far less than we THINK we are. For example, if we think we give \$25 a week to the parish – but then fail to consider vacations, sickness, forgetfulness, time away in another location – we may only be giving \$10 or less. The parish’s expenses continue 52 weeks a year, whether people are here or not. Be honest in your prayer. And resolve to increase your giving just 1 or 2 percent a year – and in no time, you will be giving 10%.

A priest once asked one of his parishioners to serve as financial chairman of the parish. The man, manager of a grain elevator, agreed on two conditions: No report would be due for a year, and no one would ask any questions during the year. (I’d say that priest had a LOT of trust in this man!)

At the end of the year he made his report. The Financial Chairman announced that the church had paid off its debt of \$200,000. The church had been redecorated. Money had been sent to local charities and \$5000 was put into the bank. “How did you do all this?” Asked the priest and the shocked congregation. Quietly he answered, “You people bring your grain to my elevator. As you did business with me, I simply withheld 10 % and gave it to the church. You never missed it.”

May we be good stewards – GRATEFUL stewards – of our time, talent and treasure. Thank you for all that you do.

(Fr.) John Durbin, Pastor

From the Finance Council

The members of St. Mary Gate of Heaven and St. Jude the Apostle Finance Council are pleased to present the following financial report to our fellow parishioners. Due to the generosity of our congregation and visitors our finances are solid, and our church community resilient, despite the challenging economic environment.

Operations were close to being on budget for St. Mary and a surplus for St. Jude.

Total Operating Revenue came very close for St. Mary, but it was the donations and charity contributions that boosted their revenue in line with budget. (Regular Offertory was down \$20k.) A surplus was realized for St. Jude in both regular Offertory (\$14k) and \$20k for donations gave them an Operating Revenue surplus of \$34k.

Operating expenditures for St. Mary were budgeted at \$129k and \$277k for St. Jude. St. Mary only exceeded their Operating Expenses by \$4k and St. Jude by just \$2 (two dollars).

It was the Non-operating Expenses that took its toll on both parishes. First, St. Mary bore the cost to fix the condo and St. Jude to landscape and clean its church in Hampstead. Both contributed to rectory building & grounds, and both parishes paid for the relocation of two priests.

This left St. Mary with a deficit of \$22.7k and St. Jude with a small surplus of \$1.6k.

During this year's budget process, we received great information from the various stewards in-charge of administering their respective ministries. We have streamlined the budget in line with current and future spending. And our new team is positioned for next year success.

So far this fiscal year we are ahead of projections for both offertories. Expenses will be higher in some areas as we have hired a full time Office Manager, but we have reduced the hours of our joint parish bookkeeper.

J.P. Horvat (Chair), Tom Schroder, Jim Fortunato, Dawn Brannan, Fred Wheeler

From the Business Administrator

Fiscal year 2011-2012 brought a lot of changes to the parish. Father Terry retired. Father John arrived in January. We have brought on new staff. Many building maintenance projects were completed in 2011-2012 including at the rectory, the condo, and St. Jude. The parish council created a parish plan for 2012-2013 to act as a blue print to help the parish move forward through all these changes.

The administrative portion of the parish plan focuses on growing our building and grounds committee and paying special attention to the needs of the buildings at St. Mary, Gate of Heaven. Power washing/staining/repairing the Pavilion and the church door are being done now. We are assembling a strategic planning committee to work in conjunction with the building and grounds committee to help our parish focus on our short and long term facility needs and set a concrete plan for the future. We are also looking at all our costs and implementing cost saving measures. Ongoing negotiations with our vendors are in place, and we are reducing our daily operating costs.

But our parish isn't all about buildings and bills. It is all about the people, and we are blessed with wonderful, dedicated volunteers, parishioners, and annual visitors. Our goals for 2012-2013 also stress activities that bring us together as a community through faith and social activities so we can truly live our mission as we are "called by Baptism to celebrate, witness, and proclaim the Good News, the Word of God, and be faithful and loving, as we embrace the needs of all people." We are exploring ways to improve and enhance our communication with parishioners. Everyone has a place in this parish and all are welcome to serve. It should be an exciting year.

Beth Mongeau

COMBINED ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Financial Statement for Fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012)

		St. Jude	St. Mary
Operating income:			
Ordinary	\$263,966		\$107,250
Non-ordinary	6,123		12,061
Fees & Misc.	6,724		2,697
Donations	16,535		362
Charity	18,240		10,707
Total Operating Income		<u>\$311,588</u>	<u>\$133,077</u>
Operating Expenses:			
Word	6,926		1,049
Worship	19,720		726
Service	12,903		12,595
Personnel	93,984		57,564
Rectory	18,763		18,889
Office	33,462		8,870
Electricity	8,503		1,546
Telephone	6,584		6,419
Insurance	8,438		4,802
Building & Ground Maintenance	46,211		10,407
Assessments & Subsidies	21,508		10,201
Total Operating Expenses		<u>\$277,002</u>	<u>\$133,068</u>
NET OPERATING TOTAL		\$34,586	\$9
Non-Operating Income:			
Transfer from Savings			15,000
Specific Charities	4,748		1,691
Building Fund	26,317		3,992
Stipends	3,445		100
Total Non-Operating Income		\$34,510	\$20,783
Non-Operating Expenses:			
Transfer to Savings	2,665		2,000
Transfer to Building fund	31,885		4,875
Capital Expenditures	26,317		34,667
Specific Charities	5,016		1,541
Sales Tax	1,192		88
Stipends	401		295
Total Non-Operating Expense		\$67,476	\$43,466
Non-Operating Total		-\$32,966	-\$22,683
NET INCOME & EXPENSES		<u>\$1,620</u>	<u>-\$22,674</u>
Checking	72,017.00		10,908
Savings	255,703.00		185,862
Building	261,383.00		35,852
Contingency	11,882.00		
TOTAL	<u>\$600,985.00</u>		<u>\$232,622</u>

Parish Facts 11/2012

Census Data

Parish - Combined

Total Households – **841**

Breakdown

St. Jude 682

St. Mary 159

Total Parishioners – **2,240**

Age (Combined average)- **48.7**

Breakdown

Average Age

St. Jude 45

St. Mary 53

Median Age (half younger/half older)

St. Jude 47

St. Mary 61

Modal Age (most frequent)

St. Jude 11

St. Mary 71

What we do

Activity	Members
Altar Server	12
Lector	35
Greeter	37
Usher	37
Counters	28
Extraordinary Minister	65
Choir	29
Catholic Daughters	57
Knights of Columbus	70
Outreach/Assistance	15
Pro Life	17
Prayer Chain	14
Prayer Shawl	18
Catechist/RCIA teachers	24
Bible Study	10
Parish Council	12
Finance Council	5
Office Volunteers	17
Welcome	5

Who we give to

Community Outreach – Emergency Assistance/Food Drops

St. Joseph Food Pantry

4 Cs Food Pantry

CHAPS

Pender East Ministerial Association

Back Pack Food Programs – Topsail/Dixon

Catholic Charities Wilmington, Raleigh Hospice

Relay for Life-American Cancer Society

Kairos Inside/Outside

Rice Bowl

Mama J's Helping Hands

Members of Our Councils

Finance Council Members

Dawn Brannan Jim Fortunato

JP Horvat Tom Schroder

Fred Wheeler

Parish Council Members

Pat Brady Mike Curley

Arlene Dooley Bill Fisher

Mary Keese Steve Mongeau

Jackie Rourke Rick Spillane

Anna Stangl Elaine Tassi

Rich Ziolkowski JP Horvat (ex officio – finance chair)

Parish Council Committees – (These committees are chaired by parish council members with membership from the parish at large. We are building out these committees now.)

Liturgy

Faith Formation

Peace/Justice/Outreach

Social Activities

Stewardship

Finance

Building/Grounds

Land Acquisition

Strategic Planning

We thank all our dedicated and talented volunteers. We always have room for more – please contact the office if you would like information any activity.