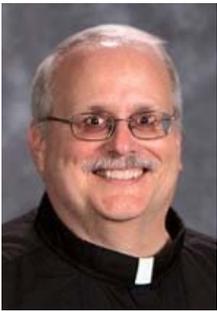


St. Thomas More Church Annual Report to the Parish

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

A Message from Our Pastor



Where do I begin?

You will notice this year that we have a larger format Finance Report for your perusal. Quite frankly, it is because there is so much happening at our parish and I want to give you as much information as possible to keep you up-to-date. After all, that appears to be one of the most frequent complaints from parishioners in many churches: that they do not know what is

happening in their own parish.

I believe that St. Thomas More Parish is doing really well and has so many reasons to give thanks. We are a very large parish that is extremely involved. We have a presence in our community through various groups and we make an impact on many peoples' lives by visiting the sick and shut-in, working the soup kitchens, helping to staff shelters, providing rent and utility assistance. The list goes on and on. For all that you do either directly by volunteering your time or indirectly by helping to fund our ministries, please accept my profound thanks.

Additionally, we provide a good, quality, Catholic Education from pre-school through eighth grade. We can be proud of the fact that many of our school graduates go on to excel in high school and college as well as graduate school. Many of our graduates have been the valedictorians and salutatorians of their high school and colleges. You help us to provide that education with the subsidy that our parish provides our school.

As proud as we should all be of the accomplishments we have made, we want to do so much more. In order to help to impact our community, we need to maintain our income.

Through the help of our Parish Finance Committee, we keep a close eye on our parish budget. And, as I do every year, I am providing you a view of our income and expenses from the last fiscal year as well as our budget for this coming year.

There is much that needs to be accomplished — especially the major repairs in our church and school — and we will have to keep a close eye on our finances. We are hoping to begin our Capital Campaign Project this coming spring and have the majority of the work finished by next winter. In order for this to come about, though, we will need two-thirds of our campaign money up front so that we can secure a loan from the Diocese of Gary for the final one-third of the project. The more money up front, the less we will have to borrow from the diocese. The less we borrow, the less we will have to pay out in interest on the loan. So we need your help.

We see a national trend playing out in our own parish. Decreased attendance and decreased giving has been a reality for many parishes. When our Campaign began, our regular Sunday collections decreased a bit. This makes our budgeting much harder. If you can help at all, please keep your contributions coming both in the regular Sunday collection as well as in our Capital Campaign.

We saw a decrease in the rebate that we will be receiving from the Diocese of Gary for this year's CSA. To be honest, in the midst of our campaign, I was just grateful that we made our parish goal. Thank you to all who contributed to the CSA and made it a success for us.

The process of a Diocesan Synod is going to give us all an opportunity to look ahead, to plan, and to prioritize as we examine the ministries in our church and school.

I encourage you to be active in the Synod and thank you for all the ways you help our parish.

Fr. Mike

God Gives Abundantly

What Do You Give In Return?

We have different gifts,
according to the grace given to each of us.
If your gift is prophesying,
then prophesy in accordance with your faith;
if it is serving, then serve;
if it is teaching, then teach;
if it is to encourage, then give encouragement;
if it is giving, then give generously;
if it is to lead, do it diligently;
if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Romans 12:6-8

Automated Giving

Our parish offers automated giving. This will allow you to make your donations without writing a check each week. You will continue to receive your offering envelopes in the mail. If you like, contributions for special collections such as Monthly Green Envelopes & Holy Days can be withdrawn automatically also.

To get started, go to:

<http://stm-church.com/stewardship.pdf>,

for a form or contact Lisa Melnik at

lmelnik@stm-church.com or

219-836-8610 ext. 339.



Revenue, Expenses & Change in Cash

	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017
REVENUES			
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Sundays & Holydays	\$1,607,893	\$1,540,167	\$1,514,000
Special Collections & CSA	178,587	198,176	213,200
Restricted Donations	15,858	10,885	10,000
Festival Revenue - Net	127,556	135,384	110,000
Religious Education & Ministries	36,007	41,194	37,500
Other Income	107,280	83,377	81,500
Total Revenues	\$2,073,181	\$2,009,183	\$1,966,200
EXPENSES			
Salaries & Benefits	\$760,911	\$718,937	\$784,000
Special Collections, CSA & Donations	113,601	297,515	201,200
Church & Rectory Operations	142,551	128,452	133,500
Maintenance & Utilities	148,220	128,045	147,000
Religious Education & Ministries	52,525	47,007	63,000
Diocesan Assessment (Quota)	134,442	132,125	132,000
Office and Other Expense	68,936	71,591	75,600
Capital Expenses	99,661	113,156	100,000
Total Expenses	\$1,520,847	\$1,636,828	\$1,636,300
Net Surplus	\$552,334	\$372,355	\$329,900
Total School Revenues	3,084,852	2,650,994	3,017,000
Total School Expenses	3,430,956	3,103,171	3,447,000
Net School Subsidy	-\$346,104	-\$452,177	-\$430,000
Capital Campaign Receipts & Interest	984,768	1,491,235	1,724,000
Capital Campaign & Building Project	302,221	111,346	3,155,000
Net Capital Campaign	\$682,547	\$1,379,889	-\$1,431,000
Operational less Subsidy plus Campaign	\$888,777	\$1,300,067	-\$1,531,100
Funds Deposited With Diocese	810,920	1,371,615	-1,431,000
Increase in Stock	0	-12,861	0
Increase in Current Liabilities	-1,146	9,593	0
Increase in Cash	76,711	-74,816	-100,100
Beginning Cash Balance	558,482	635,193	560,377
Ending Cash Balance	\$635,193	\$560,377	\$460,277

Notes

There has been a decline in the Sunday collections over the past year. During Capital Campaigns, sometimes people decrease their weekly offering. Please let this be a "gentle reminder" that we need your continued contributions in order to meet our budget. For the year ended June 30, 2017, we anticipate "losing" two Sunday collections since Christmas and New Year's fall on Sundays. Please try to give both the Sunday and the Holiday envelope this year.

This year was the second best St. Thomas More festival in history. A core festival committee has been created to discuss the festival and the possible changes for the future. We are estimating that there will be less revenue or additional expenses associated with the festival in the future.

Salaries and benefits dropped during 2016 and will go back up during 2017. This is due to several employees being on medical leave and also being short staffed while job vacancies were being filled.

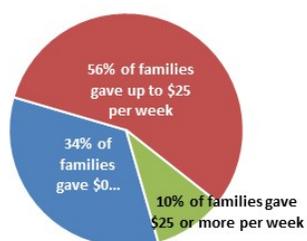
Utility costs were down during the year ended 6/30/16 due to the mild weather.

Almost half of the Capital Expenses were related to keeping our aging boilers and air conditioning systems running for another year. We do not like to invest in the equipment that we will be replacing; unfortunately, we must keep the old equipment going until we are able to complete the capital project.

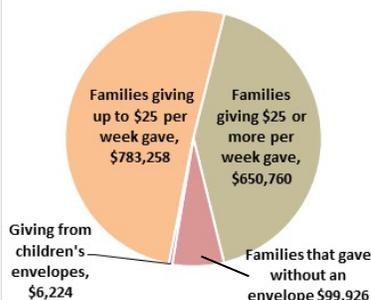
Our finances are reviewed quarterly by the Finance Council and annually by the Parish Pastoral Council. Reports are sent annually to the Diocese. The Diocesan auditor has just completed an onsite review of our accounts and all is in order.

Contribution Statistics

Percentage of Family Giving in Weekly Envelopes



Sunday & Holyday Total Dollars Given

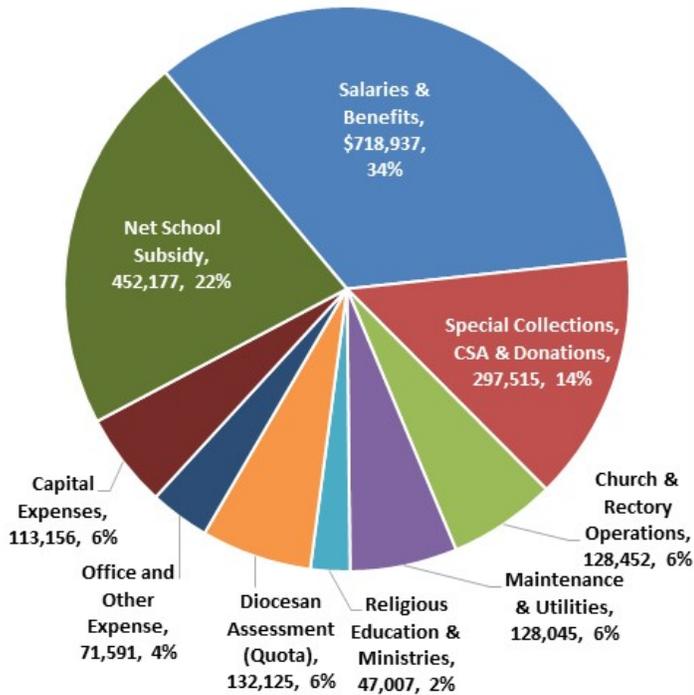


Total number of families	3,093
Average Sunday Adult Envelope Collection	\$ 25,034
Average Number of Sunday Adult Envelopes	924
Average Sunday Envelope Donation	\$ 27.08

Average Weekly Loose Collection	\$ 1,724
Average Weekly Child Collection	\$ 114

Average Sunday Collection is Down From Last Yr.	\$ 1,034
Average Sunday Envelopes are Down From Last Yr.	54
Average Weekly Loose Collection is Up From Last Yr.	\$ 84

Ordinary Parish Expenditures



First
Communion
90



Anointings - 34
Funerals - 74



Marriage
10



Baptisms
58

**Sacraments
Received at
St. Thomas More**
July 2015 thru June 2016



Confirmation
92



Reconciliation
90



Holy Orders
0

Faith Formation & Education

	<u>No. of Children/Adults</u>
St. Thomas More School	489
Religious Formation	340
Right of Christian Initiation of Adults	7
Right of Christian Initiation of Children	4
Adult Bible Study	36

Assets & Liabilities

As of June 30, 2016

Assets

Cash	\$ 560,377
Diocesan Deposits Including Capital Campaign	3,354,456
Stock	<u>12,861</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,927,694</u>

Total Liabilities & Fund Balance

Other Current Liabilities	\$ 38,547
Beginning Fund Balance	2,589,080
Operational Less Subsidy Plus Campaign	<u>1,300,067</u>
Ending Fund Balance	<u>3,889,147</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	<u>\$ 3,927,694</u>

Funds Held at the Catholic Foundation

School Endowment	\$ 1,045,220
Andrean/STM Scholarship	\$ 29,859
Helen Pukoszek Scout Scholarship	\$ 13,317

Charitable Giving

Your generosity supports the ministries at St. Thomas More Parish and other charitable organizations, listed below, through special collections and contributions made by the parish.

Camp Lawrence
Campaign For Human Development
Catholic Charities/ Catholic Relief Services
Cystic Fibrosis
D.A.R.E.
Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
Eastern Europe/Latin America/Missions Propagation of Faith
Gabriel Project Baby Banks
Gibault, Inc.
Habitat For Humanity
Haiti
Holy Lands
Hospice Hustle
Lake County Police
Planting Possibilities
Relevant Radio
Rice Bowl
Savior of the World
SHARE Foundation
St. Clare's Kitchen
St. Joseph Soup Kitchen
St. Monica's Home
St. Vincent DePaul
Women's Care Center

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Campaign Update

As of August 15, 2016

Goal	\$6,300,000
Total Pledged	\$5,543,000
Pledges needed to meet goal	\$ 757,000
Percent of Goal	88%
Amount Collected	\$2,538,000
Percent of Goal	40%
Number of Families Pledging	1,260
Percent of Families Pledging	41%
Percent of Families Unable to Pledge	16%
Percent of Non Responses	43%

*Imagine where we could be with full participation.
Please help us reach our goal!*



Capital Campaign & Project Timeline To Date

What has happened in the past:

- **July 2013** - Working with the Facilities Committee, Walsh Construction performed a Property Condition Assessment. This gave us an idea of the scope and cost of the project.
- **July 2014** – Parish Finance Council, Pastoral Council, Bishop Melczek and Consultors gave approval to hire a Campaign Consultor to conduct a Capital Campaign Feasibility Study.
- **July 2014** – Hired CCS to perform a Capital Campaign Feasibility Study
- **August 2014** – Parish Finance Council, Pastoral Council, Bishop Melczek and Consultors gave approval to hire CCS as the Campaign Consultors and approval was given to start a bidding process to select an engineering company.
- **October 2014** – Capital Campaign started.
- **January 2015** - Parish Facilities Committee, Finance Council, Pastoral Council, Bishop Hying and Consultors gave approval to hire Syska Hennessy Group as the Engineers/Architects for the project (electrical design, HVAC, plumbing and technology).
- Since Syska Hennessy was hired, they have worked through several phases – Research and Documentation, Schematic Design, Design Development, and they are half way through the Construction Development Phase. Currently, we are submitting comments on their latest drawings. **The design phase of the project has been delayed, since we cannot proceed with construction until we have at least two thirds of the goal collected (\$4,200,000.)**

What we expect in the future:

- We will work with Syska Hennessy to finalize the construction documents and bid packet. The project will go out for bid, we will review bids received and then select a General Contractor.
- When we have enough funds collected, we will meet and receive approval from the Parish Finance Council and the Pastoral Council. We will meet with Bishop Hying and the Consultors to present the project, gain approval, and obtain the additional funding we will need to proceed. We hope that this approval will happen by the end of 2016.

When Will The Project Begin?

Ask anyone on staff and they will tell you not soon enough!

It is our hope that we collect enough money this fall so that we will be able to begin construction in the spring. The timing and sequencing of this project is very critical.

In the late fall, the construction documents will be completed (including NIPSCO's) and a General Contractor will be selected. In January, equipment will be ordered.

Once the weather is warm enough in the spring, the work on the outside transformers can begin. Some minor work can occur in the building while school is in session. Most of the work will be completed from June 1st through mid August.

Project details/schedule will be published when completed.

What Can You Do?

- If you have pledged - **thank you**. Please continue to make your payments.
- If possible pay off your pledge early. This will allow us to start construction sooner.
- If you have not pledged - please consider making a pledge.
- If you made a one-time donation, consider pledging/donating again.
- Pray. Please pray for the continued success of our campaign and completion of the project.

You can find additional information about the campaign at: <http://www.stm-church.com/videos.html>. You can print a pledge card and turn it into the Parish Office or place in the Sunday collection basket. If you would like to speak with someone, please contact Noreen Bickel at nbickel@stm-church.com or 219-836-8610 ext. 330.

Over the next several weeks, we will be contacting parishioners and school families who have not pledged and have not previously responded.