



St. Rose of Lima
CATHOLIC CHURCH
To know, love and serve

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018

Dear St. Rose of Lima Parish Family,

May God give each of you healing, Hope, and peace! It is a privilege to be disciples of Jesus Christ and share His salvation with our broken world that so desperately needs Him. As we all strive to grow and become more credible witnesses to living our faith in the world, this year I wanted to highlight how our parish follows Jesus through the lens of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy (*Matthew 25*).

GROWTH IN DISCIPLESHIP

Feed the Hungry. In our parish, this is most vividly displayed in our annual SVdP food drive. With the help of many parishioners, several Boy Scout troops, and the generous donations of our neighbors, we visited every house in our parish boundary and collected over 10,000 pounds of food! This is an awesome sign. Better yet, we have a loyal group of everyday volunteers and donors, led by Karen Pinder, that extend this mission beyond November so that our food pantry can feed people all year long. Our SVdP council also goes every week to Hollywood East, a low-income development, to make sure those most in need are given fresh produce and daily sustenance. If you want to grow in practical, hands-on charity, consider volunteering on a weekly or monthly basis.

Give Drink to the Thirsty. This means hospitality. There are many things you do to make people feel welcome at our parish: greeters at Mass, serving coffee and donuts, providing and arranging flowers for liturgies, Fish BBQ and chili cook-off celebrations that gather the whole community, and simply being friendly and hospitable at Mass. Most people I meet feel welcomed at our parish, though for some it feels hard to connect if they do not have children in the school. Keep saying hello and getting to know the people you get to worship with. A genuine smile and positive word is a powerful way to love.

Shelter the Homeless. There is a big homeless problem in Portland and within the neighborhood around St. Rose. We do our best to engage any homeless as a real person and give them simple care packages while maintaining safe-environment standards for our parish and school. Our parish donates generously to Catholic Charities and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development to serve our local area needs, but there is obviously bigger need than we can fully address. This would be a great discussion to have within our parish.

Clothe the Naked. Many parishioners participate in our Christmas clothing and toy drive for needy families in our neighborhood, all coordinated by parishioners. Someone identifies a need, writes it on an ornament, and parishioners provide that gift. Simple, practical love that meets people where they are.

Visit the Sick. About a dozen parishioners have been trained as ministers to the homebound so we can take Holy Communion weekly to parishioners who cannot make it to Mass. We also serve two hospitals (Providence and Legacy Emanuel) weekly and John Bayer coordinates the visiting of about nineteen homebound parishioners. Parishioners also help coordinate visits by a priest.

Visit the Imprisoned. Deacon Brian, Rob Winike+, Bobby Dericotte, Nora Balsz, and Deacon Tom Hayward coordinate visits to Donald E. Long Home twice each month to provide a Catholic service to the youth in the

detention center. Under their loving care, the group doubled to 12 coming regularly and even inspired center workers to come in on their day off so the kids could have this opportunity. Jessica Hedges, our 4th grade teacher, continually involves her class in praying for and creating prayer cards for the youth there so they have at least one positive sign of love and care in their week.

Bury the Dead. We buried ten souls out of our parish this year. Nora Balsz and a faithful team of volunteers, along with help from the school kids help set-up and serve funeral receptions. We do need more help with this work of mercy, especially from those who can help during the day-time hours.

Instruct the Ignorant. This means helping people grow in truth and love. St. Rose School grew to about 240 students this year. Teachers fed their own spiritual life through a book-club reading. Nineteen children received 1st Reconciliation and Eucharist. Twenty 8th and 9th graders began a two-year Confirmation preparation program. Four souls came into full communion with the Catholic Church through RCIA. Three years ago, sacramental prep is all we offered for our youth at the parish level. This past year about 60 kids took part in our *Children's Liturgy* ministry. Another 60 in grades 3-8 and 12 in grades 9-12 joined in *Youth Sunday* activities. Three years ago, there were 208 kids in the school and zero in *Children's Liturgy* and *Youth Sunday*. Our school is the primary mission for our parish, and all the other ministries happen because of a handful of faith-filled volunteer coordinators: Marianne Hoonakker-Kelly, Tracey McDougall, Jenn Ratigan, Laura Altenhofen, Scot and Sue Lawrence, Kathie Castricano, Phill Colombo; and their teams of volunteers.

The other spiritual works of mercy: **Counsel the Doubtful, Admonish Sinners, Forgive Offenses, Comfort the Afflicted, Bear Wrongs Patiently, Pray for the Living and the Dead**, are difficult to produce an objective report on. Many of you are compassionate and caring individuals who naturally care for struggling friends. We offer several Reconciliation services each year and sponsor 24 hours of adoration each Advent and Lent, we remember those who have gone before us with our banners commemorating the deceased along with a prayer apostolate each month that gives us opportunities to pray for the needs of the world. However, most of these powerful works of mercy are done in hidden ways between individuals and in our hearts. Much of it happens daily in the family. It would be a good exercise for us as a parish to examine how we support and strengthen all families, especially those in times of need, to see if our families are being transformed by these works of mercy.

These are all positive signs. There are pastoral challenges and opportunities yet to be seized. Every year tuition costs increase making it harder for families to afford our school – how do we improve our mission and yet provide relief to families? Some parishioners have not been at Mass or involved in the parish for a while – why? We haven't asked, we haven't gone out to listen to understand them and their needs. God calls each of us to grow as His disciples. I encourage everyone in our parish to pray, to be generous to receive God's love and affection for you, to ask God "What are You calling me to today? How do You want me to share Your light in my world today?"

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2017-2018 Budgeted Income:	\$480,532	2017-2018 Budgeted Expense:	\$480,292
2017-2018 Actual Income:	\$458,863	2017-2018 Actual Expense:	\$502,921

From 2015-2018 our offertory giving has increased by 20.36% (\$77,613), which speaks to your continued and growing generosity and practical support of our mission as a parish in Northeast Portland. During that same period, however, expenses have increased by 32.87% (\$124,405). Over the past three years health insurance costs increased 30% and at the same time we expanded our employee base so that we can better serve our community. This expense also includes major maintenance repairs, boiler system evaluation, and the cost of developing a master plan for our campus, which were all non-budgeted costs. This year alone, maintenance costs totaled over \$110,850. We also received a one-time \$400,000 gift for window repair this year, which changes our bottom line to \$858,863 for this fiscal year. The Administrative Council is reviewing the way we record our transactions so that our reporting is clearer, simpler and does not need so much explanation.

Assessment: 1- We chose to invest in our parishioners by investing in staff rather than stuff, this accounts for a significant increase in cost. 2- If unbudgeted maintenance costs were removed from the actual budgeted expenses, we would show an \$87,600 surplus rather than the -\$44,058 deficit that you see above. 3- We have aging facilities which will require more and more attention and resource. Creating and implementing a strategic plan for development and maintenance will take a high priority for us as stewards of our parish.

Moving in a Positive Direction: 1- The Administrative Council is currently developing a strategic plan for the parish that includes both short-term and long-term goals. 2- Our Development Coordinator and our Facilities Team are working on a plan to address both immediate maintenance needs as well as moving into preventative maintenance. 3- As a parish, we need to renew and deepen our commitment to stewardship. 4- We will complete a feasibility study this fiscal year.

2018-2019 Budgeted Income: \$428,000 2018-2019 Budgeted Expense: \$483,348

As we look ahead one year, it is also good to take a three-year look back. Here is a categorized, general comparison of income and expenses both for our current year budget approved by the Administrative Council as well as the actual numbers from 2014-2015. My hope is that this view gives everyone a better understanding of our income and expense as well as shows increased transparency for the stewardship of our parish resources.

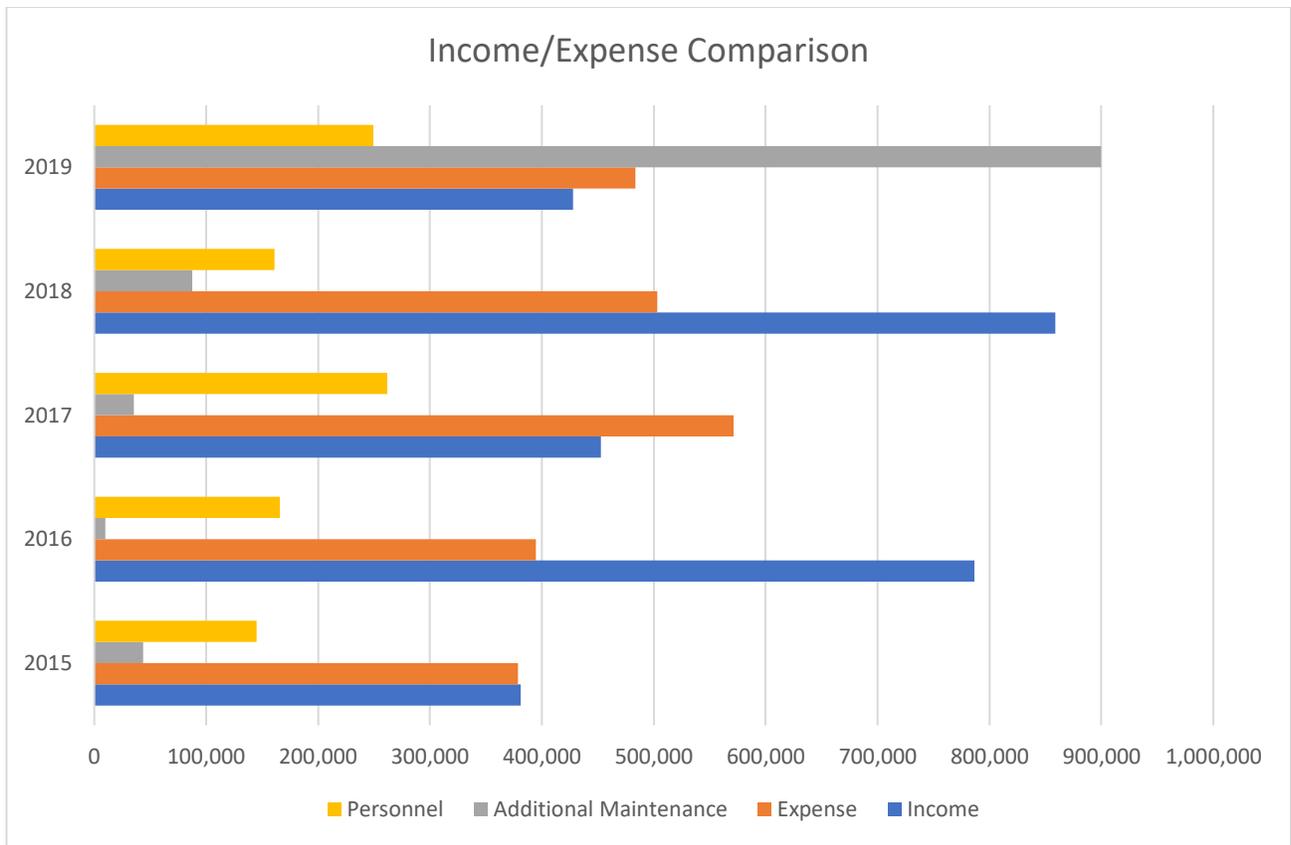
2018-2019 Projected Income: \$428,000
 Offertory \$388,000
 Fundraising \$14,500
 Bequests \$24,000
 Fees \$1,500
Total additional in Savings: \$1,199,739

2018-2019 Projected Expense: \$483,348
 Personnel Costs \$249,167
 (salary, taxes, benefits)
 Diocesan Assessments \$38,206
 Service to parishioners \$101,800
 (missalette, wine, hosts, candles, faith formation, school subsidy)
 Administrative \$94,175
 (maintenance/repairs, utilities, etc.)

2014-2015 Income: \$381,250
Offertory \$334,582
Fundraising \$17,147
Bequests \$30,609
Fees \$2,790
<i>Total additional in Savings: \$508,910</i>
2014-2015 Expense: \$378,516
Personnel Costs \$145,182
<i>(salary, taxes, benefits)</i>
Diocesan Assessments \$30,508
Service to parishioners \$97,515
<i>(missalette, wine, hosts, candles, faith formation, school subsidy)</i>
Administrative \$105,362
<i>(maintenance/repairs, utilities, etc.)</i>

A note on savings: The Archdiocese encourages parishes to keep one year of operating expenses in savings for emergency contingency (\$500,000). We have received two large bequests in recent years, \$400,000 in 2016 which we are free to distribute as we see fit, and \$400,000 in June 2018 which we must use for our window/exterior repairs (which has a \$1.2 million estimate in today's dollars). That leaves us with almost \$300,000 of savings which we can use to invest in our parish now (compared to \$100,000 in 2015). Traditionally, this is the money we have used to take care of capital expenses that come up outside of budget. This year, we are using some of it to supplement our proposed budget deficit.

Below is a graphic look back to 2015. As you can see, we are making a deliberate choice to invest in our parishioners with increased personnel as the best way of serving our parish. That includes employees for whom we share costs with the school to better unite and advance our parish and school in a common mission.



The Administrative Council told me: “Father, if we don’t do good with our money, money won’t do us any good.” This year’s budget represents another moment like in 2017 when we are choosing to invest by using \$56,000 from savings to balance the budget for a one-year period while we tackle many issues at once. The good news, thanks to generous donors and good day-to-day stewardship by our staff, is that we have the money to seize this opportunity to invest, repair, and grow. The challenge is that we need to continue to raise funds so that we can finish the project and provide for the future.

Deficit spending will not be a norm. The needs of this year require courageous, faith-filled decisions for our parish. Our plan and hope is that the choice to invest in personnel will pay dividends in the short term as well as the long term. Dianna Cooper is taking on expanded duties with Kathi Donohue now handling the bookkeeping. We will provide our new Principal, Christine Penwell, with the staffing she needs to be successful as the spiritual and educational leader of our school. We will work to bolster our relationships with our neighborhood and grow our school with the leadership of Shelly Davidson. We will reach out to engage our alumni and friends of St. Rose with the help of Karen Asbury, our Ambassador for Mission and Legacy. We will move forward in developing our master plan by dedicating staff to complete a feasibility study with Megan Schuver at point.

MASTER PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY STUDY

We strive to be good stewards of our campus and all of the personal investments that helped build it over the years. Part of that stewardship means envisioning the St. Rose of the future—the St. Rose that we will pass on to generations to come. In that, we see a campus where we are better equipped to support people through the sacraments, spiritual growth, Catholic education, and service to our community. We envision greater accessibility so some parishioners can worship with us more regularly. And we want a safe, secure infrastructure to better protect our people.

So, in June of 2017 we completed a master plan study with Di Loreto Architecture. We asked them to help us to understand the long-term maintenance, accessibility, and seismic needs on our campus and to offer solutions that will help us support our mission of building up God's Kingdom. We learned several key things:

- 1- For safety improvement: The highest priority (based on use, type of construction, etc.) is not the church building, but the school.
- 2- Most prudent course: Build a new school. The cost to upgrade the existing school is comparable to the cost of a new school. If we upgraded the school, it would have to be closed for a year (too high a cost for us) and we would still have old plumbing/electrical/etc. To build a new structure would permit us to remain open continuously and make improvements on everything; to pursue our mission rather than focus only on maintenance.
- 3- Key insight: A common entry for parish and school would be a campus key. Entry from both north and south would allow for a clear visible entrance from either Alameda Street or our parking lot. A new school building and added elevator accessibility could reduce our current 7-level campus to 3 or 4 levels.

Now is the right time for us to complete a capital campaign feasibility study to discover what our ability is to raise the funds to make progress on our vision and masterplan that will enhance our parish and school community. You all know that we have \$1.2 million of necessary maintenance repairs on the Church, for which we already received \$400,000 in donations. This fall we are contracting with Contour Strategies, LLC to help us understand what we can raise and what phase(s) of a project we can undertake in the coming years. They will be contacting some of you individually and all of us corporately between now and December to help us see in which time frame we can complete the building of the barns we set out to build.

CONCLUSION

Our school is on solid ground financially and leading the way in providing solid Catholic education for the whole person. We need to keep improving and looking to future needs to provide for the next 100 years of our school. At the parish level, we are providing more faith-formation support to families than we have in a long time. For the first time in recent memory we are developing a strategic plan for the parish and much of the work of the Administrative and Pastoral councils from previous years is paying dividends. Fiscally, we must assess our needs and follow a plan with prudence and courage to become better stewards of our time, talent and treasure for God and His Kingdom. Pastorally, we need to continue to respond to God's call be credible witnesses to authentic Catholic faith and lives of conversion in our neighborhood and to one another. There is so much good at St. Rose. God has blessed us greatly. We can be the ones that affect the world for the better. If we help each other to keep growing and taking the next steps with faith, we will become saints!

May God bless each of you with His sweetest graces.

St. Rose of Lima, pray for us!

With Hope,

Fr. Matthew A. G.

Fr. Matt Libra
Pastor