

State of the Parish:

I was appointed Pastor on January 2, 2013

What has been accomplished since 2013?

- Several special projects
 1. New Sound system in church
 2. Screens on the rectory windows that reflect the sunlight—which reduces the electrical bills
 3. Roofs:
 - a. Rectory; not raining on my computer since new roof installed about 5 years ago
 - b. Church, almost finished paying for church roof.
 4. Air conditioners:
 - a. All rectory a/c's replaced out of necessity...
 - b. 3 of the 6 church units have been replaced (2 of the church units replaced through the generosity of an anonymous donor
 - c. 1 a/c unit replaced in the Lacour Center

- Financial Statement in last week's bulletin:

I hope that you had a chance to review the annual financial statement for St. Peter Parish. I'm sure you are probably wondering why this talk today at all the Masses:

This is the first time ever in my 38 years of priesthood or as a pastor that I had to address the issues of parish finances. It is not an easy topic to discuss:

- The bottom line is that the finances are not where they should be:
 - This is due to several factors:
 1. We are a small parish
 2. Majority of our parishioners are retired and on a fixed income.
 3. Others choose not to contribute to the collection
- Average weekly collection is approximately \$4,000.00
- Average monthly expenses:

Utilities for parish -----\$2,297.00

Payroll for priest and lay employees: ----- \$12,358.00

Parish assessments to the Archdiocese: ----- \$12,114.00

Before I go any further, I will explain to you the Assessments to the Archdiocese:

Definition of Assessment:

Funds assessed by the Archdiocese as the parish's share of the financial support of the Central Office of the Archdiocese. This amount is based on the previous year's income.

Our parish share is relatively small.

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| St. Peter's portion is only----- | \$2,700.00 |
| Property insurance ----- | \$7,192.00 |

However, the other part of this includes the benefits for the parish priest and the church, school, and cemetery property insurance. (The cemetery does reimburse the church for the cemetery insurance at the end of the year.)

The priest benefits are:

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| Health insurance ----- | \$1,257.00 |
| Priest Auto insurance----- | \$319.00 |
| Priest retirement----- | \$583.00 |
| Priest convocation ----- | \$63.00 |

It takes the parish approximately 3 weeks of collections to pay for the priest benefits and our share of the Archdiocese financial support.

That leaves us with one week of income to pay for utilities and salaries.

What can be done?

Pray and ask the Lord for guidance to increase your contribution to the parish. We are all living from paycheck to paycheck. At times, we may have an emergency that will result in a financial crisis, the parish is not immune to financial challenges.

Much has been accomplished through your financial generosity to special projects like the roof and sound system.

We are also strapped with a debt that the parish occurred before I became pastor. We are obligated to pay the debt. We must start paying on the debt, because monthly interest is charge to the debt.

What am I asking of you, my friends?

I ask that you prayerfully consider increasing your financial contributions so that St. Peter Parish meet its financial obligations.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the rectory.