

Sacred Heart Parish
State of the Parish 2020

It has been a year since our first State of the Parish report. So much has changed that it is difficult to imagine that only a year has passed. Currently, the coronavirus has many of our parishioners self-isolating to protect their health, and the health of their families.

This last eight months have been a great burden, especially for those over 65, teenagers, and families with young children. The isolation that people are experiencing is very painful.

Last fall, the parish began preparing to broadcast Mass online. Little did we know that by March we would be shut down, and Mass online would become a way of life.

During the summer months and this past fall, some were able to enjoy Mass out-of-doors and in the parking lot of the Village Centre Cinemas, where more were able to attend. We will continue to livestream the Mass as we adjust to the ever-changing situation. A big **thanks to all who make livestreaming possible.**

Another big worry has been the parish financial status. The parishioners of Sacred Heart have stepped up to the plate and kept the parish financially stable throughout this pandemic. Many families shifted to online giving, which has helped our bottom line greatly.

As of September 2020, we had \$202,000 in general assets and \$623,000 in the Building Fund. We also applied and received a PPP loan from the government for \$46,000. This loan helped us keep all our employees on the payroll even though they were not working the same number of hours. We are still waiting to see if that loan will be forgiven.

Though the parish has been operating under restrictions, we continue to push forward with projects that must be done for safety.

The brick work on the church patio is completed.

The repair of the church steeple began October 28th.

Other projects are still in process.

The Building Committee has not been idle either. They met with the architects this past summer to review the **rough draft** of the facilities report. The report was incomplete and raised questions which the committee asked the firm to further explore. They are still awaiting the final report. **Once the report is received and reviewed by the Building Committee, they will present their findings to the Pastoral Council and then to the Parish.**

Our Faith Formation Team has been hard at work revamping our whole formation approach. Parents of younger children were adamant, **no more Zoom**. We have developed many options for parents who are trying to pass on the faith at home.

The Youth Group has had Zoom meetings nearly every week since late May. They appreciate keeping in touch with each other.

One bright spot is our outreach to preschool children. They each receive a monthly mailing, and we hear that some children are now running to the mailbox to see if they have received a letter from their church.

An incredibly sad result of the pandemic is that we are no longer able to take Communion to the Assisted Living facilities and nursing homes. The First Friday Mass is also suspended.

This has put a big hole in our outreach to the senior members of our parish. We do still mail the bulletin, and make sure that they have the daily devotional materials that help their life of prayer. We also reach out to them with phone calls.

A final big change is that all our parish business is now done on Zoom. Meetings, presentations, and even the RCIA are all done digitally.

Pullman continues to have a high rate of transmission and we need to remain cautious.

So, what is the state of the parish?

- Fiscally we are doing well.
- Liturgically we are adapting but longing to return to normal.
- Structurally we continue to progress on projects but more slowly.
- Emotionally we are all struggling.

Please keep each other in your prayers.

We wish to **THANK all our volunteers**, who are so giving of their time and energy to help Sacred Heart during this pandemic.

Let us all stay positive and pray that next year will be better.

For questions about this report, please contact the Sacred Heart Parish office or Council Chair. (numbers are listed on our website)