

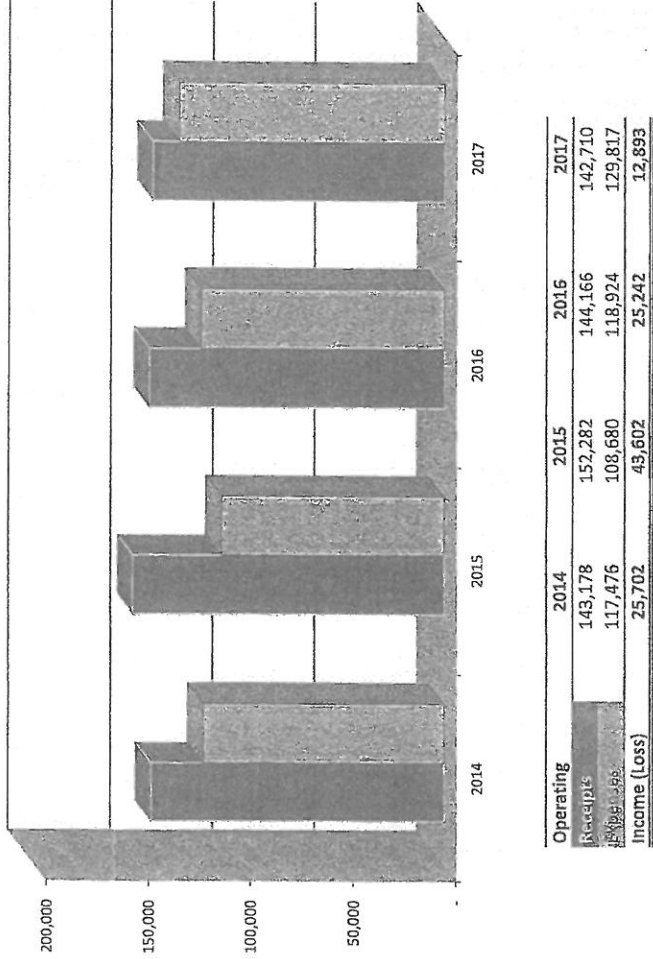
Dear fellow parishioners:

At the beginning of summer we listened to Father Tony's homily about sharing and giving with loaves of bread and fish from the readings in comparison to financial giving.

Giving comes in many forms, helping others, serve in your church and community, providing for others by giving items of food or clothing to local food banks. Giving in these ways is very rewarding and quite simple to do. We are truly blessed that so many people are giving in this way. Giving financially isn't always as easy or clear as to how much to give and how funds are being used. We understand that there are costs to maintain the buildings and ongoing operations of the church, as well as provide programs and services for parishioners and community, but we don't always understand what is needed financially. This year, we used some funds to replace the south side of the roof on the church.

We have been operating with a surplus at the end of each year, this is good news. However, we have noticed a trend, that overall giving towards operations has decreased and expenses increased. (See graph insert.) Operating expenses of our church old or new will likely continue to increase each year to due to rising costs. There is also an increasing need to support individuals and families.

Sacred Heart Parish (172)
2014 - 2017 COMPARISON
Operating Receipts & Expenditures



As you know, we have been faced with some decisions as to the physical condition of our church, the future of the building and needs of our parish. It has been announced that a new church will be built in the future. This is exciting and many have been giving to help fund this capital project.

We are asking to please review the church finances and also your own.

Decide how much you can give towards operations and what additional donation you can give towards the capital fund.

Ways to give:

- *Collection basket:* cash or cheque with your envelope
- **NEW!** *Pre-Authorized Giving:* It is now easier to give with *Pre-Authorized Giving*. No more remembering (or forgetting) your envelope each week. Simply print off a form from the website www.shihm.dol.ca or pick one up at the back of the church, fill in the form and place it in collection basket at church, or return to the office, or contact our secretary Karen Kester at 519-294-6844 ext. 21

- *Planned gifts:* Planned gifts require more preparation and thought. Planned gifts can result in an immediate donation, a donation that is distributed over a period of time, or occur when

you or a family member passes away. Planned gifts are varied. The most popular forms of planned gifts is a bequest. Another popular form is a gift of securities such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds or GICs. Other forms include life insurance, RRSPs and RRIIFs, real estate and more.

- Another way to contribute to churches' finances is to organize a fundraising event. If you have a great idea and would like to give some time towards fundraising, it is a great way to build funds for our new church.

All donations are confidential – even the finance committee doesn't know how much each individual is giving. Financial contributions are issued a tax receipt each year. (Currently we have 275 registered families and issued 141 tax receipts)

We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sacred Heart Finance Committee,

Sharon Barlow and Maria Masschelein

Financial Reports for the Dioceses and all parishes operating results are published each year.

This information can be viewed the website: dol.on.ca