

Dear Parishioners of St. Faustina Parish,

It was this past January that we formally combined the Parishes of St. Alphonsus, St. Christopher, and St. Peter to form our brand-new Parish Family of St. Faustina! This merger was the result of years of prayer, consultation, and hard work by all of you! I wanted to commend all the efforts of our Parishioners to help in this endeavor. Even though the formal process of the merger is complete, in many ways we are just beginning with the work of ministry in our new combined Parish.

An annual financial report will be given to our Parish each year which enables us to see a snapshot of our Parishes income and expenses throughout the past fiscal year. I wanted to thank in a particular way our Business Manager, Christin Miller, who has done a tremendous job at providing us with this information in an easy-to-understand manner.

For as difficult as this past year has been on all our families, it has been just as challenging for our Parish. It takes a significant amount of income to operate all our Church buildings as well as our Newman Center, which also serves as our Parish Center. As a reminder, in our Parish we have four Church buildings and the Parish Newman Center. As you will see in our financial report our offertory income alone has declined 62% or \$297, 262.00 over the past year.

In many ways it is understandable to see such a steep decline and we can attribute this to many factors such as the pandemic, our aging Parish demographic, as well as some Parishioners showing their discontent with the merger by pulling their financial support or even leaving the Parish entirely.

In response to these many challenges we have done our best to reduce our overall expenditures. From 2020 to 2021 we reduced our Parish costs by 47% or \$289,581.00.

The offertory collection is our largest revenue source followed by parish share, fundraisers, and general donations. The past two fiscal years we have been helped tremendously by the PPP loans provided by the Federal government in response to the COVID-19 emergency. If it were not for these PPP loans, we would have had to pull over \$100,000 from our savings in order to maintain operations.

At this time I ask each of us to please continue supporting our Parish financially. *Even if each of us could give one more dollar each Sunday to the collection this would help tremendously!* Once again, our Parish consists of five buildings and to continue to maintain each of our buildings we do ask your generosity. We do not want to be burdened with the serious decisions about the usage of any of our buildings because of lack of funds!

St. Paul, the Apostle, reminds us that God always rewards our generosity and in this spirit I do thank all of our Parishioners for their spiritual and financial support. We know that all things work together for us who love God and as we meet the challenges of the future, we rely on the spiritual motto of our beloved Patron, "Jesus, I trust in You!"

God Bless You All and Thank You!

Fr. Adam