

23 August 2020

Dear St. Charles Parishioner:

There are not enough words of gratitude and appreciation for those who so generously supported our 2020 "Two Step" Summer Raffle. Since 1987, we have relied on our annual Summer Carnivals to finance upgrades and improvements to our parish facilities. Since a Summer Carnival was just not a possibility this year, the "Two Step" Raffle was a hasty replacement. On the part of the parish, the response was overwhelming. You will find a complete listing of the Winners on our website and you can also access a video of the actual Raffle from last Sunday afternoon.

Here's the financial report. Total income from the "Two Step" Raffle was \$137,480.50. Total expenses (GMC SUV, eight Appreciation Raffles @ \$500 per, \$3500 Third Prize, printing, two mailings, salamis, ice cream) were \$30,500. So, the **profit was \$106,980.50**. That is just tremendous. Again, many thanks!

A special word of gratitude to Raffle Chairman, Tim Ungvasky, and to those who worked with him, in "bringing it all together."

Our principal, Mrs Updegrave, has been working the entire summer to make a successful launch of the New School Year. All protocols are in place, even the teachers have been taught some new tricks, and we are all set for Opening Day this Wednesday, August 26. With the New School Year comes an addition to our daily Mass schedule. Effective this Friday, August 28, and on every Friday from now until the end of May, there will be an 8:30am Mass in church. Yes, there will be a Friday 8:30am Mass each week even if school is not in session (days off, holidays, vacations, etc.)

Last Sunday's 10:00am Mass in church was taped and I reviewed it later in the day. I think you will be most impressed with the quality of the production, the clarity of the picture, and the brilliance of the color. We hope to start streaming from the church at the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, September 6. More on this next week, if all goes according to plan.

A great Big Tip of the St Charles Appreciation Hat to a long-time faithful and generous parish family that has donated the funds for all the new video equipment in our church. They have asked to remain anonymous, but they want to keep the livestream Mass available, on a weekend and daily basis, for our elderly, infirm, and shut-in parishioners. Their gift amounted to \$25,000 and they indicated they would also pay for any additional expenses relative to the project. We originally intended to meet the cost from our Summer Raffle; this family's gift will enable us to put something extra in our Rainy Day Fund.

The Sunday Offertory for August 16 was \$21,315.75. Your continued concern for St Charles Parish is a real blessing!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph Cardine".