

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD CATHOLIC CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

GIVING LIKE THE MAGI



In 2010, Archbishop Robert Carlson asked Catholics throughout our Archdiocese to pray one simple prayer. *“Lord, what do You want me to do with all the gifts You have given to me?”*

In 2011, we were asked to pray, *“Lord, how would You like me to become more fully involved in the life of Your Church.”*

If you find it difficult to remember to begin each day with a simple stewardship prayer – asking God how He wants you to share the gifts He has given you – you might want to let one of the Magi be your reminder.

The Magi – or three wise men – traveled far dis-

tances and made great sacrifices to bring gifts to Jesus. This year, before you pack away your nativity set, select one of the wise men bearing his gift for Jesus and set this statue in a place that you will see every day – maybe on your desk, your dresser or your kitchen counter. When you see this gift bearer let it be a reminder to ask Jesus what gifts He would like you to give for Him each day throughout the year.

And if someone asks why you still have a Christmas decoration out, you can simply say that this little statue is reminding you to be more generous.

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The Steward’s Prayer

Lord,

I give you thanks for creating me and redeeming me. Keep me close to you during all my days. Help me to remember that life on earth is short and life to come eternal. Give me a generous spirit; may I love you well by loving others well. Guide me to a wise use of the gifts you have entrusted to me – my time, my talents and my treasure. May I use them for your greater glory! Divine Providence can provide. Divine Providence did provide. Divine Providence will provide.

Amen.


Stewardship
A way of living

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STEWARDSHIP LETTER FROM FR. MICHAEL

Dear Parishioners,

As you may have noticed, this year has been unlike any other in recent memory. For a time, we were unable to attend Mass at all and a number of our typical fundraisers have been canceled. It has certainly been a challenge, particularly in terms of Stewardship. We've had fewer opportunities this year than ever before to use our time and talents in the usual ways to contribute to the parish.

Any time we encounter challenging circumstances in life, it's an opportunity of grow. I have to say, Epiphany Parish has risen to the challenge and continued to grow in ways that have been extremely encouraging. I'd like to share a few examples with you.

The offertory collection – It's tough to gather an offertory collection if no one is allowed to attend Mass. You all somehow found a way. Every day, envelopes with contributions showed up in our mail. There are still faithful parishioners who, to this very day, have been unable to attend Mass but

still financially support the parish.

Caring for each other – A number of parishioners have been caring for the vulnerable among us in myriad ways. It might be a simple phone call to check in with someone who has been unable to leave the house in a while, dropping off groceries, or offering a ride to the doctor or to Mass. I am always amazed at how generous you all are in taking care of each other. This has been particularly evident this year.

Prayer – Part of Stewardship is praying for our community. When we couldn't come to Mass, we tried to find creative ways to safely pray together through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and praying the Rosary. The first time we knelt outside in front of the Church in front of the Blessed Sacrament, it brought tears to my eyes. I also know that many of you have continued to take the Sunday Obligation seriously and have either returned to Masses at the first possible opportunity or have been praying from home. For all of these prayers, I am grateful. Our parish

will only thrive if it is an active, devout spiritual community, a place that offers beautiful, contemplative Masses, adores Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, and has prayers being offered at all times. The greatest treasure we have is Christ.

Renewed growth – Although it is steadily rising again, our attendance is still not quite what it was before March of this year. This is perfectly understandable and, while I've missed seeing those of you who haven't been around for a while, it has been a joy to witness the continued growth of our parish, with lots of new faces and families showing up on almost a weekly basis. The parish is stronger than it has ever been. Everyone is contributing in their own way.

For this good news and so many other ways in which God has blessed this parish, we give thanks. I am so happy to be your Pastor and to serve as your spiritual father.

Fr. Michael

“Any time we encounter challenging circumstances in life, it's an opportunity of grow.”



FROM FLEA MARKET TO *GARAGE SALE*

Like many of our events this year, our annual flea market was canceled due to Covid-19. However, in usual Epiphany fashion our volunteers came together to figure out a way to hold a downsized version of the sale.

Because the virus was so active in June, the decision was made to postpone until later

in the year when things were perceived to be much safer and instead of holding the sale indoors, it was held on our parking lot. Thus, limiting possible exposure to the Corona virus. On Sunday, September 20th our Flea Market Chairperson, Helen Kunz, along with some of her most faithful flea market crew volunteers, put together a mini

version flea market-*garage sale*.

While the sale was not our usual flea market with hundreds of items available, it was a huge success. The garage sale made a nice profit for the few hours it was held, \$967.00.

Thank you Helen Kunz and all of the flea market volun-

teers who dedicated their time and talent to help make this sale a huge success!

FALL FESTIVAL RAFFLE SELLOUT!

Our annual Fall Festival is probably our most popular fundraiser of the year. It is more than just a fundraiser. It's a time for us to come together with our parish family and neighbors to celebrate who we are and what we are all about. We always have great food, drink, music, rides and of course the biggest event of the evening our \$10,000 raffle, with a second place prize of \$2,000.

At the core of the fall festival

event, as is the case with all our events, is our faith. Faith that carries us through our toughest times. Like many of you, we were extremely disappointed to have to cancel our annual fall festival, but having no other choice we decided to make the best of it.

In an effort to recuperate some of our lost fall festival profits, we made an appeal to you, our parishioners, alum, and friends to purchase a raf-

fle ticket. The response was overwhelming. *For the first time in many years, we sold out of all 300 tickets!*

Congratulations to the winners of our first & second place winners!

First Place winners: Patrick & Tina Mahon, Laveta Schoendienst, Kevin Kelly, JoAnn Frame and Maureen Flynn. Second Place winners: Steve Runde, Stephanie

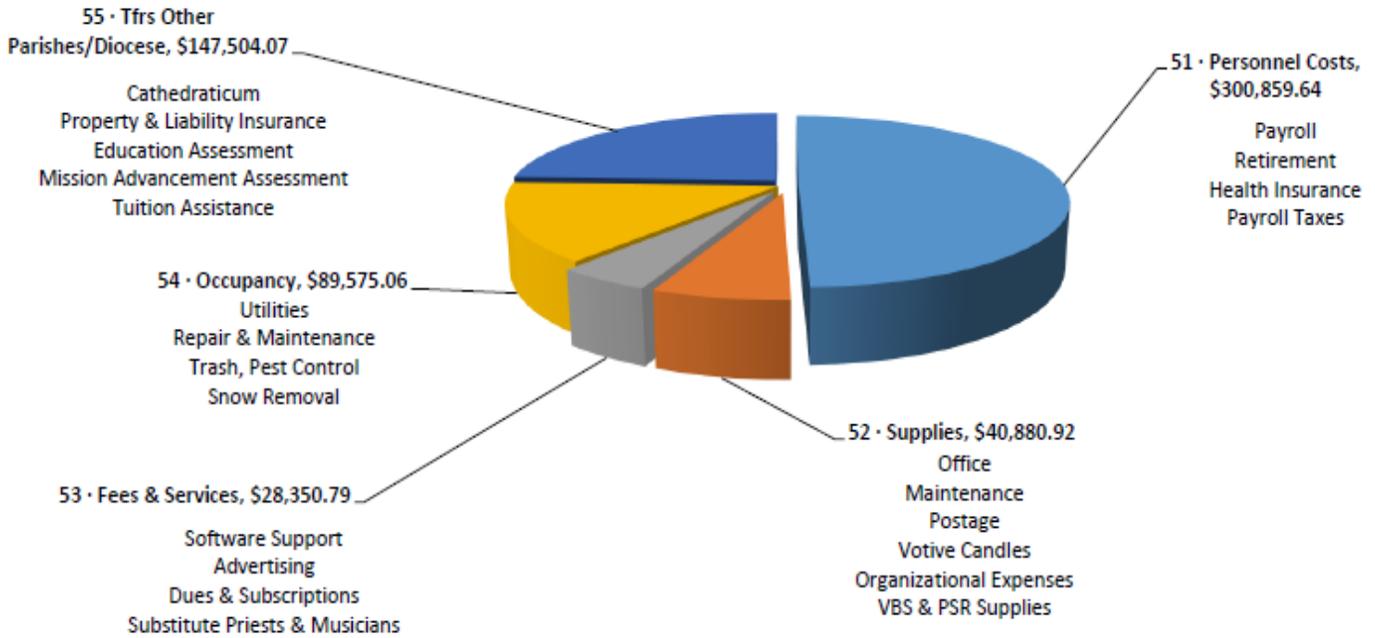
Whelan, Melanie Cramer and Emily Runde.

Thank you all for your support and better luck next year!

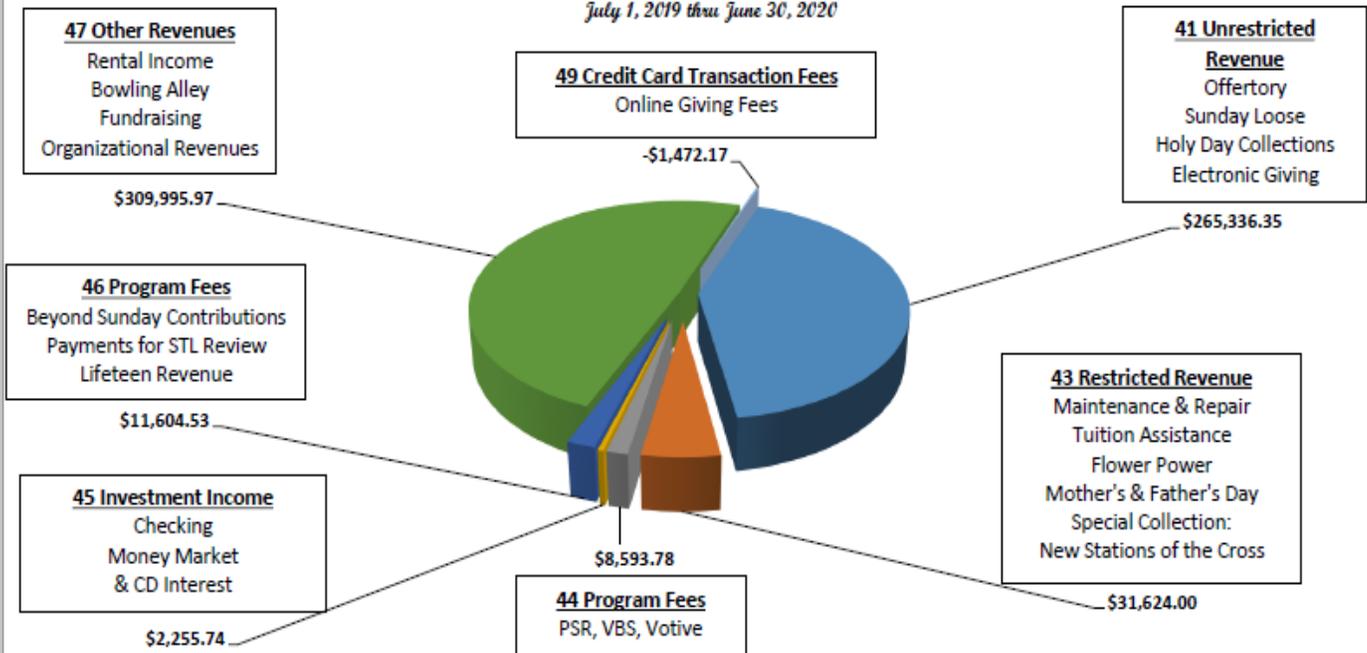
2019-2020 Fundraising Report

◆ CERTIFICATE PROGRAM	\$4,273.23
◆ CLOTHING BOX	\$345.63
◆ FALL FESTIVAL <u>RAFFLE</u>	\$17,253.00
◆ FISH FRY	\$11,254.38
◆ FLEA MARKET	\$967.00

Epiphany of Our Lord Expenses
July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020



Epiphany of Our Lord Parish Revenues
July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020



Fiscal Year 2020	
Income	
	\$627,938.20
Endowment Income	
	\$7,167.54
Endowment Contributions	
	\$600.00
Expenses	
	\$607,170.48
Capital Expenditures	
	\$19,438.52
Net Income	
	\$9,096.74

Assets as of July 1, 2020	
Parish Checking	
	\$140,572.15
Parish Money Market	
	\$231,860.14
Beyond Sunday	
	\$38,497.49
Sum of CD's	
	\$77,859.03
Endowment Fund	
	\$499,646.81
Organization's Checking	
	\$36,642.24

Epiphany 2019-2020 Statistics

<u>HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION</u>	<u>SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION</u>
⇒ REGISTERED PARISH HOUSEHOLDS.....611	⇒ BAPTISMS.....23
⇒ NEW FAMILIES.....23	⇒ FIRST COMMUNIONS..... 7
⇒ TOTAL NUMBER OF CATHOLICS.....1,438	⇒ CONFIRMATIONS.....1
⇒ CONTRIBUTORS.....273	⇒ DEATHS..... 13
	⇒ MARRIAGES.....5
	⇒ CHRISTIAN INITIATION.....Ø

1 PETER 4:10-13

Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well. If you have the gift of speaking, preach God's message. If you have the gift of helping others, do it with the strength that God supplies. Everything should be done in a way that will bring honour to God because of Jesus Christ, who is glorious and powerful forever. Amen.

WHY DOES OUR PARISH NEED YOUR GIFT?

None of us likes to give a gift that is not needed. That is why we spend so many hours shopping for just the perfect gift. So it is understandable that you might question, "Does the parish need my gift? Does my weekly financial contribution make a difference?" Here are some of the ways your gift is needed and does make a difference. Your contributions to Epiphany Parish help:

- Pay staff salaries so that the ordained clergy have more time to visit the sick and comfort those who truly need to feel Jesus in their lives at this time.
- Pay the utility bills that keep the lights on and the rooms warm (or cool) for all those who gather here for prayer, education or social ministry.
- Purchase the many supplies that are needed for our liturgies and sacraments, including hosts, wine, candles, prayer books and hymnals.
- Landscape our grounds, remove snow and maintain our facilities, so that we always present a welcoming image to all who may pass by this House of God.

Thank you to all who give so generously, not only monetarily, but also of your time and talent. Your gifts are greatly appreciated!

St. Louis Archdiocese Stewardship Office



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WE'RE ON THE WEB
AND FACEBOOK!

WWW.EPIPHANYSTL.ORG

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
EPIPHANYOF OURLORDPARISH](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EPIPHANYOF OURLORDPARISH)

*AS EACH ONE HAS RECEIVED A GIFT, USE IT
TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER AS GOOD
STEWARDS OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE.
1 PETER, 4:10*

2021 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

<u>Event</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
PARISH BREAKFAST	JANUARY 3, 2021 -	
FEAST OF EPIPHANY & FEAST DAY CELEBRATION		GYMNASIUM
FISH FRYs	FRIDAYS: FEB 19 & 26 MARCH 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2021	
PALM SUNDAY -	MARCH 28, 2021	<i>SEE WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR MASS SCHEDULE</i>
HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY & HOLY SATURDAY	APRIL 1, 2 & 3, 2021	<i>SEE WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR MASS SCHEDULE</i>
ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT	APRIL 3, 2021	MSGR. SULLIVAN FIELD
EASTER SUNDAY	APRIL 4, 2021	<i>SEE WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR MASS SCHEDULE</i>
DONUT SUNDAYS	3 RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
NOVEMBER – APRIL	AFTER ALL MASSES	GYMNASIUM
FLEA MARKET W/SCOUT BBQ	JUNE 25 & 26, 2021	GYMNASIUM
FALL FESTIVAL	SEPTEMBER 17 & 18, 2021	PARISH GROUNDS
QUARTER AUCTION	OCTOBER 14, 2021 (2ND THURSDAY OF OCT.)	GYMNASIUM
GATEWAY SCIENCE ACADEMY TRUNK R TREAT	OCTOBER 23, 2021	GYMNASIUM & PARKING LOT
EFF ADULT COED	NOVEMBER 4, 5 & 6, 2021	GYMNASIUM
VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT		
SCOUT BREAKFAST WITH SANTA	DECEMBER 5, 2021	GYMNASIUM

THERE ARE MANY OTHER EVENTS THAT TAKE PLACE AT EPIPHANY WHICH ARE HELD BY OUR ASSOCIATES, BUT ARE NOT LISTED ON THE ABOVE CALENDAR. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CURRENT EVENTS VISIT US @ WWW.EPIPHANYSTL.ORG.