

# Saint Mary Catholic Church

## Finance Council Report to the Parish



*God's mercy has no boundaries...*

We are in the 35th week of the Year of Mercy as Catholics. It was 35 weeks ago that Pope Francis declared 2016 the year of Mercy. I am embarrassed to say that I spent the first 30 weeks not really thinking too much about it. That is until I was asked to help the NPH orphanage in Guatemala raise some much needed funds to continue their special ministry. I was most likely asked because I am a member of the parish Finance Council and the need was purely financial. That made sense to me and so I gladly answered the call. However, I have been moved by what has transpired in the last five weeks and have personally witnessed God's mercy in so many ways.

After the plea for help by the orphanage, we formed a committee and developed a number of opportunities for our parish to help. Our parishioners responded beyond our imaginations, donating over \$20,000 to the cause. This money will be used directly to help shape the future of some 3,400 abandoned children in Latin America, who are beyond grateful for your help. Throughout the process, however, I watched firsthand how God's mercy is on display in some unexpected places. For example, a young 16 year old boy created a touching video of St. Mary's relationship with the orphanage in Guatemala. This video helped our parishioners better understand the cause and witness the beauty of our parish relationship with NPH. This boy is not even a parishioner at St. Mary's, yet he spent countless hours giving freely of his time. A chef (also not a parishioner) spent his entire day and night - without pay - to create a meal for our fundraising dinner. He also took it upon himself to collect donations from some of his frequent customers. A visitor to our church who saw the video at Mass dropped off a donation at the parish office before she left for home. This generosity will undoubtedly be felt by these children some 1,800 miles from Crown Point, and is a wonderful demonstration of how God's love and mercy truly has no boundaries.

Father Pat told me that there is a special quote he likes to share, "Where God's love meets suffering, there is mercy." I may be a late-comer to the Year of Mercy, but these past five weeks have made up for the entire year, and I truly believe reflects how special the people of St. Mary's really are. I have to think Pope Francis would be proud of mercy here on display at St. Mary's.

We are grateful for your continued gifts and financial support for the many ministries at St. Mary's. All the good works of this parish would not be possible without your generosity. I would like to assure you that our Finance Council strives to be good stewards of your gifts and wish to share with you on the next page the financial story of our parish mission.

God bless you,

Cyndi Walsh  
Finance Council Chair

### Finance Council Members

Rev. Patrick Kalich  
 Cyndi Walsh - Chairman  
 Mary Anne Abraham  
 Larry Geisen  
 Michael Grant  
 Jim Larsen  
 Jan Mucha  
 Joe O'Keefe

## Annual Donations of our 2,120 Parish Households

Households	Total Annual Offertory	%of Total Collections
638	No Recorded Gift	0.00%
855	Less than \$500	13.44%
318	\$500 to \$1,000	21.54%
151	\$1,000 to \$1,500	17.40%
114	\$1,500 to \$3,000	21.78%
41	\$3,000 to \$10,000	19.34%
3	\$10,000 to \$50,000	6.50%

### Parish Facts

Total Families: **2,120**

New Families This Year:  
**142**

Students educated at St.  
Mary School: **508**

Children Served Through  
Faith Formation: **494**

Families Assisted by Food  
Pantry: **1,372**

Bags of Food Distributed:  
**3,801**

### Liturgical Services:

Masses Said at our  
Parish: **613**

Baptisms: **112**

1st Communions: **114**

Confirmations: **116**

Marriages: **20**

Funerals: **43**

### CSA Update - We are only at 84% of our goal.

As good stewards we have made a considerable commitment to the annual Catholic Services Appeal this year; however, we are considerably short of our goal. As of October 11, 2016, pledges have totaled **\$65,821.43**. As a parish our goal for the year is **\$78,007.00** leaving a shortfall of **\$12,185.57**. If you haven't already, please consider a donation to the CSA before 2016 comes to a close.

### Financial Summary of our Church

*We are blessed to have your generous support of St. Mary's Church. Your continued support is critical to advancing our mission for years to come.*

*Total Tuition Subsidies included in parish outflows (2015-16) = \$225,000.00*

Fiscal Year	Collections and Other Receipts	Total Outflows to Live Out Our Mission	Surplus/(Deficit)
2015-16	\$1,419,187.92	\$1,378,853.68	\$40,334.24
2014-15	\$1,387,781.52	\$1,326,783.82	\$60,997.70
2013-14	\$1,301,376.98	\$1,398,238.02	(\$96,861.04)

### Financial Summary for Our School

*We are pleased to report that the school's financial situation is stable. Maintaining enrollment is critical to financial stability. The school continues to rely on the annual support from the parish through tuition subsidies to our school parents.*

School Year	Operating Receipts	Operating Expenses	Excess
2015-16	\$2,350,927.41	\$2,321,461.67	\$29,465.74
2014-15	\$2,255,466.77	\$2,245,342.91	\$10,123.86