

### A LETTER FROM FATHER JESS

### Dear Family of God,

I am pleased to present the 2020-2021 Stewardship Annual Report. The report highlights the important work accomplished by 385 volunteers whose work spans 38 ministries as well as committees, programs, and services that touch the lives of our parishioners and also those in need within our diocese. During the fiscal year of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021, our ministry leaders, staff, and volunteers continued to address and resolve the unique challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic. Many of our parishioners also found creative solutions to COVID restrictions and were able to continue answering God's call to serve our parish.

The second year of the pandemic brought many blessings despite the ongoing uncertainties of how to tend to the minds, bodies, and spirits of our parishioners. We continued to live-stream masses each weekend to help our parishioners stay connected to Our Lady of Joy. Fr. Clement, Fr. Kurt, and staff members also continued to produce YouTube videos to keep our faith community engaged. The church and adoration chapel remained unlocked for those wanting private prayer. Of great importance was that we were able to successfully fulfill our two annual parish projects: the Parish Advent Project benefiting St. Charles Mission School and St. Agnes Catholic School, and the Parish Lenten Project benefiting First Way Pregnancy Center and Aid to Women. Despite the reduced attendance at our masses, our faithful parishioners continued to provide generous financial support to these four project recipients.

Our Faith Formation programs continued strong throughout the year with approximately 148 children still making their sacraments in smaller separate masses. Holy Family Catechesis provided at home lessons for over 80 families and also met once-a-month on campus including adoration for all. Our preschool opened for regular in-person classes at the end of August to the delight of 34 children and their parents. Our Youth Ministry continued to lead the Life Teen and Edge programs both in-person and virtually in the Fall and Spring semesters of 2020 and 2021.

As our fiscal year ended on June 30, 2021, plans were already underway for the full restoration of parish life as we assessed the needs of the faithful while prioritizing the physical well-being of our parishioners and the community-at-large.

Please know of our constant and continued prayers for all of you throughout this entire pandemic. We pray each day for all of you at morning mass and during our evening prayers.

Thank you for continuing to serve the Lord and Our Lady of Joy by your tireless support, your presence and worship-offering. I am grateful for each of you and the generous support you have given the parish and myself, as well as Father Clement and Father Kurt. May the Holy Spirit guide me, and may God bless each of you and your families. Please continue to pray for me.

Yours in Christ through Mary,

Fr. Jans &

Fr. Jess Ty

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to build a community of missionary disciples through the Sacraments, prayer, acts of charity, and evangelization and catechesis based on the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

# PASTORAL REPORT

Registered Families	1620
Number of Anointings	39
Number of Communion Calls	200
Marriages	12
Deaths	30
Baptisms (all ages)	33
Confirmations	59
1st Reconciliation	36
1st Eucharist	53
RCIA	13
Religious Education Students	180
Preschool Students	34
Full Time Employees	16
Part Time Employees	4
Number of Volunteers	365
Number of Ministries	38
Charity and Development Appeal	
Goal: \$285,000 Actual: \$303,500	













# FAITH FORMATION

By David Lins, Director of Faith Formation

The Faith Formation Department faced a particularly challenging time between July 1st, 2020 and June 30th, 2021, as a pandemic which was originally thought to last two weeks (to flatten the curve) rolled into its second year. In an environment where few families agreed upon the proper level of caution, developing programming that met every member of a parish's expectations was impossible.

At the elementary level, Sr. Mary Eileen and our new Coordinator of Children's Catechesis, Anna Dice spearheaded a high-effort, high-reward program that sent packages home with emailed directions that aided in the parents – who are called to be the primary catechists of their children under normal circumstances – teaching at-home lesson plans. (Think of these packages kind of like the religious education equivalent of popular pre-packaged dinner companies like HelloFresh.)

Sacraments were celebrated in smaller batches than usual, and with only the necessary Godparents, sponsors, and/or family members present. But despite the unique challenges, almost as many children received sacraments as in a typical year.

At the middle school and high school levels, our new Coordinator of Youth Ministries joined our team and slowly began welcoming back inperson youth ministry. Instead of the typical programming, the youth were welcomed back with smaller-scale and more casual prayer nights and Bible studies (usually with 10-15 attendees). The outdoors were also utilized as often as possible for social activities to mitigate parental concerns.

The Lenten Parish Mission went online and was viewed 567 times on YouTube, as well as through our Parish website.

The Rite of Christian Initiation went entirely to a one-on-one model where David personally met with each candidate (about 10) – either in-person or virtually – whichever the individual was most comfortable with. While this dramatically increased hours spent on the program overall, it was a temporary necessity to ensure continued conversion opportunities for those wishing to join the Faith or complete their sacraments of initiation.

While one or two adult ministries were forced to take a short hiatus, most shifted to virtual formats before eventually morphing into hybrid programs for a time. Several programs made use of the parish's Formed. org subscription with about 15 attendees each), where participants would watch a video series in their home, before discussing each episode virtually. Another example was the Monday morning Scripture study that emailed transcripts of lessons to 15-20 participants and would meet at an assigned time to discuss what stood out to each participant.

As spring passed, the summer returned, and vaccinations became readily available for all those who wished to receive them, our courses returned to our parish campus. That Man is You! men's ministry resumed with roughly 30 participants per week, while Endow reached almost the same number for the ladies of the parish (though split into smaller groups).

Our Lady of Joy looks forward with optimism toward a year that will continue to move us back toward a vibrant, bustling parish campus where everyone – from small children to senior citizens – feel not only safe, but spiritually fed.





## PRESCHOOL

By Jessica Snook, Director of Preschool

Our Lady of Joy Preschool, located on the south side of our campus behind the church and parish hall, has been teaching children since 1991. Our preschool teaches children ages 3-5 years old in a faith-filled academic setting featuring small class sizes and excellent teachers. We have two preschool classes and two PreK classes that have approximately 8-10 students in each class. The 2020-2021 school year presented unique challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and our school community worked as a team to create the safest and best early childhood learning environment for our children.

All Catholic schools were closed by the diocese because of the pandemic in March 2020 and although we did not have virtual learning or physical classes, our school community communicated through emails and our social media platforms. Bishop Olmsted passionately communicated to our Catholic school families that the pandemic offered a time to grow stronger as Catholic families and focus our Catholic faith. Throughout the summer months of July and June 2020, our staff and teachers planned for a reopening of the preschool in August 2020. Our plan to keep students and staff healthy and safe was successful, resulting in no reports of teachers or students with the virus during the 2020-2021 school year.

The success of the 2020-2021 school year was the result of a team effort where our preschool families and staff worked hand in hand to keep our school healthy. Our staff wore masks, created pods for the classrooms and increased cleaning practices, to name a few of the strategies employed. After each recess, the outdoor playground, tricycles and balls were sterilized, and a top of the line electrostatic machine was used to clean the classrooms each evening. Our treasured preschool annual events such as Trunk or Treat and Breakfast with St. Nick were cancelled and instead were celebrated in the classroom with the students. Additionally, each classroom had separate arrival and dismissal doors that saved parents time and reduced traffic in the school parking lot something that we still incorporate into our daily procedures. The 2020-2021 school year was certainly unique and our preschool community grew stronger in our efforts to keep our children healthy and safe during the pandemic. We are grateful for the support of Father Jess Ty, Bishop Olmsted and the Catholic Schools Office during this time.



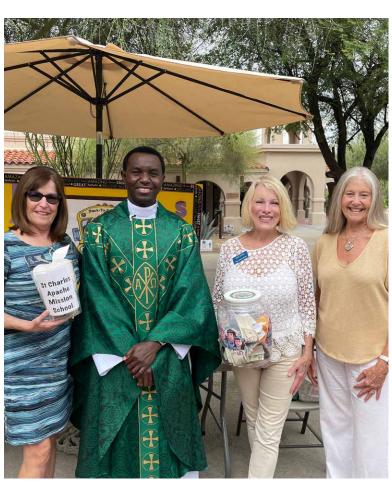






# PARISH OUTREACH

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021		
Holy Land	\$3,302.00	
Religious Retirement	\$2,512.50	
Priest Discretionary Fund	\$7,850.00	
Lenten Project: Aid to Women	\$8,988.24	
Lenten Project: First Way Pregnancy Center	\$4,229.76	
Advent Project: St. Agnes Catholic School	\$20,960.61	
Advent Project: St. Charles Apache Mission School	\$13,995.49	
St. Joseph Catholic Parish	\$5,000.00	
Parish Outreach	\$30,981.00	
Building Fund	\$80,814.88	
Memorial Gift	\$400.00	
Total Donations	\$179,034.48	









# PARISH SOCIAL STRATEGIES

By Katherine Lahera, Audio/Visual & Social Media Coordinator

### LIVE STREAMED MASSES AND EVENTS

During July of 2021 until Christmas season of 2020, Our Lady of Joy Live Streamed three masses every weekend for home viewing. We also streamed masses live into the Parish Hall owing to the reduced capacity of the church. The spacious hall setting gave many parishioners the confidence to transition back into in-person masses and events.

At the height of the pandemic, we continued to Live Stream two masses every weekend and also Live Streamed all our special event masses during the period of dispensation granted by Bishop Olmsted. Between July 2020 and June 2021, we had 80-150 viewers on each Live Stream. Our most popular streamed masses were Saturday Vigil Masses and our Christmas Masses of 2020.









### **OLOJ STARTED A YOUTUBE CHANNEL!**

Our YouTube Channel featured Sunday Masses, Virtual Retreats, Music Performances, Fun Facts Videos, Campus Tours, Coffee & Chats Series, and Weekly Messages from our priests at Our Lady of Joy.

Our virtual communication from July of 2020 to June of 2021 included virtual retreats, weekly messages of hope and information from our parish priests, online classes and fun informational videos!

A fun video with our parish priests about the importance of masking during mass!

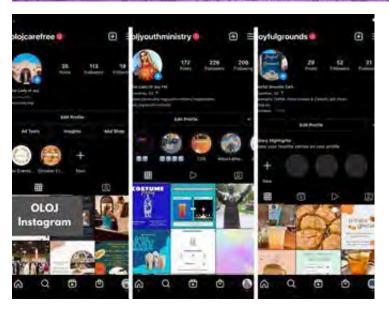
A virtual Lenten Retreat from David Lins, our Faith Formation Director.





# PARISH SOCIAL STRATEGIES

By Katherine Lahera, Audio/Visual & Social Media Coordinator





Our Facebook page reached 16,234 people in 2019 and increased that reach to over 79,529 people in 2020 and 2021. That means in two years our Facebook has been more active than ever starting in June of 2020. The OLOJ Facebook page is actively used for evangelization efforts and provides consistent communication with our Parishioners.

Our three separate Instagram accounts are also used to communicate with parishioners by sharing weekly updates, Catholic Inspiration and fun pictures from recent special events. These three accounts collectively reach 391 people.





JOYFUL GROUNDS CAFE & A NEW GIFT & BOOK SHOP OFFICIALLY OPENED THEIR DOORS IN FEBRUARY 2021!

With online training options and a dedicated staff, Joyful Grounds Cafe and our Gift & Book Shop were able to open during the pandemic and have continued to be popular with parishioners.



### **ALPHA**

Alpha is a unique ministry that has been brought to Our Lady of Joy Campus! Alpha is a discussion group that meets for 8 weeks in Joyful Grounds Cafe and is specially designed to welcome those who have no faith or have fallen away from the Church. In 2020 and 2021 Alpha had approximately 10 participants who gathered on Thursday nights in the Joyful Grounds Cafe where they shared a meal and talked about Jesus!



# FAMILY MINISTRY

By Sr. Mary Eileen Jewel, PVMI

Family Ministry at Our Lady of Joy seeks to create a supportive environment for families with children to grow in faith and fellowship, build up Catholic culture, and find a second home in the parish church. We strive to meet the real needs of families and to promote new friendships among our participants.

Owing to the precautions associated with Covid-19, our Family Ministry ceased in-person operations and began offering home-based family catechesis to our families. We wrote our own program and delivered 650 family ministry boxes over 10 months to our parish families (with the help of volunteers) with all the lessons, family activities, and supplies needed for the month. Many families began or increased family prayer due to the emphasis on building a home family prayer altar. We used the "spiral method" where the same doctrine is covered at different ages levels. Once a month, we had a Zoom call with the parents to explain the lessons and offer support. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd religious education program was offered in-person once a week for ages 3-6 for any families who desired to participate. We also organized retreats in the spring for those receiving sacraments with both in-person and an online options.













# YOUTH MINISTRY

By Madyson Mooradian, Youth Ministry Coordinator

### **LIFE TEEN & EDGE FALL 2020**

Our Lady of Joy Youth Ministry continued to meet both in person and virtually for the Fall of 2020. In the tail end of the pandemic, many families and teens needed both virtual and in-person options in order to participate and many families also continued to ease back into extracurricular activities slowly throughout the year. The online program options gave those families opportunities for community while keeping their vulnerable family members safe.



EDGE, our program for middle school students, met weekly through Zoom for a variety of bible studies and hot topic discussion groups

with about five to seven teens participating. Our high school youth group, Life Teen, met outdoors on Sunday nights in groups of four with about 10 teens participating each session.

We also sent supplies home to them so they always could participate with crafts or prayerful activities.

As our families became more comfortable with in-person events, Life Teen and EDGE hosted various outdoor and socially distanced events in the Fall of 2020. EDGE had a socially distanced game night, Life Teen had their annual Outdoor Scary Movie Night and a socially distanced Family Movie Night in the Parish Hall.

LifeTeen was able to have their annual Outdoor Scary Movie night with 15 teens in attendance.







The teens were very grateful to have their Friendsgiving Potluck outside. This was one of the first times they had seen each other in person since the pandemic! All 19 of our registered LifeTeen teens were in attendance that night!

EDGE had a socially distant-themed game night in the Parish Hall. All 10 of our registered EDGE kids were in attendance.

Our Family Movie Night in the Parish Hall was a hit for the families desiring a sense of community during this difficult time. Families could RSVP for a sectioned off spot in the Hall so they could enjoy the Catholic movie, Fatima, without their masks on. Free popcorn and soda were

served by our Life Teen teens. We had 18 people in attendance.

Fr. Kurt Perera and our Youth Ministry Coordinator weekly by going live on social media to connect with Teens during the quarantine period of 2020. We did Q&A Sessions, Tours of the Rectory, cooking challenges and hot topic discussions weekly. We had more than 30 viewers each time we went live on Instagram Facebook.













Blind food test with Fr. Kurt & Katherine 81 views - 1 year ago





# YOUTH MINISTRY

By Madyson Mooradian, Youth Ministry Coordinator

### **LIFE TEEN & EDGE SPRING 2021**

In February of 2021, Madysen Mooradian was hired as the new coordinator of youth ministries. She spent her first month learning about parish operations before re-launching EDGE and Life Teen.

Kickoff events for Edge and Life Teen were held in late February 2021. The Edge Kickoff was a color powder war. About 15 middle school students were in attendance.

Twelve high school students attended a Trivia Night for the Life Teen Kickoff.

Over the course of the spring semester, the participation numbers for our youth groups varied as participants continued to experience the social impact of the pandemic. We met weekly for both programs. Edge met Wednesdays from 5:30-7 pm and Life Teen met Sundays from 5-6:30 pm. Discussion topics and activities included a Lenten series, Lectio Divina with Dutch Bros coffee, dodgeball, and teaching sessions about Catholic saints.

On Thursday afternoons Mady and a Core Team member attended lunch at Notre Dame Preparatory where they led a Bible Study for both lunch periods with Fr. Kurt and the youth minister from St. Bernard of Clairvaux. This effort has proven to be a successful evangelization outreach that promotes a bond between the parish and the high school.

Our summer programming launched in May 2021 and went through July 2021. Every Wednesday morning, we offered our always popular "Pancakes and Jesus". This began with 8 am daily Mass and lasted until 11/11:30. Both middle school and high school students came to eat breakfast and play games. Consistently we had anywhere from 8-15 students at these events.











On June 2, 2021 we partnered with St. Bernard of Clairvaux Life Teen to put on a day-long retreat in Sedona. We had nine teens attend this event. Notre Dame Prep loaned us a small bus for the drive north. We began the day at the Chapel of the Holy Cross and then enjoyed a short hike where Fr. Kurt said Mass on the trail. We also visited a swimming hole and ate dinner before returning to Phoenix. The theme of the retreat was "verso l'alto," which means "to the heights" in

Italian. Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was the patron of this retreat and the one who coined this phrase.

During the summer of 2021 we repainted part of the Teen Center and put up new artwork to create a more Catholic environment.

On June 6-9, 2021 Mady and a Core Team member attended the Catholic Youth Ministry Convention in Scottsdale organized by Life Teen. These four days were packed with information, talks, and ways to improve the youth ministry program.

We are very proud of the students and parents who persevered during the pandemic as we sought to find creative solutions so that the Our Lady of Joy Youth Ministry could continue to thrive!











# OUR LADY'S GUILD

By Kathleen Fulton, Our Lady's Guild President



Our Lady's Guild of Our Lady of Joy Catholic Community is dedicated to living Catholic values through prayer and action. More than 165 parish women with a myriad of backgrounds become one in their Guild Sisterhood. Several interest groups offer opportunities for personal growth, including our Book Club, Hiking Group, and Exercise Group. Social interaction is also encouraged with our Breakfast Bunch, Finer Diners and Sister-to-Sister groups.

We are united when working together for charitable causes. The Guild's Annual Christmas Bazaar held in November, 2020 contributed funds to Our Lady of Joy Parish despite limitations dictated by the Covid virus.

Our Outreach Program includes the Guild Craft Angels whose activities are also noted below. Through our Sister-to-Sister program our members support each other in times of physical and emotional challenges and celebrate victories together. The Guild recently instituted a new ministry called 'Our Lady's Angels' for our Guild Sisters who need assistance during a medical/family situation for hot meal delivery, transportation to/from medical appointment, pick-up/delivery of prescription, etc. We also have an e-card ministry and a prayer warriors group.

The Guild also serves our parish by facilitating OLOJ projects, including the Back-to-School Drive for students at St. Charles Apache Mission School on San Carlos Reservation, the Annual Lenten Project providing goods and funds to the First Way Pregnancy Center in Phoenix and the Aid to Women in Tempe, and the annual Christmas Mission for students at the St. Charles Apache School and the St. Agnes Catholic School in Phoenix. We also support the parish's Family Ministry for their Religious Education classes.

Our spiritual strength is the result of shared prayer through Mass, monthly General Meetings and programs, the Guild-sponsored OLOJ Prayer e-chain, and our Sister-to-Sister prayer requests as well as other opportunities for individual and communal spiritual growth. Together we work, pray, laugh and even cry.

### SUMMARY OF GUILD CRAFT ANGELS' PROJECTS

Our Lady's Guild Craft Angels engage in projects for the parish community as well as for the community-at-large. This group continues to take pride in their service projects included nursing home residents and homebound members of our immediate community to receive cards and "goody bags" during the year.

During this fiscal year, the Craft Angels have:

**Collected** personal-size soap, hair/personal products, razors, combs, playing cards, perfume, jewelry and clothing to make "goody bags" and meet other needs.

**Donated** Welcome Baskets to UMOM, "goody bags" and women's clothes to SVDP, Welcome Baskets and kids' "goody bags" to My Sister's Place (safe haven for women and their families impacted by domestic violence), and "goody bags" for the homeless women and men at the Ozanam Center.

**Served** Our Lady of Joy's Family Ministry religious education, American Veterans by creating hundreds of Honor Star Packets, OLOJ homebound parishioners and Foothills Caring Corps by decorating and making Christmas cards, families of NICU newborns by crafting simple scrapbook pages for photos, and many others in need with personal products in "goody bags" and cheery potpourri bags.

**Traveled** to Scottsdale to take a tour of the NICU at Honor Health/ Shea, to Carefree to assist with the Veterans 3-Miler walk/run, Mesa to package food for children globally through Feed My Starving Children and Phoenix to pack toiletries, etc. for the Shoe Box Ministries.

GUILD OUTREACH GRANT AWARDS		
OLOJ for Baptism Bibs	\$309.28	
Our Lady of Joy Church Holiday Bazaar 2020	\$6,656.59	
Our Lady of Joy Church	\$5,000.00	
Craft Angels	\$490.95	
OLOJ Staff	\$400.00	
Youth Ministry	\$1,000.00	
Family Ministry	\$2,000.00	
TOTAL	\$15,856.82	

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

By Richard Maes, Grand Knight

The Knights of Columbus are an organization of Catholic men dedicated to Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Founded in 1882 by the blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney and a small group of laymen in New Haven, CT the Knights have grown to be one of the largest fraternal beneficial organizations in the world. They are now known as "The Strong Right Arm of the Church" for their spirited defense of the faith and their numerous acts to support the church and those less fortunate.

The Knights at Our Lady of Joy are an active, visible group who are involved in every area of parish life. Many of the Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, ushers, choir members and parish committee members proudly call themselves Knights, as do Fr. Jess and Fr. Clement.

Perhaps nothing is more important to the Knights at Our Lady of Joy than their service work that supports local religious and youth organizations, Catholic Education, vocations, veterans, first responders, feeding the poor, and providing aid to the disabled. Our Golf Fore Charity event, Lenten fish dinners, Tootsie Roll sale and other events improve the lives of others.

All practical Catholic men over the age of 18 are welcome to become one of "These Men We Call Knights."

OUR GOOD WORKS 2020-2021		
Aid to Disabled	\$750	
Catholic Education	\$10,250	
Culture of Life	\$855	
Family Aid and Food	\$30,000	
Pro-Life and Women's Center	\$19,000	
Religious	\$19,250	
Veterans & First Responders	\$3,000	
Youth	\$1,458	
TOTAL	\$84,563	







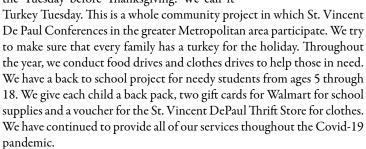


# ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

By Douglas Rea, St. Vincent de Paul Coordinator

Poverty never takes a vacation. Even during a pandemic year. That is why the Our Lady of Joy Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is on call every day of the year. Although we suspended our home visits during 2020 in lieu of telephone assistance, we have gradually restarted them again in 2021, but under strict Covid guidelines. We carry on our work through the donations of our very generous parishioners, who responded to the special needs of this year with increased monetary, food, and clothing donations.

In order to be the most effective and preserve every person's dignity we keep our financial assistance confidential. We help pay utility bills during the hot summers when some of our local families can't afford the extra expense. We help with unexpected medical and dental bills that have gotten to be a burden on people living on a fixed income. We help with car repairs and replacing tires to help people who have no financial means to get these things and are dependent on them for transportation to and from work. Sometimes they just need a full tank of gas at the end of their month and their money. Sometimes, people find themselves in a situation where they can't pay their rent for a month or two, usually when they are temporarily out of a job. We pay rents! We have a special food drive the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. We call it



Our Founder, Frederic Ozanam stated, "No act of charity is foreign to our society." We abide by this whole-heartedly and do a variety of things to help our people get back on their feet and back in a good place in their lives. But we are so much more than a charity. We are "Christ- bearers" to people who have financial needs beyond their ability to pay. We bear the love, light and message of our Lord and Savior to the people we serve. We pray with them, encourage them and many times leave them with a Bible or a rosary or other religious objects as well as being understanding hearts, feeding hands and friends of the poor financially.





# Society of St. Vincent De Paul Our Lady of Joy Conference Donations Received: \$127,850 Client Aid expended: \$43,356 Aid to other Phoenix conferences: \$26,923 Aid to foreign conferences: \$2,000 District 11 dues: \$11,685 St. Vincent De Paul endowment fund: \$10,210 Operational expenses: \$1,293 Home visits: \$103 Clients served: \$115 Total hours of service: \$19,916

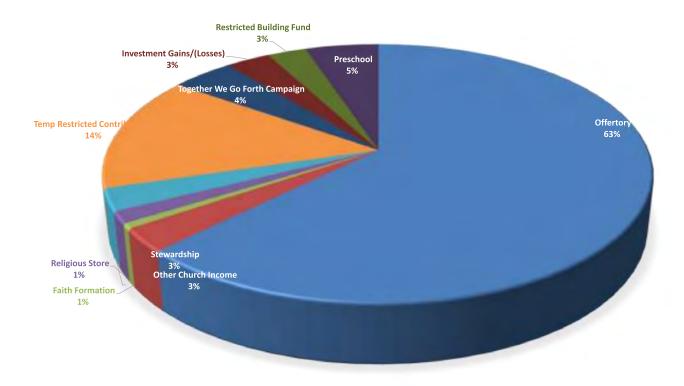
And most importantly, we are a Vincentian family who grows together spiritually through our work, our fellowship, and the Spirituality we incorporate into our meetings. We meet two Fridays a month. While at the beginning of the year we convened through ZOOM, we have resumed meeting in person at 1:00 PM in the Parish Hall. And are always looking for new individuals to join our conference. We invite you to join us!

# PARISH INCOME

By Laura Hicks, Director of Parish Operations

### **Parish Income**

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021



### **Parish Operating Income**

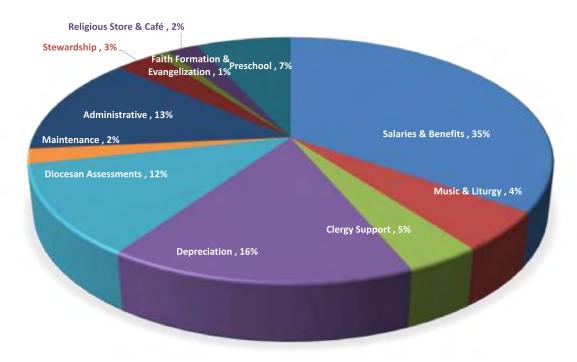
Total Income	2.682.237	
Preschool	137,189	5%
Restricted Building Fund	72,287	3%
Investment Gains/(Losses)	82,881	3%
Together We Go Forth Campaign	116,000	4%
Temp Restricted Contributions	387,706	14%
Other Church Income	73,701	3%
Religious Store	39,826	1%
Faith Formation	17,225	1%
Stewardship	77,829	3%
Offertory	1,677,593	63%
<b> 3</b>		

From Diocese 2021 EOY Financial Reporting

# PARISH OPERATING EXPENSES

By Laura Hicks, Director of Parish Operations

# Parish Operating Expenses Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021



Parish	Operating I	Income

TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES	2,346,552	
Preschool	164,597	7%
Religious Store & Café	53,373	2%
Evangelization	21,793	1%
Faith Formation &		
Stewardship	76,550	3%
Administrative	304,919	13%
Maintenance	46,267	2%
Diocesan Assessments	279,911	12%
Depreciation	375,218	16%
Music & Liturgy	91,950	4%
Clergy Support	121,252	5%
Salaries & Benefits	810,722	35%
-		

From Diocese 2021 EOY Financial Reporting

