

OUR LADY *of Joy*
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



STEWARDSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2017- JUNE 30, 2018

A LETTER FROM FATHER JESS

Dear Family of God,

I am pleased to present the 2017-2018 Stewardship Annual Report. The report highlights the important work accomplished by 550 volunteers whose work spans 47 ministries, committees, programs and services touching the lives of many of God's children and families. I thank you for answering God's call to serve your church by giving unselfishly of your time, talent and treasure. It is by loving one another and acting on this love that we can spread the good news of the Gospel and bring people closer to God.

As we enjoy the beautifully renovated church, completed in December of 2017, I again extend my gratitude to all who were involved in this worthy project. The culmination of the renovation was the Bishop Olmsted's visit and special Mass to bless our new permanent altar and the relics within. The renovation was the direct result of your generous donations and our gift from the William G. Poortvliet Family Trust.

Our Social Outreach Committee, with your generous support, was able to improve the lives of so many in our diocese. We purchased new cafeteria tables and chairs for the children at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School, we made substantial facility improvements to St. Michael's Parish in Gila Bend and we provided new chairs and desks for students at St. Agnes School in Phoenix.

Thank you for continuing to serve the Lord and Our Lady of Joy by your untiring support, your presence and worship-offering. I am grateful to God for the support you have shown me through the years. May God Bless you and your loved ones abundantly.

In Christ, through Mary,



Fr. Jess Ty

MISSION STATEMENT

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



PASTORAL REPORT

Registered Families	1705
Number of Anointings	452
Number of Communion Calls	1725
Marriages	10
Deaths	21
Baptisms (all ages)	40
Confirmations	28
1st Reconciliation	19
1st Eucharist	27
RCIA	1
Religious Education Students	102
Preschool Students	41
Full Time Employees	15
Part Time Employees	5
Number of Volunteers	550
Number of Ministries	40
Charity and Development Appeal	
Goal: \$285,000 Actual: \$333,284	





FAITH FORMATION

“The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: only he can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.”
- Saint Pope John Paul II, Catechesis in Our Time

Following the direction of our beloved Saint Pope John Paul II, the Faith Formation Department of Our Lady of Joy aims to help our parishioners experience the love and friendship of Jesus Christ in a wide variety of ways!

During our past year, we have welcomed 24 new infants into the life of the Trinity through baptism. The parents of the baptized infants participate in a baptism class that teaches about the sacrament, the roles of parents and Godparents, and describes resources the parish provides going forward. Vacation Bible School was also provided for our families. VBS got Ship Wrecked and Jesus was our only hope of rescue. The VBS team consisted of Faith Formation staff, parents, and amazing teenage volunteers. Each day included Mass, games, snack time, singing, and skits.

During the school year, children’s Faith Formation meetings took place on Wednesday evenings. During the past year, we had 72 children in this ministry. 42 of those children received the Sacrament of Confirmation and 40 received First Eucharist. We also provided teaching Masses, describing the purpose for every part of the liturgy.

Our Junior High program, EDGE, also meets on Wednesday nights in the Teen Center and is a vibrant and exciting space for youth in 6th, 7th or 8th grade to come to experience Christ while spending time in fellowship. It is a room full of junior high youth who want to be there; who come to share their stories and the way Christ is moving in their lives. EDGE is a wonderful place for youth to come ask life’s tough questions and make good relationships centered on Christ.

Life Teen, our program for high school youth, kicked off a 4PM Teen Mass that welcomes young people and their families to participate in the Liturgy with serving opportunities, homilies geared toward teens and contemporary music. Life Nights happen every Sunday after the 4:00pm Mass in the Teen Center. Other opportunities included nights of worship, movie nights, a car wash, and community service nights. The high school teens took three trips this year: a fall retreat in northern Arizona where the teens had opportunities to hear testimonies and encounter Christ in the Eucharist. They attended the Diocesan Multi Parish Retreat in the spring, where they got to spend a weekend with other teens from the Diocese all gathered in their love of Christ. They also went to the Steubenville West conference along with thousands of young people from throughout the Southwest.

For adults, the opportunities are endless. Monday mornings, parishioners watch and discuss a video from Dr. Brant Pitre that gives them a deeper understanding of the approaching Sunday’s readings. On Thursday evenings, RCIA gathers to aid those interested in joining the Catholic Faith or receiving additional sacraments on their journey. On Friday mornings, men of the parish join together for That Man is You! Also, Friday mornings are the home of our Church History classes that run several times a year. Saturday mornings, a Bible Study that tends to tackle a single book or topic at a time gathers. Additionally, ENDOW groups for women currently have three groups that meet at various times. Finally, we have multiple Small Christian Communities that meet in parishioner’s home on a weekly basis. We also provide missions for the parish each Lent and Advent.



PRESCHOOL



Our Lady of Joy Catholic Preschool is located on parish grounds, just west of the church and has been in operation since 1991. We teach children ages 3-5 years old in a faith-filled, caring and safe learning environment. Last school year, 2017, we had 43 students enrolled in preschool and pre-kindergarten classes. We also had our largest graduating class of 25 students.



Using an integrated thematic approach, weekly themes and daily activities are provided to help foster Catholic identity, social and emotional development, cognitive skills and creativity. Our teachers use the Zoophonics and Handwriting without Tears program to teach literacy and proper handwriting skills. We develop our students to be strong beginning readers, math whizzes and young scientists. Lessons and conversations are extended at home with the great communication from our teachers and preschool parents.

We are very blessed to have the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at Our Lady of Joy Preschool. This unique faith formation program teaches the Catholic faith at a young learner level with small alters, baptismal fonts and parables. The students visit the Atrium once a week for an hour and fifteen minutes. It is truly a wonderful place to learn our faith.

The Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Joy have been extremely generous in their financial support of their parish preschool. Their donations have allowed the Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund to provide multiple families with tuition assistance. In addition, many generous parishioners have donated funds for classroom activities and supplies.

Preschool classes start at 9:00 a.m. and dismissal is at 2:15 p.m. On August 18th, 2017 we celebrated our annual Meet the Teacher Night and welcomed our new and returning students with great excitement. Each classroom provides a safe and caring surrounding that allows each student to grow confidently, spiritually and academically. Many of our preschools students attend our Catholic feeder schools such as Annunciation Catholic School and St. John XXIII elementary schools.



We are fortunate to have preschool families from the St. Rose, St. Gabriel's and Our Lady of Joy church communities. This unity fosters a strong focus on our Catholic faith and families. Our families have shared with us that OLOJ is not just a preschool, but a preschool family. We are very blessed to have each of our families and are honored to be with them in their journey through early childhood education and faith formation.

PARISH OUTREACH COMMITTEE

In 2001, Our Lady of Joy became a Stewardship Parish. One significant result of this decision was to put aside a percentage of plate collections to be used as Outreach funds and to establish a Parish Outreach Committee to oversee these funds. The Parish Outreach Committee identifies, evaluates, and provides assistance to underfunded Catholic organizations within the Diocese of Phoenix.

The Parish Outreach Committee along with our Pastor identifies, evaluates and provides assistance, where possible, to Catholic organizations serving the needy within the Diocese of Phoenix. The Committee's main obligation is to focus on the underfunded needs of Catholic institutions and organizations serving the Diocese of Phoenix. Guidelines require the Pastor's review and authorization. Additionally, the Pastor may direct funding as unforeseen needs emerge.



The Committee will typically consider requests for assistance for project materials, labor, or specific items supporting a needed improvement or repair. Requests for supporting and organization's general fund are not considered.

2017-2018 OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

- \$58,000 awarded in 2017-2018
- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Tempe, \$20,000: Our donation was used to buy tables and chairs for the cafeteria. The chairs had become worn and buckled and were a huge safety concern. Now, 380 students are benefitting from new tables chairs used for lunch and after-school programs.
- St. Michael's Parish in Gila Bend, \$12,000: Our donation was used to paint the entire Rectory and for new parish flooring, red carpet for special occasions, holy water font, music stands, hymn board, candles, printer and monitors for their organ. This small parish has 300 registered families, week plate collection averaging \$350, about 60 parishioners per Mass, and has a new Pastor after 12 years without one.
- St. Agnes Catholic School in Phoenix, \$9,000: Our donation was used to by desks and chairs for grades 5 through 8. The students had been sitting in desks that were too small for them including some that were broken and dangerous to use. Principal Christine Tax stated, "Our older children now have a safe, clean learning space which enables them to participate in a cooperative environment."





ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. We call it Turkey Tuesday. This is a whole community project in which St. Vincent De Paul Conferences in the greater Metropolitan area participate. We try to make sure that every family has a turkey for the holiday. We use the food donations and money to fill needy family's pantry in order to supplement them for the next few months. In addition, we pay for some local families to get food supplies at the Foothills Food Bank. We have a back to school project for needy students from ages 5 through 18. We give each child a back pack, two gift cards for Walmart for school supplies and a voucher for the St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store for clothes.

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.

And most importantly, we are a Vincentian family who grow together spiritually through our work, our fellowship and the Spirituality we put into our meetings. We are always looking for new brothers and sisters to join the family. We meet two Fridays a month at 1:00 pm in the Teen Center for general meetings. Please feel free to come join us!



Poverty never takes a vacation! That is why at the Our Lady of Joy Conference of the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, we are on call every day all year long. We are here to help! Whether it is to give bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty or clothe those who are in need, we bring whatever aid we can to fit whatever need is pressing for those who call on us. We carry on our work through the donations of our very

generous parishioners here at Our Lady of Joy Parish. Our corner of the world is a better place because we are here to help when the need arises.

Our parishioners make this all possible!

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

Society of St. Vincent De Paul Our Lady of Joy Conference

Donations Received:	\$89,613
Client Aid expended:	\$36,340
Aid to other Phoenix conferences:	\$38,653
Aid to foreign conferences:	\$500
District 11 dues:	\$8,529
St. Vincent De Paul endowment fund:	\$1,887
Operational expenses:	\$679
Home visits:	48
Clients served:	145
Total hours of service:	3,423

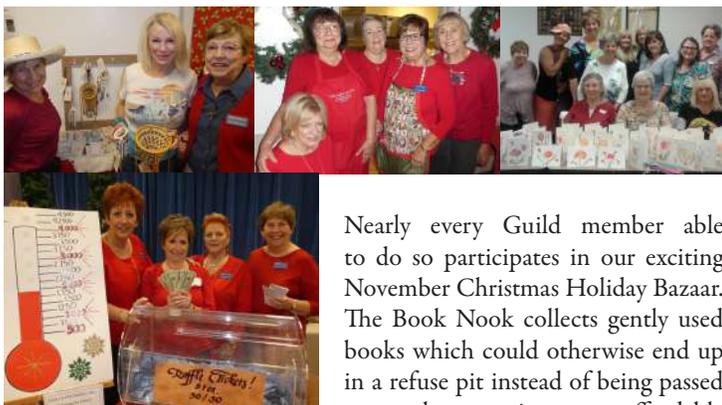
OUR LADY'S GUILD

Our Lady's Guild is a group of diverse, active, caring, Catholic women. We praise God through our many opportunities for good works, prayer, and communal laughter.

Our General Guild Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of most months begins with casual conversation and coffee after 8 a.m. Mass. The business meeting begins at 9 a.m. followed by a program which might feature an interesting presentation or fun event. We end with an optional delicious lunch.

The Guild also offers interest groups, including Book Club, Finer Diners, Garden Gals Hiking, and Theater Group, providing members opportunities to pursue specific interests with like-minded ladies.

Outreach is an important aspect of *Our Lady's Guild*. Spiritually, we participate in a voluntary prayer e-chain and send inspirational cards and offer Masses as appropriate. Meetings begin with a prayer composed by Fr. Herb Hauck, former OLG Spiritual Advisor and end with The Memorare of St. Bernard. Our members are encouraged to put stewardship in action. Guild Craft Angels meet on the last Tuesday of every month to work as a group or individually on a variety of outreach projects, such as creating cheery greeting cards for shut-ins, painting acrylic crosses for those living in shelters, scrapbook pages for at-risk newborns, and personal packs utilizing donated hotel-size items for the homeless, or working on other projects. Materials are provided and no experience is required. The Guild recently launched a Sister-to-Sister program offering our members an opportunity for stewardship within our group by helping help each other during times of emotional or physical challenges. Our Outreach Program offers financial support to groups serving those in need, especially women and/or children, preferably local grassroots efforts where we know our donation will have an impact. This would not be possible without our Annual Christmas Holiday Bazaar.



Nearly every Guild member able to do so participates in our exciting November Christmas Holiday Bazaar. The Book Nook collects gently used books which could otherwise end up in a refuse pit instead of being passed on to others to enjoy at very affordable prices. Unsold books are re-gifted to

non-profit organizations. Cooks and servers at The Corner Café prepare delicious meals. If you are looking for dessert you can't miss the Sweets & Treats room filled with homemade delights donated by Guild members and other parishioners. We also feature about 70 vendors offering a variety of interesting wares. As part of our outreach spirit, we invite select non-profit groups as our guests to display items for sale and information about their programs. This event has grown since it began in 2008, but its

purpose and spirit remain the same – to raise funds through communal work and cooperation for the benefit of those in need. The parish center and courtyard are abuzz with joyous noise while preparing for and during the bazaar. The profits from our 2017 *Our Lady's Guild* Annual Holiday Bazaar allowed us the privilege of donating over \$13,000 through our Guild Outreach Program, reflecting hundreds of volunteer hours.



Not included in the financial information, are the annual OLOJ parish projects facilitated by *Our Lady's Guild* raising several thousand dollars in goods and monies for:

- *Back-To-School Drive* benefitting St. Charles K-6 students on the Arizona Apache reservation
- *Christmas Mission* benefitting St. Charles K-6 school and students
- *Lenten Project* benefitting First Way Pregnancy Center in Phoenix and Aid to Women in Tempe

The fire of stewardship which burns within *Our Lady's Guild* also shines bright in the hearts of our members, many of whom personally contribute generously to needy causes within and outside our parish. We are 166 strong and growing, and expect our commitment to stewardship to grow, as well.

OUTREACH DISTRIBUTIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS

\$400	Adopt A Family
\$300	Cactus Shadows High School - grad night
\$300	Feed My Starving Children
\$2,000	Foothills Caring Corps
\$300	Greater Paradise Valley Reading Council
\$800	NICU Scrapbook Program for at-risk newborns
\$98	OLG Craft Angels
\$55	OLOJ Faith Formation
\$1,000	OLOJ Preschool
\$1,155	OLOJ Voluntary Tithing - church flower stand
\$500	Rosaries for our Military
\$1,500	Ryan's Case for Smile
\$1,050	St Charles School on the San Carlos Reservation – grocery gift cards
\$3,200	St Vincent de Paul Dream Center – 8 grants for summer children
\$250	St Vincent de Paul – Thanksgiving dinners
\$150	United Methodist Outreach Ministry – shelters, programs
\$13,058	Total <i>Our Lady's Guild</i> Financial Outreach 2017-2018

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus Council at Our Lady of Joy is an organization of Catholic men dedicated to Fraternity, Faith, Charity and Patriotism. Organized 125 years ago by a small group of laymen and Fr. Michael McGivney 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 of Our Lady of Joy are an active, visible group who are involved in every area of our parish. Many of the Parish’s Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Ushers, Choir members, and Parish Committee members proudly call themselves Knights.

The Knights quietly dedicate themselves to supporting their Parish and local charities from the funds raised in their various activities. Typical beneficiaries include Catholic Education, Seminarians, unwed mothers, food banks, St. Vincent de Paul, veterans groups, the disabled, and others.

All Catholic men over the age of 18 are welcome to become one of these men we call Knights. Come join us and see how our various activities improve the lives of others and enrich ours.



OUR GOOD WORKS 2017-2018	
Culture of Life	\$4,809.00
Catholic Education	\$15,949.00
Aid to Disabled	\$2,551.00
Religious	\$11,962.00
Vocations	\$3,677.00
Food for the Poor	\$2,485.00
Youth	\$2,039.00
Veterans & Military Support	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$43,672.00



PHYSICAL FACILITIES

PARISH CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Church Renovation

In May 2017, Our Lady of Joy began its most recent renovation of the church. The improvements included retiling the floor, painting walls, relocating the choir area, new pews, a state-of-the-art sound system and new religious art. An important component of the project was a redesigned Sanctuary, now the focal point of the church, that includes a permanent Altar Table, Ambo and Altar of Repose. Flanked by shrines of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the larger Sanctuary now comfortably accommodates all of our priests, deacons, clergy and lectors and is ADA compliant.



As the bishop is entrusted with the care of particular churches, it is his responsibility to dedicate to God new altars build in his diocese. Our renovated church formally reopened at a mass on December 10, 2017, with the dedication and blessing of Our Lady of Joy's new marble altar by Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted.

The church renovation project was funded as part of a five year capital improvement budget of \$1.6 million dollars. This budget was established in 2013 from a very generous gift of \$4.2 million dollars. Since 2013, we have completed several projects: parking lot, Adoration Chapel, new roofs on all six buildings, renovation of the Parish Hall Kitchen, replacement of several of our 34 air-conditioning units and, most recently the renovation of the church.



Church Renovation Project Details

- The church had 11 different types of tile flooring, making them impossible to replace. There were also two major cracks running north to south and east to west. The cracks were filled in and leveled and a new, unified tile floor was installed.
- The church's previous sound system was installed 15 years ago and was embedded underneath the cement flooring, making it inaccessible for upgrades or replacement. We received frequent complaints from people in some areas of the church who could not hear the mass. A new sound system was installed to alleviate these problems.
- Many pews were cracked and deteriorating. The particle board could only be repaired so many times before it became unsafe for further use. New pews were installed and our current pews that were salvageable will be incorporated into a renovation project at St. Luke's in Phoenix and OLOJ.
- The choir was moved to an elevated area at the rear of the church, which is the liturgically correct location.
- The Sanctuary was restored to the sacred space it was meant to be by making it the focal point of the church. Three new pieces were to the Sanctuary: a permanent Altar Table, Ambo, and Altar of Repose. The size of the Sanctuary was increased to accommodate our priests, deacons, clergy, lectors, etc. and now includes ADA ramps. The Sanctuary is now flanked by the shrines of Mary and Joseph and new statues of saints were added to the back of the church.
- The current Stations of the Cross were abstract in style and were replaced with new Stations that are harmonious with the mission church theme. The existing Stations were transferred to another church.



PARISH OPERATING EXPENSES

Parish Operating Expenses

Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018



Parish Operating Income

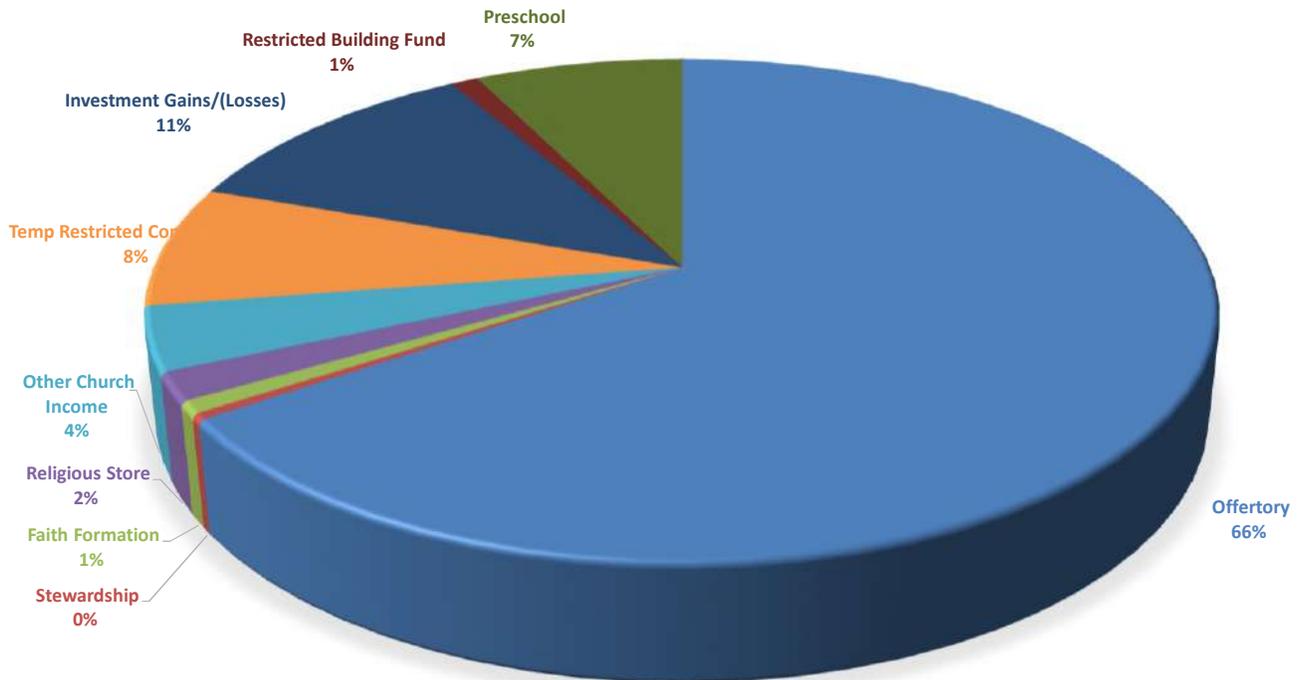
Salaries & Benefits	590,425.69	60%
Clergy Support	122,948.43	13%
Music & Liturgy	139,640.68	14%
Depreciation	126,541.11	13%
Diocesan Assessments	241,745.11	25%
Maintenance	192,302.32	20%
Administrative	244,231.18	25%
Stewardship	93,551.14	10%
Faith Formation	33,529.97	3%
Religious Store	22,921.76	2%
Building Fund Expenses	24,538.77	3%
Preschool	219,047.68	22%
TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES	\$979,361.36	

From Diocese 2018 EOY Financial Reporting

PARISH INCOME

Parish Income

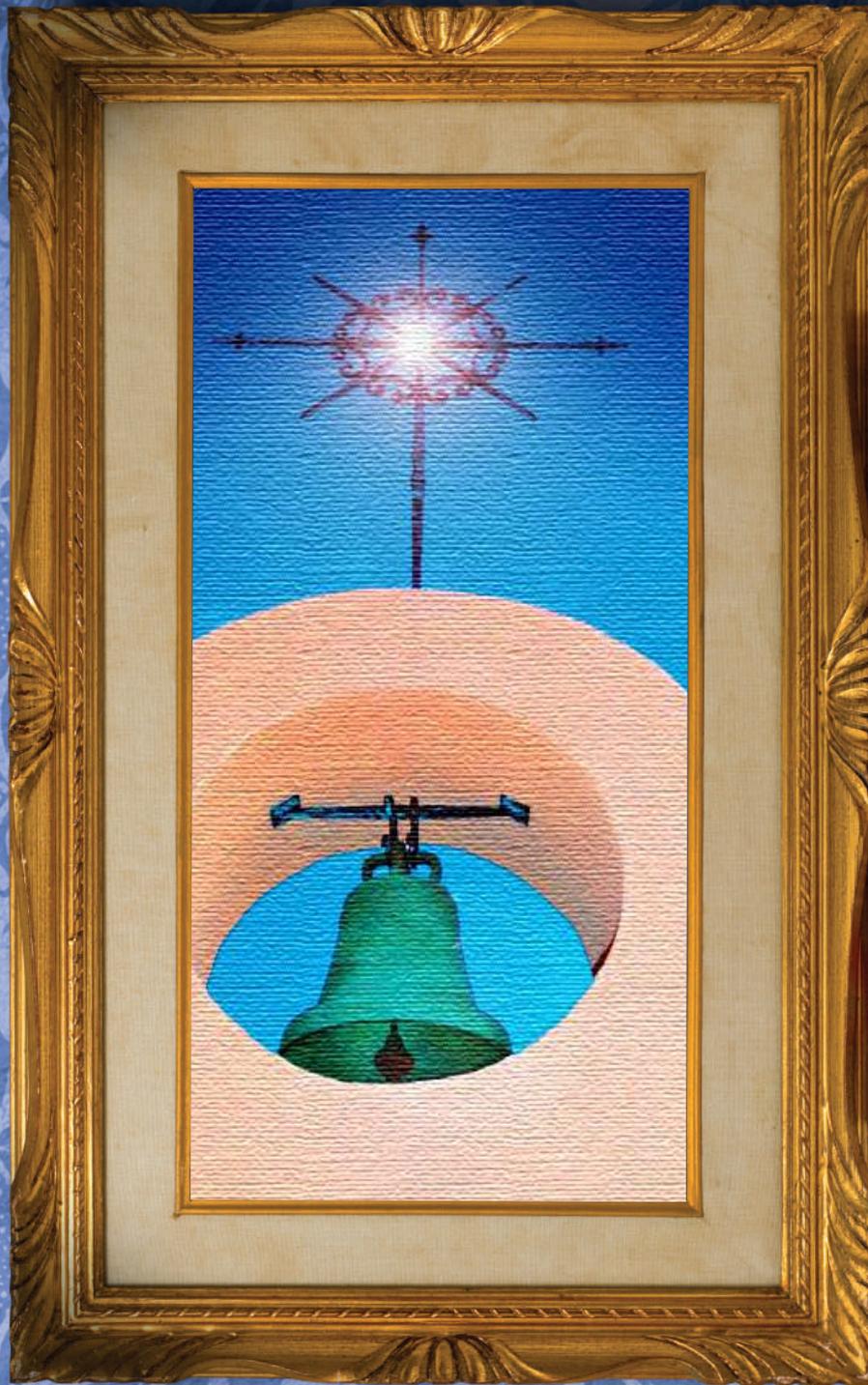
Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018



Parish Operating Income

Offertory	1,555,623.43	65%
Stewardship	9,393.60	0%
Faith Formation	18,982.10	1%
Religious Store	43,433.62	2%
Other Church Income	97,888.15	4%
Temp Restricted Contributions	185,221.55	8%
Investment Gains/(Losses)	267,918.13	11%
Restricted Building Fund	23,027.39	1%
Preschool	175,910.99	7%
Total Income	2,377,398.96	

From Diocese 2018 EOY Financial Reporting



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