



" Come to him . . . and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house . . . "

1 Peter 2:4-5

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year presents an opportunity for us to reflect on where we have come from and where we are going. 2024 was a busy year for our community. We hosted a number of extra events to help deepen our relationship with the Lord and one another. As the living stones Paul encourages us to be, we hosted the Chosen program, a family event called Trinity House, a Parish Mission focused on the Eucharist, and a Corpus Christi procession, just to name a few. We began celebrations for our school's 100th birthday and kicked off our participation in the Saints and Scholars Campaign, which will go a long way in enhancing Catholic Education throughout the diocese. We also installed new windows in the school and replaced the front façade with a framed-in wall. Great things are happening in our parish on which we continue to build on for our future.

I just want to take this opportunity to let you know how grateful I am to be in such a wonderful parish community. I thank the Lord for each of you, and your love for Him and each other. You are a people bearing witness to the light of Christ in the midst of the darkness of our World. You seek the advancement of the Lord's Kingdom by giving cheerfully and generously of your time and resources. I consider myself blessed to be your pastor.

Thank you for all you do, for Christ and His Church! You are faithful servants, and it is a joy to serve with you. I pray that 2025 is filled with God's blessings for each of you and your families, and that you encounter the living God in a new and powerful way, especially here in your parish community.

Fr. Mike

Building up the Kingdom of God

Adult Faith Formation and Christian Initiation of Adults *from Amanda Grigar, Director of Adult Faith Formation*

Over the course of the 2023-24 program year we:

- Welcomed five adults and three children into our parish family at the Easter Vigil, as well as supported them in the various rites throughout the process.
- Continued to accompany those who entered the Church in 2023 during their first year as Catholics.
- Participated in the Parish Year of the National Eucharistic Revival by hosting the Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles; offering a group study of *Presence*, in which we viewed a series of videos on the sacrament of the Eucharist and engaged in fruitful discussion; and welcoming Fr. Matthew Bonk for the Draw Near Parish Mission.
- Offered additional adult formation opportunities, including the *Face to Face with History* presentation and “Quiz the Clergy” question and answer day.

Everything listed is ultimately in support of Our Lord’s directive to “go and make disciples of all nations” (see Matthew 28:19), which has echoed down through the ages and is carried out according to the needs of the time. Christ is always beckoning us to build up His Body, the Church. Everyone can do that in their own unique way, by helping build up our parish community. Some possible ways include: showing others what it means to be a follower of Christ through our words and actions, spending more time with God in prayer, and becoming better equipped to talk about our faith in day-to-day life.

The new Adult Faith Formation Team will be considering Jesus’ directive as we look at how to best meet the diverse needs of adults and begin to implement ideas in the coming months, so be on the lookout for more opportunities to grow with others in faith. I’m looking forward to building with you in the year ahead.

K-12 Religious Education Programs: A Foundation for Flourishing! *from Jen Nelson, Director of Religious Education*

The K-12 Religious Education Programs have begun with classes taking place on Wednesday nights throughout the school year. The programs continue to flourish, thanks to the Grace of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit! Once again, we have fantastic Catechists who so graciously offer their leadership skills and lived faith experiences to the youth of the parish.

Sacramental preparations for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation are also underway this fall. These sacraments are one of the Four Pillars that are implemented in all the religious education curriculums. We are excited to implement a new curriculum (Image of God Series) for our Confirmation students and High School Youth Group.

The foundations of our faith that are taught in the K-12 religious education classes keep us connected and provide the youth a real sense of being and belonging in their Catholic faith. As buildings flourish and change, so does the Religious Education Program, as we join in building up the Kingdom of God here on earth.

St. Joseph Catholic School *from Chris Wells, Principal*

St. Joseph School had a summer of building with a completely new school front. Gone are the thin windows and turquoise panels. In their place, an insulated wall was built with tinted, double-pane windows that will improve our building during the hot and cold seasons. We also replaced all of the windows in the North wing of the school with similar tinted, double-pane windows. Finally, we switched out the windows in the gymnasium for solid insulated coverings.

Our school is also in the building process of implementing a diocesan-wide program from the Institute of Catholic Liberal Education. It builds off of the Catholic traditions of truth, logic, freedom, and critical thinking. We plan to build on Catholic traditions to enhance our future young thinkers.

St. Joseph Parish

Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2024

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash and checking accounts for main operations	\$ 144,137.41	Accounts payable	\$ 224,816.10
Parish savings accounts	1,075,184.41	Accrued payroll expenses	129,182.09
Restricted Gifts savings account	122,444.30	Deferred income	105,920.12
SCRIP assets	22,743.31	Deferred income-school fundraisers	95,327.66
Building Fund savings acct	701,296.51	Prepaid tuition, lunch accounts	7,119.15
Receivables	20,109.97	SCRIP credits	22,743.31
Inventories and prepaid exp.	6,280.20	Total liabilities	585,108.43
		Net Assets	1,507,087.68
Total assets	\$ 2,092,196.11	Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,092,196.11

Financial Activity for the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Church		Scholarships	
Tithing	\$ 1,015,143.06	Donations	\$ 33,864.00
Other income	100,862.47	Scholarships awarded	(13,374.78)
Expenses	(583,515.44)	Net activity	\$ 20,489.22
Net operating activity	532,490.09		
Transfers in	35,311.00	St. Monica Ladies' Auxiliary	
Transfers out	(425.00)	Income	\$ 2,702.00
Net activity	\$ 567,376.09	Expenses	(2,419.36)
		Net activity	\$ 282.64
Faith Formation		SCRIP Tuition Reduction Incentive Program	
Income	\$ 19,631.85	Gross profit on sales	\$ 8,239.84
Expenses	(97,225.22)	Expenses	\$ (474.50)
Net activity	\$ (77,593.37)	Credits for families	\$ 6,176.96
		Profit for school	\$ 1,588.38
Elementary School		Net activity	\$ -
Tuition and fees	\$ 629,442.45	Parent School Council	
Fundraisers	93,116.22	Income	\$ 24,750.98
Other income (including grants)	310,600.36	Expenses	(29,570.47)
Expenses	(1,449,449.27)	Net activity	\$ (4,819.49)
Net activity	\$ (416,290.24)	Boy Scout Troop 72	
Designated and Restricted Gifts		Income	\$ 750.00
Interest earned	\$ 3,376.40	Expenses	(750.06)
Transfers in	\$ 425.00	Net activity	\$ (0.06)
Transfers out	(35,311.00)		
Net activity	\$ (31,509.60)	Net all activity	\$ 158,402.45
Building Fund			
Donations and interest income	\$ 415,839.25	Other financial activity: The financial transactions for Clinton County Hispanic Ministry (CCHM) are run through St. Joseph Parish. Of the Net Assets reported above, \$844.50 is CCHM's.	
Expenses	(315,371.99)		
Net activity	\$ 100,467.26		

Sacramental and Other Statistics

Baptisms - 21
First Communions - 24

Confirmations - 25
Anointing of the Sick - 41

Weddings - 4
Funerals - 25

St. Joseph Educational Trust Fund

The St. Joseph Educational Trust Fund was formed in 1984 to generate annual financial support for education programs in St. Joseph Parish. Since its inception, the Trust Fund has provided over \$1.8 million in financial support for St. Joseph School, Religious Formation, and adult faith formation programs.

The Trust Fund endowment is funded by the generosity of the St. Joseph parishioners primarily through blue monthly contribution envelopes and memorial gifts. In 2024, the Trust Fund made an \$80,000 distribution to St. Joseph.

2024 Fiscal Year Annual Report

Balance at July 1, 2023	\$ 887,335
Contributions	38,305
Investment Income (loss)	<u>121,570</u>
Total Income (loss)	159,875
Distributions to St. Joseph	(80,000)
Operating Expenses	<u>(268)</u>
Total Distributions & Expenses	(80,268)
Balance at June 30, 2024	\$ <u>966,942</u>

2024-2025 Trustees

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