

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHALLENGES

This is the second in a series of articles designed to illuminate and promote discussion of important issues regarding the state of our parish.

July 2012 through January 2013 Budget

<u>INCOME</u>	Actual	Budget
Collections	283,341	363,285
Maintenance, etc.	64,468	55,210
Net Interest & Div.	19,695	22,005
Sacrament Services	17,273	17,035
Religious Ed	12,032	13,500
Youth Ministry	4,907	9,210
Other Receipts	30,178	28,972
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>437,832</u>	<u>509,218</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>	Actual	Budget
Clergy Costs	103,804	106,932
Maintenance & Project Exp.	83,209	42,070
Lay Costs	76,701	76,204
Religious Ed	36,559	37,165
Youth Ministry	35,703	33,200
Diocese Assessment	26,805	48,125
Church Expense	23,338	26,625
NDS Subsidy	18,083	18,085
Office Expense	9,292	9,205
Misc.	35,023	37,835
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>448,519</u>	<u>435,447</u>
<u>Net Income</u>	<u>-10,687</u>	<u>73,771</u>

We continue our discussion of St. John's Challenges with a simple review of our 2012-13 Budget, highlighting some important aspects of our income and expenditures. The table on the left presents income and expenditures by categories. The pie charts on the back show these categories as a percent of our total income and expenses. Some of the categories are self explanatory. Others deserve comment

Income

Sunday and holiday collections make up 66% of our income. Online giving has grown to 17.4% of the collection total. Our parish benefits greatly from online giving. It reduces variability in giving, allows for more accurate revenue forecasting and reduces staff time. We hope more parishioners will consider signing up for online giving. Even if online giving is not for you, it is important to St. John's that church-goers register in the parish and use envelopes for giving.

The Maintenance category includes your monthly contributions to our maintenance fund used for parish upkeep and improvements.

St. John's earns Interest Income on the funds held for us by the Diocese. Interest income has fallen in recent years due to the economic downturn. Our parish cannot use this income for operating expenditures. In recent years it has been necessary to pay a portion of the diocesan assessment with interest income. However, this is not a long term option.

Sacramental services include Mass offerings, and donations for funerals, weddings, baptisms, etc. Religious Education income consists of CFF fees for registration and materials. Our Youth Ministry collects registration and expense fees for retreats, etc.

Expenses

Salaries and benefits including pension contributions, auto costs, and health and vision insurance are included in Clergy Costs. Rectory expenses such as telephone, utilities, groceries, cooking and housekeeping services are also included in this category. Clergy costs have fallen since December with the departure of Fr. Michael from St John's. Presently the Newman Center pays 60% of the salary and benefit costs for one of our priests to compensate for their time. Clergy costs may rise if a third priest is assigned to St. John's or if a new administrator is appointed to the Newman Center.

Maintenance & Project Expenses for our beautiful, but aging campus are significant. Included are the maintenance and repair costs for the rectory, the church, the youth house, and the office, as well as the salaries and benefits of the plant manager and the custodian. The personnel costs are shared with Notre Dame School. Finally, this category includes capital improvements. The Notre Dame School/St. John's bathrooms located on the walkway between the school and the gym were remodeled this year at a cost of \$61,637. Notre Dame School contributed \$32,000 toward the cost of the project.

Lay Personnel Costs include salaries, benefits and taxes for our bookkeeper, office manager, musicians, receptionist, and wedding coordinator. These are part-time positions.

Religious Education costs include the salary and benefits of the director and program costs. Youth Ministry expenses include the salary and benefits for the youth director, youth house expenses, and program costs.

A significant cost to our parish is the assessment owed to the Diocese equal to 18% of the collection total. When the remaining assessment payment is made this year, it will have the effect of reducing net income further.

Major Church Expenditures include liturgical and other sacramental supplies, music license fees, utilities, flowers, votive candles, etc. St. Johns provides a subsidy of \$30,000 to Notre Dame School annually. This is an important part of our parish school's budget. Lastly, Office Expenses include telephone, utilities, supplies, postage and shipping.

What can we do to improve our financial picture? Many cuts have already been made and there appears to be little room for reducing costs further without painful decreases in services. How might we increase our income? Parishioners who fully participate in the life of their parishes benefit spiritually and there is evidence that resources appear to be most abundant in vibrant growing parishes. What would encourage you to become more spiritually engaged at St. John's? We invite you to ponder these and other questions with us. Please contact us with your comments and suggestions.

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