

ST. MARY

CATHOLIC PARISH
LITTLETON

2021

STEWARDSHIP REPORT



Fr. Jose Noriega, DCJM
Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In union with the priests of the DCJM, the St. Mary Parish & School faculty and staff, ministry leaders and councils, I am pleased to provide you with the actual results of operations for the 2020—2021 fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. As you read this report, you will see the fruitfulness of your gifts in the important work of the parish! I am grateful for the protection and intercession of the Blessed Mother who continues to show us the great joy we find in our work for Christ and His Church.

During the past year, we contemplated the life and teachings of St. Pope John Paul II, consecrated our parish to Mary, and continued our efforts to encourage and support your hopes in this COVID pandemic! The following pages are a review of the past year and are also a preview of the coming year. As I announced at the Marian Festival, this year we will be contemplating the meaning of “fatherhood” for ourselves and looking to St. Joseph as the example for us to follow!

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support of St. Mary Catholic Parish and School. Without it, our “family of families” couldn’t have grown stronger and emerged from the sufferings of the last year in such a beautiful way. As always, if you have questions about anything in this report, please call the office. Mary, cause of our joy, pray for us!

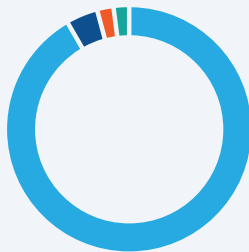


PARISH EXCELLENCE
BRING STRONG PRACTICES WITH EVERY PARISH IN AMERICA

Parish Outreach to Families | Reopening of Mass

PARISH

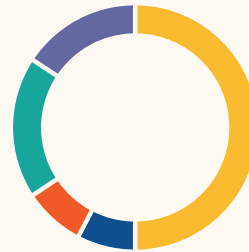
FYE 2021



- **Offertory/Contributions**
\$2,413,225
- **Ministry & Programs**
\$170,017
- **Investments**
\$47,737
- **Other**
\$45,015

INCOME

Total \$2,675,994

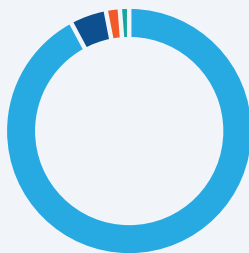


- **Salaries/Benefits**
\$1,348,532
- **Ministry & Programs**
\$199,105
- **Charitable Gifts***
\$226,677
- **Operating Expenses**
\$435,280
- **Facilities/Maintenance**
\$477,121

EXPENSES

Total \$2,686,715
Net \$(10,721)

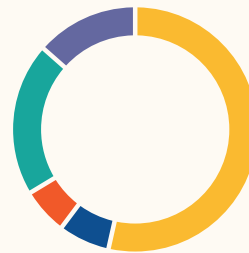
FYE 2020



- **Offertory/Contributions**
\$2,346,341
- **Ministry & Programs**
\$189,495
- **Investments**
\$58,128
- **Other**
\$20,543

INCOME

Total \$2,614,507



- **Salaries/Benefits**
\$1,424,177
- **Ministry & Programs**
\$212,987
- **Charitable Gifts***
\$194,016
- **Operating Expenses**
\$457,995
- **Facilities/Maintenance**
\$381,083

EXPENSES

Total \$2,670,258
Net \$(55,751)

NOTABLE PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION	FYE 2021	FYE 2020
CASH AND INVESTMENTS FY 2020—2021	\$3,091,962	\$3,229,829
UNREALIZED INVESTMENT GAIN	\$315,927	\$42,801
PAYROLL PROTECTION PROGRAM FUNDING	\$751,400	—
NUMBER OF FAMILIES REGISTERED	1805	1845



Fr. James de Cendra, DCJM
School Principal

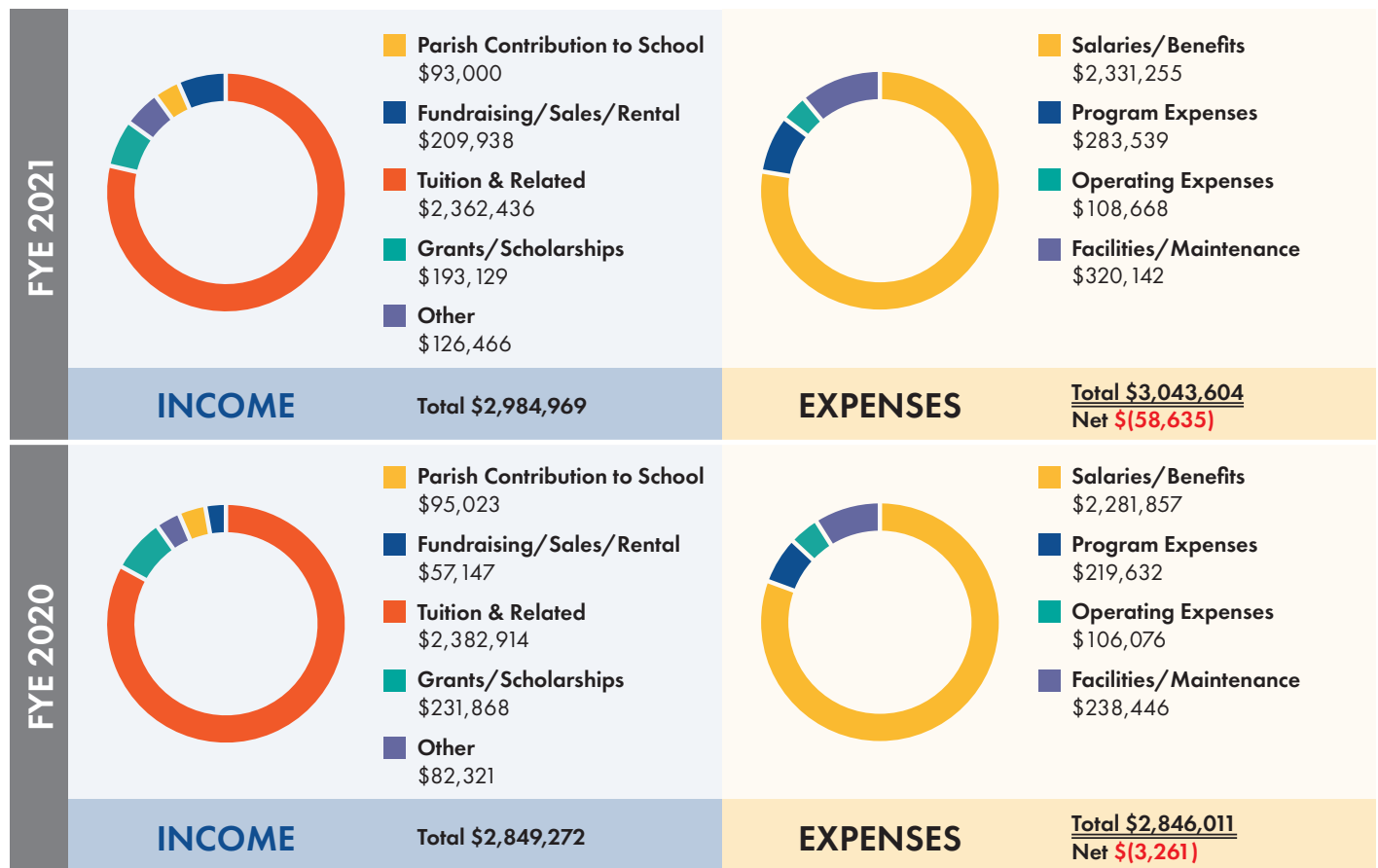
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Last year the Superior General of the Disciples of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary asked Fr. Stefan and I to prepare a five-year plan for St. Mary within a collaborated framework as well as design a road map. We were both excited and worked hard on the plan. I had no idea that I would become the school principal only a year later. Two things helped me jump into the position with confidence and hope. First, the fact that I worked on the five-year plan and by doing so knew what the destination was. Secondly, that an amazing team of teachers and leaders were supporting my efforts and rowing alongside me. I am very grateful to God and to the wonderful community of St. Mary.

The journey this year looks more like launching a rocket than driving a car and is just as intense as it is thrilling. Yet, if we're aiming for the Moon, is not a rocket what we need?

The Parish Excellence Awards honor parishes for their mission-driven innovation during the pandemic and shares those strong parish practices across 16 categories with every parish in America. St. Mary Littleton received two honorable mentions.

SCHOOL



NOTABLE SCHOOL FINANCIAL INFORMATION	FYE 2021	FYE 2020
NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN OCTOBER	436	471
AFFILIATED TUITION RATE (ONE CHILD GRADES 1–8)	\$6,290	\$6,000
TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$243,651	\$285,581

SAINT JOHN PAUL II ANNIVERSARY

WHAT WE'VE DONE THIS YEAR

Adoratio topic with JP II every Thursday:

- Women
- Couples
- Youth
- Ministries

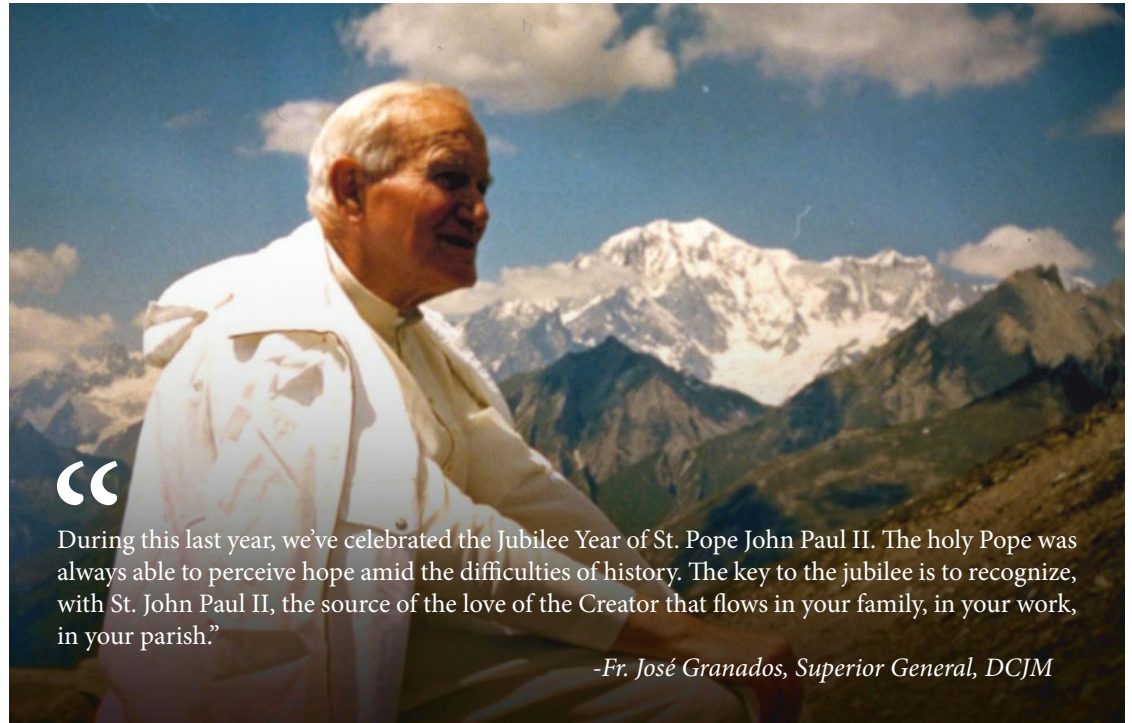
Going deeper with the letters of the Holy Father.

Marian Mass every Saturday with Redemptoris Mater, Exhortation of JP II.

Monthly theme on a key topic enlightened by St. John Paul II:

- Work
- Love
- Suffering
- Family
- Life
- Mercy
- Mary
- Holy Spirit

Poland Pilgrimage



During this last year, we've celebrated the Jubilee Year of St. Pope John Paul II. The holy Pope was always able to perceive hope amid the difficulties of history. The key to the jubilee is to recognize, with St. John Paul II, the source of the love of the Creator that flows in your family, in your work, in your parish."

-Fr. José Granados, Superior General, DCJM

EASTER MISSION

After Easter and the Parish having been opened once more, we asked volunteers to go visit individuals and families at their homes to encourage them to come back to Mass. Many welcomed the personal invitations.

NUMBERS FROM EASTER TO PENTECOST

INSTRUCTION PACKETS OUT **200**

INVITATION PACKETS OUT **300**

RETURNED EXPERIENCE CARDS **55**

MARIAN CONSECRATION RECAP

Since beginning with our annual Marian Weekend, we've traveled with Mary through this beautiful Jubilee Year of St. John Paul II. Given his great devotion to Our Lady, it's fitting that we concluded our celebration of this great pope and saint with a consecration of our parish to Mary.

MARIAN PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

O Mother, you know the sufferings and hopes of our families. Come to the aid of your children in the daily trials which life brings to each one, and grant that, thanks to the efforts of all, the darkness will not prevail over the light. To you, Dawn of Salvation, we commit our journey, so that with you as guide all people may know Christ, the light of the world and its only Savior, who reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.



SEPTEMBER POLAND PILGRIMAGE SUCCESS



Above: Cardinal Dziwisz, who was the personal secretary for St. John Paul II, had a private audience with Fr. Javier Nieva and 26 pilgrims.

The goal of the pilgrimage was to celebrate the life of St. John Paul II and his canonization, discovering what formed him as a man. Walking where Karol Wojtyla walked, seeing the faith that existed and continues to exist in Poland through so much adversity, comparing the atrocities of Auschwitz with the certaintude of God's mercy at the Divine Mercy Sanctuary of St. Faustina allow us as pilgrims to understand that his trust in God was as much a life-giving part of him as food and drink.

WHY FATHERHOOD?

This year at the Marian Festival we announced the parish would dedicate the year to going deeper into fatherhood. But why fatherhood? Throughout the year, looking to St. Joseph as an example, we will explore:

- How being a father is an answer to a divine vocation, a “yes” to a divine promise that fulfill our lives.
- How becoming a father can enrich a man’s humanity; growing more in the likeness of God, the Father.
- How being a father makes men sharers in the fatherhood of the heavenly Father, able to participate in His incredible love that opens a future for someone.

WHAT WILL WE DO?

Every quarter, we will show a movie with fatherhood as the focus, explore a novel, work on a study text, and poetry contest. We’re also excited to have Adoratio every first Thursday of the month with a reflection on a biblical father and testimonial. We’ll also have a monthly topic on fatherhood included in the Sunday homilies, bulletin and website. Below is a tentative schedule.

UPCOMING MONTHLY TOPICS

NOVEMBER 21 CHRIST THE KING

By what authority? Testifying to the goodness of our origins and the proper conditions for our children to grow.

DECEMBER 26 HOLY FAMILY

The Father in our fathers? How God is present in a father’s fragility and why some call no one their father.

JANUARY 9 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

What name do I bestow? Introducing the genealogy of saints & heroes and how naming inflicts a healthy wound.

FEBRUARY 27

What life are we generating? Why we should educate until the child becomes a father and how to approach their desires.

MARCH 22

Protecting whom from what? How we face the spirit of the world and when correction is necessary.

APRIL 24 SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

How many children should we have? How magnanimity can take over our lives and what’s at stake in masculinity.

MAY 22

Which inheritance? What supports a child’s courage and whether or not it’s possible to ruin their life.



FATHERHOOD

Introducing our logo for the Year of Fatherhood, designed by our Communications Coordinator, Mark Pape. This is a modern and minimalist take on the famous painting, *First Steps*, after Millet by Vincent van Gogh.

WHY ARE MEN IN TODAY’S SOCIETY SO AFRAID OF BECOMING FATHERS?

It may seem that the normal way of living is to get a job and get married. Becoming a father has been merely a side effect of marriage and taken for granted. But becoming a father is actually the fruit of a bigger decision in love and self-sacrifice, one that we must embrace with openness and consideration. We must address our fears of fatherhood like St. Joseph had.

Husbands, you too can listen to the angel’s words: Don’t fear being a father! Why? Because becoming a father is not only the fruit of a difficult choice, but the answer to a divine vocation. It’s a “yes” to a special promise of God. And you are not alone. God will accompany you.



ST. MARY SCHOOL UPDATE

2020—2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

GROWING IN KNOWLEDGE:

- Our students maintained in-place learning full-time despite the ever-changing environment of COVID. In addition, we offered the Saint Isidore distance learning curriculum.
- We had 456 students between Pre-K and the School, making us the largest school in the Archdiocese.
- 100% of our eighth graders graduated and enrolled in High School. Three of our eighth graders received the President Award for Academic Excellence. Another ten received the President Award for Academic Achievement. Five received the Lasallian Merit Scholarship to JK Mullan Highschool.
- Our Orientation Team grew to three members (including a school counselor) to help attend to special needs.
- We created stages that are led by a coordinator (K–2, 3–5, and 6–8) to foster teamwork among our teachers and improve the coordination among grades.
- We updated our reading list for each grade with great narrative texts in accordance with our Narrative Plan.



GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP WITH CHRIST:

- We developed the School of Prayer for Middle School, providing a weekly Mass for Middle School along with a weekly hour of adoration for grades sixth through eighth.
- We celebrated a separate weekly Mass for the entire academic year for Elementary and Middle School.
- We had weekly confessions for the school attended by three priests.
- We had a full-time Chaplain for the entire year.
- We created a Pastoral Team to help the Chaplain coordinate and develop the Pastoral Program.
- We had a Disciples Focus Retreat for each grade in Middle School at the beginning of the year.
- We had a Faculty Retreat at the beginning of the academic year.
- We created a “four month challenge” in third grade to prepare our kids for First Communion and Confirmation. Forty-seven of our students were confirmed and received first Communion

GROWING IN VIRTUE:

- We held the Teen Star Program for eighth grade to learn about human sexuality and the Life Star Program for seventh grade to learn about modesty.
- We implemented Theology of the Body in Middle School.
- Our seventh and eighth graders contributed to the common good of the school with two community projects: Living Stations of the Cross, performed by eighth grade, and a Book Festival coordinated by seventh grade.
- Our eighth graders created a pro-life group within the school.

BUILDING THE FUTURE

The Superior General of the Disciples of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary asked Fr. Stefan and Fr. James to create a plan for St. Mary over the next five years. The plan includes three main goals: Academics, Pastoral, and Sustainability, with a total of ten large goals to be achieved by the journey's end. Every one of the Five Pillars of the School is represented and achieved in those goals. These include Friendship with Christ, Educational Covenant, Flourishing, Narrative, and Virtues & Practices.

In five years, the school will be at full capacity, self-sustainable, and will have fully implemented a number of pastoral programs such as Polaris, Focus Retreat, Leadership Program, etc. We will become even more technology-limited, have a stronger Spanish program (complemented by an Exchange Program with our partner schools in Spain), have a narrative approach to pedagogy implemented through our narrative program, and will have the key through theology to understand the world. Friendship with Christ as the cornerstone of our whole educational project will be realized in five years.



2021—2022 PROGRESS

GROWING IN KNOWLEDGE:

As of October, enrollment is 474 students. We have:

- Created four new departments in our school: English-Literature, Theology, and Math & History, each of which is led by a teacher. They're all currently setting their own goals.
- Reviewed our math curriculum and implemented the Sadlier Math Program in Kindergarten through fifth grade.
- Expanded our Spanish classes to include K-3.
- Reactivated the Exchange Program with our partner schools in Spain. We will be sending and receiving students this year.

GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP WITH CHRIST:

- We have expanded our school of prayer to elementary school and our kids are now adoring the Lord once a week according to a plan prepared by our teachers and chaplain.

GROWING IN VIRTUE:

- We expanded the DCJM's Focus Retreat in Middle School to an overnight retreat and Theology of the Body to grades 1-5.
- We implemented Polaris in every grade including Preschool with new practices; theater in 5th and a musical in 6th.

Polaris is a program that establishes virtue in each grade as a leitmotif and practice to achieve the virtue. It's linked with the three mandatory readings contemplated in the Narrative Program that matches the virtue of the grade.

2021—2022 GOALS

Expand the selection of great narrative texts in our Narrative Project to include books in History, Theology/Catechesis, and a summer reading program.

Review our History and Writing Curriculum this year with the intent to implement new Archdiocese standards.

Work on a new methodology to teach theology in which the narrative of the Bible is the path to learning about God.

Create Rites of Passage for all of our students including Pre-K.

Develop an enrollment plan for this coming year, strategize open houses, school tours, and admission interviews.

Foster a renewed School Culture in collaboration with the faculty based on the School Vision.

Refine financial strategies and practices to help make the school's budget more sustainable.



WHAT IS A STEWARDSHIP PARISH?

A Stewardship Parish is a parish that gives, serves, and loves generously and gives of its first-fruits to others in need. It recognizes that everything we have has been given to us by God. Because of your generosity, we have tithed from our offertory to these and other worthy ministries and organizations.

SACRAMENTS ADMINISTERED

BAPTISM	56
CONFIRMATION	112
FIRST COMMUNION	136
CONFESSIONS PER WEEK	~360
ANOINTING OF THE SICK	174
MARRIAGES	14
FUNERALS	31

OUTREACH MINISTRY

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

210 adults | 209 children

ST. MARY PARISH PANTRY

496 households | 1,539 individuals

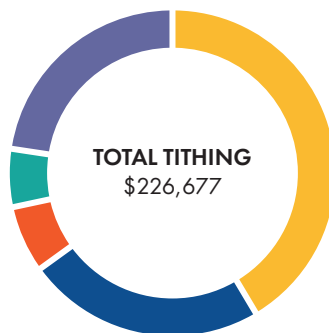
PRAYER QUILTS

159 individuals

BETHANY CENTER/ST. RAPHAEL COUNSELING

28 families

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS



- EDUCATION \$94,500
- OUTREACH/SOCIAL \$55,227
- MISSION \$14,200
- VOCATIONS & RELIGIOUS \$12,000
- MINISTRY SUPPORT/ PARISHES IN NEED \$50,750

TAKING CARE OF OUR CAMPUS

PARISH SUPPORT TO OUR SCHOOL

SCHOOL ROOF BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS CAPITALIZED IN FYE 2020-21	\$399,768
PRE-SCHOOL EXPANSION (PART 1) AND JOACHIM BEAUTIFICATION	\$31,851
PARISH GIFT TO SCHOOL FOR SCHOLARSHIPS/DISCOUNTS ON TUITION	\$93,000
PARISH COVERS YEAR-END LOSS	\$58,635
BUSINESS OFFICE LABOR DOLLARS SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL	\$169,259
TOTAL GIVEN TO SCHOOL FROM PARISH	\$752,513

NOTABLE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE & CAPITAL PARISH IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

SOUND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	\$33,000
PARISH OFFICE SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT	\$65,000
TOTAL NOTEABLE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS	\$98,000

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN SUMMARY

CHURCH BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS CAPITALIZED IN FYE 2019-20	\$4,008,935
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROJECT EXPENSES NOT CAPITALIZED	\$526,470
TOTAL INCOME COLLECTED FOR PROJECT	\$3,638,616
TOTAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGES OUTSTANDING	\$305,820
CAPITAL LOAN BALANCE AT FYE 2020-21	\$410,419
REMAINING BALANCE PARISH STILL NEEDS TO FUND	\$104,599



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