

**SAINT JAMES FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014**  
*St. James Parish, a Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*

Our parish operating budget for the last fiscal year from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 shows that, despite your great generosity and sacrifices on behalf of St. James, and our serious efforts to make sound financial decisions, we are not making progress. We are at the most critical point we have ever reached for the survival of our parish as an independent entity. Our collections in recent months have fallen to the lowest level ever. We continue to struggle to keep our head above water in the day-to-day effort to do Christ's work, to make our payroll and to pay our bills. We are making little progress in resolving our fragile fiscal situation. Without a couple of very generous gifts and bequests last year, we would not have made it.

Our parish Sunday offertory income last year was \$290,405 decreased by 1%, or \$3,922 from the year before, mostly because of the loss of loyal and generous parishioners who have died or have moved away. But the numbers of offertory envelopes we receive each Sunday have been falling at an alarming rate. Not long ago, we averaged 150 envelopes per Sunday. We have not received over 100 envelopes since February. And last week we received only 69 envelopes in the collection. The Sunday offertory has been the lowest in our history here.

The income from our St. James Campaign last year was \$139,034, up 25% or \$38,813 from the previous year. Our payment to the diocese in the Parish Share portion of the Campaign was an additional \$46,974. The Parish Share Program, an integral part of our St. James Campaign, benefits our parish in return in many ways. The diocese gave Sister Thea Bowman Catholic Academy \$37,500 in direct grants last year and over \$35,000 in tuition subsidies were made to the parents of students in the school. Additional diocesan aid comes from the help we get in making use of diocesan offices, programs and ministry materials.

Our debt is \$1,237,331 plus unpaid interest, with an additional loan of \$112,726 added for unpaid insurance. Forgiveness of all the interest on our parish debt, first given to St. James parish in the Jubilee Year of 2000, continues to have been extended. At just 4% interest, you can calculate what a gift this is to our parish, even as it relieves significant financial strain to help us carry out our work in Jesus' name in our parish and our community. Continue to thank the diocese and pray that our bishop, David Zubik, will continue to aid St. James parish and our school.

Thank you for how generous you have been to our parish. But, in spite of your generous efforts, we are now entering into one of the most financially unsettled periods of our history since the early days when I first arrived here at St. James parish. We have over \$46,000 in unpaid bills sitting on our desk: \$16,000 relating to boiler repairs and improvements that have been absolutely necessary and our \$30,000 subsidy to Sr. Thea Bowman School this year. Last year we already paid \$27,000 for boiler repairs. New replacement air conditioners for the rectory costing \$1,100 were paid for by an anonymous donor.

I beg you, please consider increasing your weekly or monthly offering to our Sunday collection or our St. James Campaign collection by an average of \$3 or \$5 dollars a week. And bring a friend to church with you on Sunday. Help others to find the meaning you find in our Faith and in your church. And help us to continue to be able to pay our bills and do the Lord's work with gusto!

The Faith Direct program of automatic giving, which we began in March 2011, is a real benefit, both to the parish and to those parishioners who use it for regular, secure and worry-free contributions to our Sunday offering and to the many causes we call special collections taken on at our parish. We continue to see a much more regular Sunday offering, less affected by summer vacations and poor weather. During the last fiscal year, Faith Direct offertory contributions were 27% of the total of our offertory and our special collections. That is extraordinary. You can join the Faith Direct program by going to our parish website, or by taking home one of the forms available in the vestibule of the church, filling it out, and sending it directly to Faith Direct.

Special gifts and bequests were down 51%, or \$24,390. We have become increasingly reliant on the generosity of those who have died and have shown their love for our parish by their bequests or the gifts of family and friends in their name. As you know, the names of these benefactors go into our St James Book of Remembrance, and they are prayed for at all Masses offered at our parish. We must find additional ways of encouraging this very necessary means of remembering and supporting St. James as well as praying for those who love her. That trend seems to be reversing; we have received a couple of very large bequests and gifts in the latter half of this year, from very generous benefactors. Those gifts will be part of next year's financial report.

Expenses last year decreased 1% or \$11,295. Over \$7,000 of this was because of grants to our food pantry from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. We finished last year with an operating deficit of \$153,767.

Sister Thea Bowman Catholic Academy, formed by the merger of St. James and Holy Rosary schools at our St. James site, is funded in large part by the Extra Mile Foundation, which last year contributed \$1,235,561; the diocesan subsidy was \$37,500; the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill contributed \$40,000. Our parish portion of the school costs was \$30,000. Continue to remember the many donors of the Extra Mile Foundation and all our other benefactors in your prayers.

Maintaining the church and school boilers continue to be a major struggle. There have been continual problems with both the boilers. The leakage in the vaulted enclosure in which they are housed seems to have been resolved. A new boiler cost \$32,135 and \$19,300 for other boiler repairs. The new exchange pump for the church boiler cost \$26,900 with \$10,000 paid by our boiler insurance.

Additional expenditures were incurred for van repairs (\$2,400), electrical repairs (\$1,550), church roof (\$12,866), railings (\$1,345) and plumbing work (\$2,250).

The spiritual growth and social outreach of our parish has taken a major leap forward because of the new energy shown in the Parish Pastoral Council and its sub-committees. Our Faith Formation Ministry and its days of recollection, the renewed Telecare outreach to the homebound by the Parish Life Ministry, the activities of community outreach by the Peace and Justice Committee, and the exploration of new horizons by the Internet Committee, exhibit the energy and the new directions that our Pastoral Council leadership is infusing into our parish. The Parish Life Ministry has just begun to explore additional parish needs, and we have great expectations for its future. Aid given to others through our outreach to those in need through our food pantry and social services continues to be a model in both the community and the diocese, but at additional cost.

The diocesan capital campaign *The Church Alive*, which our parish participated in this past year was very successful. Our target goal was \$400,000 in pledges over five years. In fact, members of our parish pledged \$420,000. 40% will stay here to help in boiler repairs and redesign of the Parish Ministry center. The first payment of about \$20,000 will be received in October. Thank you for your generous response to the campaign.

We hope you will continue to be faithful to all your pledges. And remember St. James parish generously in your will. We count on you. And we thank you profusely for your generosity. I keep you and your intentions in my prayers daily at Mass.

In Christ,

Father Metzler, Pastor  
Robert R. Adams, Parish Business Manager  
Mara Sullivan, Chair, Stewardship Ministry

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**Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014**

**OPERATING INCOME**

Offertory Collections & Votive Lights	286,122.00
Miscellaneous	4,283.00
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>290,405.00</b>

**OPERATING EXPENSE**

Church and Rectory	136,992.00
Administration	212,668.00
Liturgy Expenses	75,299.00
Social Service, Youth Ministry & Community Programs	51,521.00
CCD and Adult Education Programs	44,321.00
Property Taxes and Insurance	32,407.00
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>553,208.00</b>

**OPERATING MARGIN** **(262,803.00)**

**OTHER INCOME**

St. James Campaign	139,034.00
Investment Income	2.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>139,036.00</b>

**OPERATING DEFICIT & OTHER INCOME TOTAL** **(123,767.00)**

**OTHER EXPENSE**

St. James School	
a. Instructional & Operating Expense	1,342,314.00
b. Tuition & Fees	325,394.00
c. Special Receipts & Diocesan Subsidy	1,110,687.00
<b>(a – b &amp; c) = School Expense Subsidized by the Parish</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>

**OPERATING DEFICIT** **153,767.00**