



SAINTS JAMES AND PATRICK PARISH

To remain in Christ and to reveal Christ to others

April - June 2021 Newsletter

THE JOY OF THE EASTER SEASON

Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parishioners and friends,

I was so thankful this Holy Week to celebrate these special days with so many people in our Churches. It was the first time I had to worry about reaching our Covid pandemic limits, but we made it just fine. I am excited as we begin to bring more things back for mass, especially the singing! We will gradually open up more pews as our attendance grows. For those who feel a little less comfortable with this, I encourage you to sit closer to the front of our Churches.

As we add more to our liturgies, we will need more people to fulfill the ministries. Right now we are shorthanded with ushers, servers, and lectors. Please let Sue Miller know if you or your children are ready to come back to these roles. We also will be offering training soon for people who wish to serve our parish in these roles. Please consider helping to make our masses go well. I imagine that it will be sometime before we go back to receiving from the cup so the need for more extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist is not very high right now.

We are still limited in the size of many gatherings and I definitely hope we can gather for meals again soon. Please pray that more people will be protected from the virus and for the recovery of those who are suffering from its effects.

I invite you to return to weekend mass with us soon. I will



continue to live stream our masses but it is not the same as being with you. God bless you and please let me know if I can do anything for you.

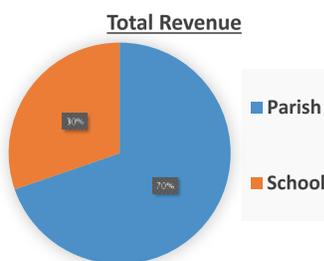
In This Issue



Welcome Back to Mass

Bishop Paprocki welcomes Catholics back to Mass. In April, he issued a new limited dispensation for our diocese.

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Financial Review

Learn about our parish's revenue and expenses during Fiscal year 2019-20, and see the budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21.

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Students Prepare for Sacraments

Students prepare to receive the sacraments of First Penance, Confirmation, and First Eucharist.

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Welcome Back to Mass

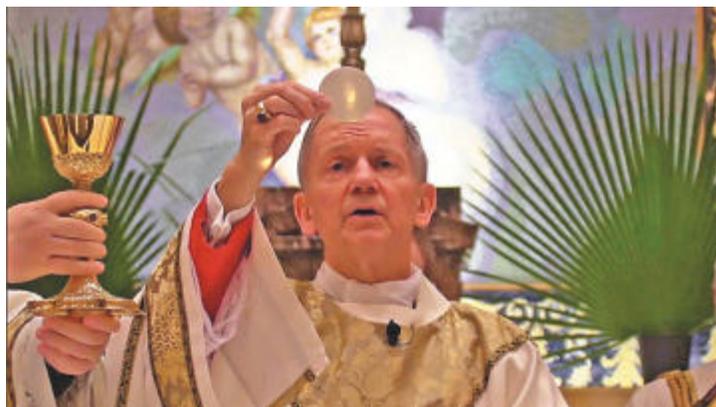
In April, Bishop Paprocki welcomed Catholics back to Mass by issuing a new limited dispensation for our diocese. Catholics are currently obligated to attend in-person Mass unless they are in one of the following groups:

- Those 65 years of age or older
- Those at risk for severe illness due to underlying medical conditions as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Those who care for the sick, homebound, or infirmed
- Those women who are pregnant
- Those who cannot be accommodated at Mass because the church is at safe-distancing capacity
- Those who are sick or came in contact with someone with COVID-19/flu are obligated to stay home and are therefore excused

Those who fall into one of those categories are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass but still must observe the third commandment, "Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day," by participating in a livestream broadcast of the Sunday Mass, spending time in prayer, reading the Bible, praying the Rosary, and/or meditating on the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection.

Bishop Paprocki encourages us to invite others back to Mass, saying "we must work diligently to invite people back to church, communicating to them why it is so important to be physically present celebrating with the community of faith and receiving the incomparable gift of the Real Presence of Our Lord into our hearts in the Eucharist."

The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois closely monitors



daily reports about the pandemic and what safety measures are being recommended by health experts. We will make necessary changes as things arise to ensure the health and wellbeing of people.

You can visit the following website to read Bishop Paprocki's letter, learn more information, and to view frequently asked questions: www.dio.org/backtomass

"The Easter season is a very fitting time to renew our commitment to worshipping Our Lord every weekend in commemoration of His Resurrection, and to pray for God's Divine Mercy to heal the sick and bring an end to this pandemic," Bishop Paprocki wrote. "Please be assured of my prayers for you as we continue our preparations to celebrate the Paschal Mysteries of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Our weekend parish Mass schedule is on Page 6. You don't need to sign up to attend Mass, but our standard safety precautions still apply at each church.

Pentecost Marks the Birthday of Our Church

Pentecost is the 50th day after Easter and therefore concludes the Easter Season, but it's also the birthday of the Catholic Church.

Pentecost is the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, which initiated their earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations. Pentecost is described in the second chapter of Acts of the Apostles, and here are some essential verses:

Acts 2:1-4 "When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were filled with



the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:32-33 "God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured it forth, as you see and hear."

Acts 2:38-39 "Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins;

and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call.'"

Pentecost is Sunday, May 23. The color of Pentecost is red; priests wear red vestments on this day, and you're encouraged to wear red too.

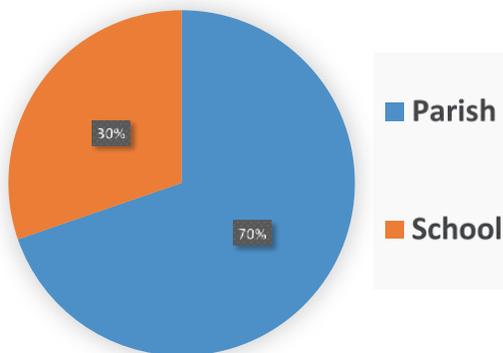
Financial Review

Fiscal Year 2019-20

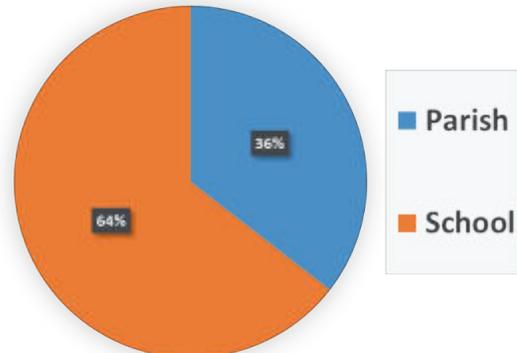
Sorry it took so long to get this report out. Things have been crazy and usually are during a transition of pastors. I am glad to report that our contributions have gone up considerably since Easter. If you were not able to contribute for several months, I encourage you to maybe make some of that up before the end of our fiscal year June 30th. Thanks again for your generous stewardship. - Fr. Chris

<i>PARISH INCOME</i>	\$1,204,172	<i>SCHOOL INCOME</i>	\$523,205	<i>TOTAL REVENUE</i>	\$1,727,377
<i>PARISH EXPENSES</i>	\$558,115	<i>SCHOOL EXPENSES</i>	\$1,013,120	<i>TOTAL EXPENSES</i>	\$1,571,235
				<i>NET INCOME (LOSS)</i>	\$156,142

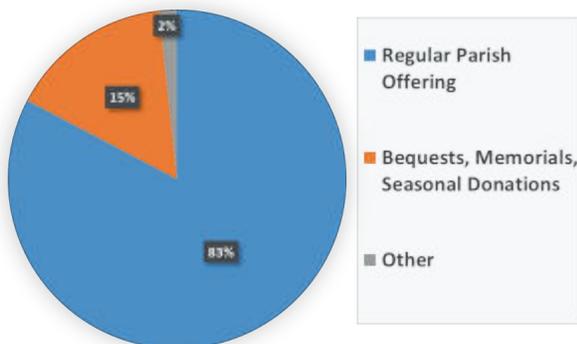
Total Revenue



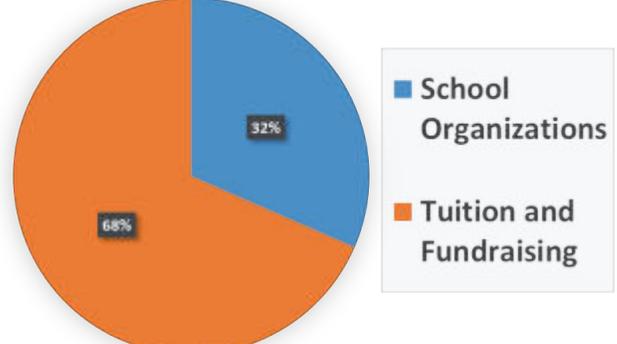
Total Expenses



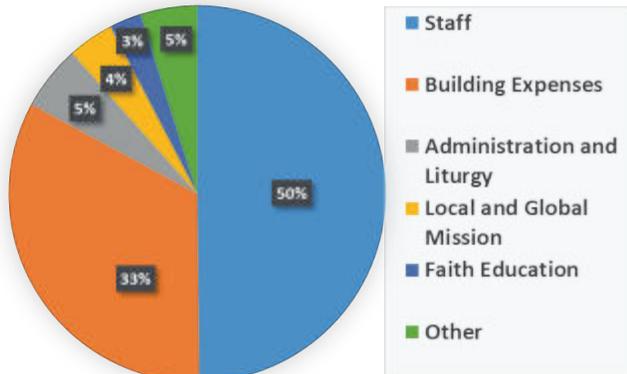
Parish Revenue



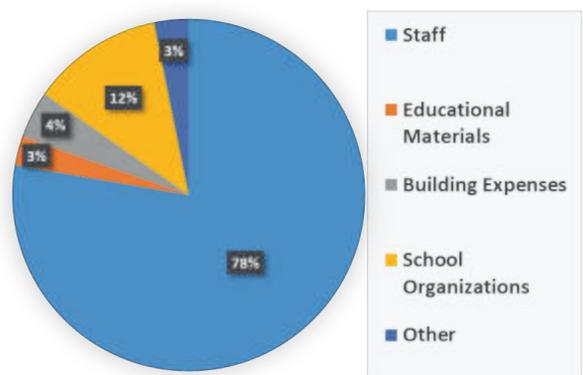
School Revenue



Parish Expenses



School Expenses



<u>Fiscal Year 2019-20</u>		2020-21 Budget
Parish Income		
Regular Parish Offering	\$ 995,786	\$ 1,046,520
Stole Fees	\$ 5,100	\$ 3,200
Religious Education, Bequests, Memorials, Seasonal Don.	\$ 188,140	\$ 8,100
Other Donations & Contributions (ex. Insurance Reimburse)	\$ 9,216	\$ -
Interest Income	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,600
Total Parish Income:	\$ 1,204,172	\$ 1,063,420
School Income		
Tuition / After School Care / Registration & Book Fees	\$ 337,584	\$ 394,738
School Organizations Income	\$ 161,998	\$ 191,267
Annual Fund	\$ 12,818	\$ 11,000
Other Income	\$ 10,805	\$ 9,400
Total School Income:	\$ 523,205	\$ 606,405
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,727,377	\$ 1,669,825
Parish Expenses		
Wages	\$ 190,754	\$ 196,785
Benefits: Health Ins / Pension / Taxes	\$ 87,366	\$ 94,632
Contractual Services	\$ 12,948	\$ 14,419
Utilities	\$ 44,077	\$ 48,618
Building & Liability Insurance	\$ 46,790	\$ 48,616
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 26,261	\$ 21,850
Equipment & Assets / Leasing & Rentals	\$ 7,354	\$ 3,800
Supplies: Office / Printing / House / Maintenance / Postage	\$ 12,861	\$ 16,250
Supplies: Altar / Sanctuary / Choir / Contribution Envelopes	\$ 13,154	\$ 13,400
Professional Fees (non-employees, workshops, speakers)	\$ 3,212	\$ 2,845
Major Buildings Repair / Maintenance	\$ 67,225	\$ 132,000
Charitable Contributions	\$ 7,109	\$ 7,480
Hospitality	\$ 2,723	\$ 480
Religious Education	\$ 15,378	\$ 8,650
Marketing & Advertising, Permits, Fees, Licensing	\$ 2,412	\$ 3,525
Catholic Times / ACSA	\$ 14,913	\$ 15,000
Other Misc Expenses	\$ 3,578	\$ 2,290
Total Parish Expenses:	\$ 558,115	\$ 630,640
School Expenses		
Wages	\$ 599,636	\$ 645,303
Benefits: Health Ins / Pension / Taxes	\$ 187,861	\$ 193,919
Contractual Services	\$ 9,954	\$ 10,376
Utilities	\$ 17,616	\$ 24,950
Building and Liability Insurance	\$ 7,711	\$ 8,021
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 8,796	\$ 15,200
Equipment, Assets, & Leasing	\$ 3,589	\$ 11,900
Supplies: Office / Maintenance / Janitorial	\$ 10,949	\$ 11,735
Books/Educational Supplies	\$ 26,746	\$ 22,350
Mangan Scholarship Awards	\$ 5,500	\$ 8,000
Professional Fees (non-employees, workshops, speakers)	\$ 608	\$ 615
Major Buildings Repair / Maintenance	\$ 10,253	\$ -
School Organizations Expenses	\$ 122,402	\$ 176,942
Marketing, Advertising, Subscriptions, Dues, Licenses, etc.	\$ 906	\$ 3,574
Other Misc Expenses	\$ 593	\$ 850
Total School Expenses	\$ 1,013,120	\$ 1,133,735
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,571,235	\$ 1,764,375
Net Income (loss)	\$ 156,142	\$ (94,550)
Diocesan Collections	\$ 21,800	
Beginning Cash Balance - July 1, 2019	\$ 159,193	
+Net Income (loss)	\$ 156,142	
+Change in asset and liability accounts	\$ 137,009	
-Money invested with Diocese	\$ (164,170)	
Ending Cash Balance - June 30, 2020	\$ 288,174	

St. Patrick School Online Auction a Success

St. Patrick School hosted its online auction in March, and the annual event was a success despite transitioning to a virtual format.

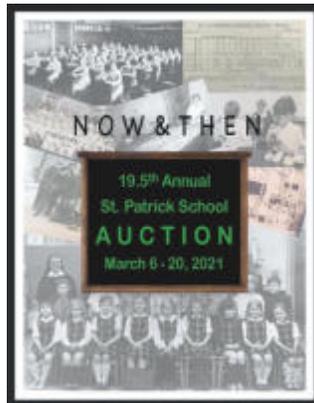
"We wanted to do the auction in-person like usual, but we knew the online platform would work for this year," St. Patrick School principal Nick Blackburn said. "And it went very well."

There were advantages to having the auction online, such as the ability to share the website link with anyone. Therefore, people could participate even if they typically couldn't attend an in-person event.

However, the online format had various disadvantages, both financially and socially. Each in-person participant would've bought a ticket to attend the auction in the past, but tickets weren't sold this year.

"The online bidding competition isn't as good as a live auction either," Nick said. "Bidders get in the heat of the moment during the in-person auction, and they enjoy seeing who they're bidding against. The in-person auction definitely has more drawings, raffles, and ticket sales."

The online auction required uploading numerous pictures of each item, and although dimensions were listed for



physical items, it was difficult to determine the exact size when not viewing the object in-person.

"The in-person auction is also nice because we feel the camaraderie when we're all supporting the school," Nick said. "The online platform worked well, but nothing replaces the in-person event. Connecting with our parish community in-person is so important."

Overall, it was a successful online auction, and Nick is thankful for everyone who participated.

"Thank you for being so generous when it comes to our school," he said. "You step up, come through, and help out in many ways. For as small of a school as we are, it's amazing to have so much support."

The plan for next year's auction, which will be held in 2022, is to host the event in-person.

Enrollment for 2021-22 School Year

Enrollment is open for the 2021-22 school year! Visit the school website to register online (decaurstpatrick.org). In-person registration is Wednesday, July 28 at 4:30pm.

Students Prepare to Receive Sacraments

Students at St. Patrick School and in our Families of Faith religious education program have spent the past year preparing to receive the sacraments of First Penance, Confirmation, and First Eucharist.

St. Patrick School second grade teacher Ashley Wegeng wrote a script for her students so they'd be more comfortable during First Penance, and she and Fr. Chris allowed the class to walk through the confessional so they'd be familiar with the setting.

"Seeing the confessional beforehand was the biggest help for them," she said. "We told them not to be nervous because there's no judgement and it's just like having a conversation. I was always terrified of Reconciliation, so I wanted them to have a good experience."

Students typically receive Confirmation and First Eucharist in third grade, but due to the pandemic, this year's third-graders received First Penance too.

"Now that they've received First Penance, we're focusing on Confirmation," third grade teacher Pam Martin-Hull said. "They love learning about the saints and picking their saint names, and they're excited to receive an unconsecrated host as we practice for First Eucharist. It's been an entire

year of preparation for all three sacraments, and I'm so proud of them."

Families of Faith has a couple students preparing to receive each sacrament, and director Frances Sperry is impressed by the parents' commitment to forming their children in the faith.

"Parents feel responsible for raising their children in the faith, and the kids want to receive the sacraments," she said. "In a way, the reception of the sacraments is the best gift we can give to the kids."

Congratulations on Retirement, MaryBeth Mumaw!

St. Patrick School teacher MaryBeth Mumaw is retiring at the end of the school year. She's the homeroom teacher for eighth grade and teaches junior high math and science. She taught 48 years at catholic schools in Iowa and Illinois, including the past 19 years at St. Patrick School.

"This school stands out because our faculty and students are a family in the classrooms. We're always there for each other. I've always wanted what's best for the kids, and I care about them. We're all a family." - MaryBeth Mumaw



Saints James and Patrick Parish
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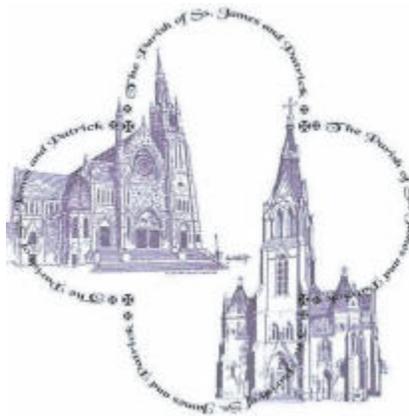
Change Service Requested

Parish Celebrates 14th Anniversary

This summer we're celebrating the 14th anniversary of Saints James and Patrick Parish, commemorating the merger of St. James Church and St. Patrick Church on July 1, 2007. We're proud to have nearly 1,200 families in our parish, and we hope to grow in faith and number as we continue sharing God's love with others.

Our parish features two historic, beautiful churches, but the heart of our parish is you - the parishioners who give your time, talent, and treasure to God. We couldn't celebrate this wonderful anniversary without you!

In April, Bishop Paprocki welcomed Catholics back to Mass by issuing a new limited dispensation for our diocese (see article on Page 2). Therefore, we invite you to return to in-person Mass to receive Christ in the Eucharist and to praise God as a community of believers. With your help, our parish can effectively fulfill our mission of 'remaining in Christ and revealing Christ to others' as we move forward from the pandemic. Please keep our parish in your prayers!



Mass Times

Saturday
 4:00pm: St. James
 5:30pm: St. Patrick

Sunday
 8:30am: St. James
 10:00am: St. Patrick

Contact Us

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 62523 (St. Patrick)

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E-mail: office@ssjpparish.com

Website: www.ssjpparish.com

Facebook: Saints James and Patrick Parish (the one with the parish logo)