



Transforming Lives for Jesus Christ

Year in Review

July 2022 - June 2023



My Dear Parishioners,

Our fall newsletter is the time we like to offer a snapshot of the past year beginning July 2022 and ending June 2023, which is our fiscal and school year calendar. For many years now we have characterized each year with a Faith Based Theme. This past year we highlighted Saint Therese of Lisieux and her parents Saints Louis and Zele Martin. Our purpose was to emphasize the importance of the role of parents in the faith formation of their children, and the need for parents to partner with us, and for us to partner with parents, in the formation of the next generation of Catholics. One of the more successful ways we did that was our new Weekend Mass Takeover initiative! Throughout the year, students of various grade levels from both PSR and the Day School took over Masses as lectors, greeters, and gift bearers. This was a great success, and reminds us all that the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is the heart of EVERYTHING we do as Catholic Christians. The centrality of the Eucharist is a major theme of the USA-wide Eucharistic Revival that we are presently in. Lots of planning last year went into events for the present year. We hope you take advantage of these opportunities.

This past year we saw an exciting return to pre-pandemic levels for our bible studies, socials, and special Masses. In November 2022, we remembered over 80 parishioners who died in the previous 12 months at a special Mass of Remembrance on the Saturday closest to All Souls Day. It is always very touching as the names of the deceased are chanted, as their friends and relatives are in attendance. Families also received a memorial candle. Our 2023 Mass of Remembrance will be on Saturday, November 4 at 9:30 a.m. Come and pray with us for our beloved dead.

The Advent and Christmas Seasons were very festive in 2022, with notable highlights being the Advent Gaudete Concert and Reception which featured the Christmas traditions of various nationalities: Slovak, Polish, Hispanic, and Palestinian. This year's concert will be on Sunday evening, December 17. Christmas Masses this past year were a bit challenged by our minus 4-degree temperatures, but people persevered nonetheless, and it was great seeing so many folks we haven't seen during the Covid years! It was especially nice welcoming back many of our college students who are out of town most of the year!

The new year of 2023 brought with it the ongoing conversion process for our RCIA Candidates who entered the church at the Easter Vigil. This year we welcomed 14 new Catholics into our faith! The Liturgies of Holy Week were well attended, and the music and liturgy details were inspiring! Shortly after Easter we announced a transition in our Music and Liturgy Director. Dave Dettloff took a new position over the summer, and we hired Meg Matuska. She started on August 1, and is adjusting to the St. Hilary pace, adding a new Trinitas Choir for children in grades 4-8!

The school year ended with the usual flurry of First Communions, Confirmations, and graduations! However, we did have one unique experience, as our seminarian Michael Garvin was ordained a Transitional Deacon on Saturday, April 15. He served as Deacon at 11 a.m. Mass the next day! He will be serving his Deaconate at St. Joseph Parish in Strongsville this year, and will be ordained a priest, God willing, in May of 2024. Our other seminarian, James Parisi, is entering his 4th year of studies, and is looking forward to Deaconate Ordination, God willing, in April 2024. We continue our prayers for more vocations to the Priesthood from among the young men of St. Hilary Parish!

Summer at St. Hilary means capital projects, and this summer we planned for the renovation of St. Hilary School's primary classrooms and roof replacements at the Market Street entrance of the church, and the junior high roof of the school. The classrooms were completed and look GREAT! The roofing projects are still in process and will hopefully be completed before the snow flies! Thanks to the St. Hilary School Parents Association for their generous support of the school renovations and to the St. Hilary Parish Foundation for funding the roof replacements! And speaking of funding...we continue to be in very good shape financially due to the ongoing generosity of YOU, the St. Hilary parishioners! We ended our fiscal year on June 30, 2023, \$28,455 ahead of last year on our offertory collections. We also stayed close to our budget projections and ended the year within \$10,000 of our projected income. Thanks to all of you who so generously support the ongoing work of the parish and school! In the following pages, you can see a visual and numerical rendering of our fiscal and spiritual health. As always, we are most grateful for all of you who make St. Hilary Parish and School such a fun, vibrant, and caring place! You are a blessing to SO MANY! Peace and blessings to you and your families!

In Christ,



Fr. Steve Brunovsky
Pastor

Faith and Food Truck Festival in September of 2022



Catechesis of the Good Sheperd returned to St. Hilary after a five year break.



Lou Camerato retires after 15 years as Business Manager at St. Hilary Parish.



Family Spirituality Advent Wreath Workshop in November



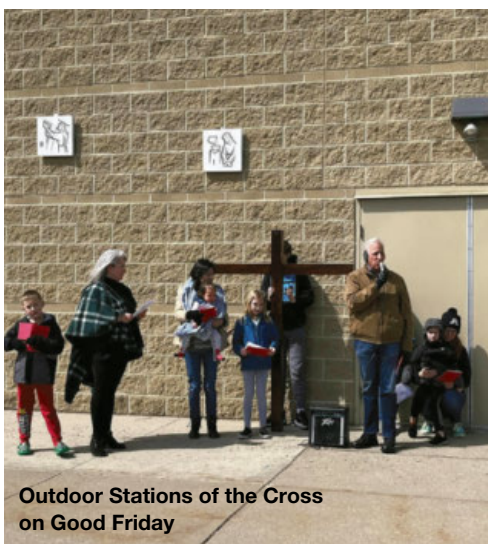
The Kids Care Club made their annual Valentine's Day visit to St. Edward in February.



Liturgical Dancers performed at the Laetare Sunday Concert in March.



The Annual Fill the Truck event takes place on Palm Sunday each year to benefit the Good Samaritan Hunger Center.



Outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday



Our Year of Eucharistic Revival kicked off in June 2023 with a Eucharistic Procession.



The 2023 Vacation Bible School theme focused on the Marvelous Mystery of the Eucharist.

Year of Eucharistic Revival

This summer St. Hilary kicked off the Eucharistic Revival on the Feast of Corpus Christi with a procession with the monstrance and Mass in the church which included second graders who had recently received their First Holy Communion. The Eucharist Revival is a year-long effort nationwide to build faith through devotion to the real presence of the body and blood of Jesus Christ that Catholics celebrate through the Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Earlier this month that effort continued with a presentation on the Eucharist by Bishop Michael Woost, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland. St. Hilary then hosted the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit, a museum-style display of over 125 instances of Jesus's divine intervention from around the world in the face of disbelief, theft, natural disasters, and other calamities.

The exhibit was based on the work of Blessed Carlo Acutis, an Italian teen whose devotion to the Eucharist led to his creation of a website documenting such miracles. Blessed Carlo, who died in 2016 of leukemia, considered the Eucharist as his "highway to heaven."

As the revival continues throughout the rest of 2023 and into 2024, watch sthilarychurch.org/eucharisticrevival for more opportunities to deepen your relationship with Christ through the Eucharist.



St. Hilary Parish Foundation

The St. Hilary Parish Foundation continues to be hard at work supporting the needs of the St. Hilary community. The most recent project has been the renovation of roofing over portions of the church and school, constituting the greatest expenditure underwritten this year. The Foundation funds many other items at both the church and school on an ongoing and as-needed basis through the gifts of generous donors. The Foundation's Legacy Society is one of many vehicles for giving, and a concerted effort is underway to grow this group of estate-based donors. Numerous opportunities exist for giving to support such items as church and school capital improvements, scholarships for students, the new Investing In Our Future Campaign to ensure competitive educator salaries, and special events such as the school Grandparents' Day. Contact St. Hilary Parish Foundation Development Director Diane Sarkis at 330-608-4787 to learn more!



Construction crews work on repairing the section of roof over the north side of the church building, underwritten by the St. Hilary Parish Foundation.



St. Hilary School student Liam Haskins was the 2023 recipient of the Kevin Neff Scholarship, one of many scholarships awarded through the St. Hilary Parish Foundation.

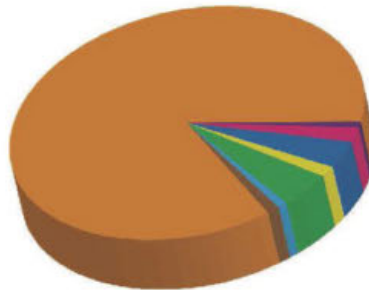
A Snapshot of the Sacraments and Financials

60 Baptisms **87** First Communions **76** Confirmations **14** Weddings **7** Adults and **7** children initiated into the Catholic Church through RCIA

ST. HILARY CHURCH - REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Revenue Sources as a Percent of Total Revenue

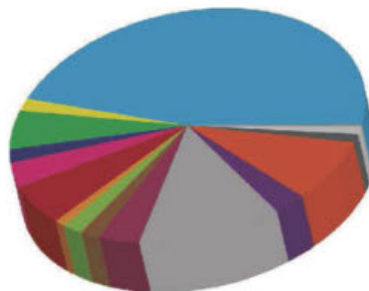
Twelve Months ending June 30, 2023



	85.90%	\$2,170,510	Offerory & Other Collections
	1.24%	31,320	Donations & Bequests
	.90%	22,720	St. Hilary Foundation
	4.25%	107,325	Investment
	1.42%	35,884	Fundraising
	3.55%	89,650	Parish Ministries
	2.09%	52,860	Designated Collections
	.65%	16,447	Heart of the Shepherd
	100.0%	\$2,526,717	

Expense Sources as a Percent of Total Expenses

Twelve Months ending June 30, 2023

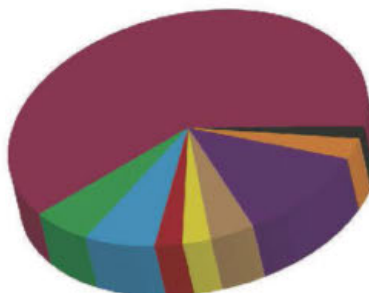


	46.37%	\$884,800	Salaries, Benefits & Taxes
	1.69%	32,315	Rector's Office
	5.09%	97,044	Administration & Technology
	2.09%	39,787	Worship
	3.58%	68,307	Social Outreach
	6.44%	122,843	Faith Formation & Evangelization
	1.03%	19,654	Caring & Participating
	1.86%	35,429	Utilities
	1.94%	37,066	Insurance
	3.88%	73,973	Plant Operation
	12.76%	243,416	Diocesan Assessments
	2.99%	57,133	Designated Collections
	7.86%	150,000	School Support
	1.31%	24,942	Capital Expenditures
	.86%	16,447	Distributions to Foundation
	.26%	4,893	Miscellaneous Expenses
	100.0%	\$1,908,050	

ST. HILARY SCHOOL - REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Revenue Sources as a Percent of Total Revenue

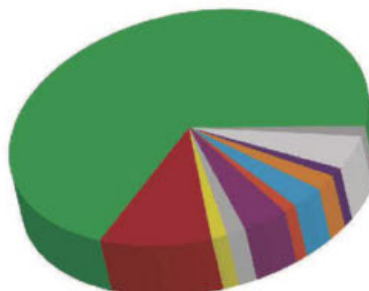
Twelve Months ending June 30, 2023



	62.98%	\$2,422,346	Tuition & Fees
	5.83%	224,439	Mandated Services
	6.53%	251,182	Fund Raising
	2.60%	99,871	St. Hilary Foundation
	2.35%	90,385	Student Services
	3.90%	150,000	School Support From Parish
	11.52%	443,145	Other School Income
	2.64%	101,603	Miscellaneous Income
	1.65%	63,507	Latchkey
	100.0%	\$3,846,479	

Expense Sources as a Percent of Total Expenses

Twelve Months ending June 30, 2023



	70.14%	\$3,111,941	Salaries, Benefits & Taxes
	10.15%	450,393	Instructional
	1.41%	62,606	Library/Technology
	1.71%	75,759	Utilities
	3.84%	170,548	Plant Operation
	1.19%	52,680	Insurance
	2.70%	119,589	Student Services
	1.92%	85,351	Administration
	1.21%	53,787	Capital Improvements
	4.54%	201,325	Hot Lunch Program
	1.19%	52,712	Latchkey
	100.0%	\$4,436,692	

Passing on the faith through *Music*

Meg Matuska is St. Hilary's new Director of Music and Liturgy. She brings a wealth of experience in choral conducting, voice, piano and organ, as well as violin. In addition to directing liturgical ministries, she plays violin for the Canton Symphony Orchestra and is the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

Meg has deep roots in the Cleveland area, having grown up at St. Noel Church in Willoughby Hills where she played the violin there from a young age. She went on to earn her bachelor's degree in violin from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., but returned to get her master's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

'I am most gratified in my work and my own faith life when I know that I've had a small part in facilitating a parishioner's encounter with the holy.'

Meg Matuska

While she could have chosen a career in orchestra, Meg recognized that God might have other plans for her. "It may sound corny, but I felt a calling to use my gifts in the field of pastoral music. I have often talked with children in my previous choirs about not only asking 'what do I want to do with my life?' but also, 'what does God want me to do with my life?' It was pretty clear to me that the gifts that I had been given could be used best in service of God's people. I have been extremely fortunate to be able to maintain a part-time career in a regional orchestra namely, Canton Symphony, along with my work in parishes."



Before coming to St. Hilary, Meg served at Communion of Saints, a parish merged from St. Ann and St. Louis in Cleveland Heights, and Christ the King and St. Philomena in East Cleveland, where she worked for 13 years. Prior to that she worked at Resurrection Parish in Solon for 11 years.

A friend of Dave Dettloff, Meg applied for the job at his urging. "Our pastor retired in June and it was a natural time to do something new," she said. She found St. Hilary to be a thriving place.



"I like how busy and diverse this place is. It's a big tent of folks who come from different ways of thinking and liturgical sensibilities. It seems to co-exist and everyone is pretty happy about it given the milieu we are in," she observed.

Having started on August 1, she said that "getting to know the people you are serving is the first priority. Anything

I can do is icing on an already beautiful cake."

Meg's passion is working with children and has created the new Trinitas children's choir that will sing at the 11 a.m. Mass on Sundays. "At both Resurrection and Communion of Saints, I've had children's choirs. Those in grade four through eight would travel to other cities for music festivals. Hopefully this new choir will be an opportunity for young people to share their artistic sides, alongside the many sports activities competing for their attention."

She sees her ministry as adding to their faith lives as well. "For me, liturgical music is not an end in itself. All of it exists to voice the church's prayer, from our deepest longings. My work with choirs, especially with children, is not primarily about the music, although we strive for a high level of musicianship. It's really about passing on the faith to the next generation, and for adults, to share our faith in new ways with each other to deepen our understandings," said Meg.

"I am most gratified in my work and my own faith life when I know that I've had a small part in facilitating a parishioner's encounter with the holy, and that they'll be more inclined to share with the world 'the reason for their hope' as St. Paul says, which is Christ," she concluded.

Meg is looking for interested singers and musicians. If you are interested, please contact her at mmatuska@sthilarychurch.org.

Returning Home for Ministry

Maggie Hohlefelder's original goal of becoming a youth minister recently came to fruition when Pastor Steve Brunovsky hired her to be the new Interim Director of Faith Formation for Teens and Young Adults. Maggie, who is a product of the parish ministry she now leads, joins the staff where her mother Jeannie Hohlefelder also works as Director of Faith Formation for Children.

The position was made available when Matthew Schechter left to become a missionary in Cincinnati. Maggie now leads Life Nights after the Sunday 5:30 Mass for teens and has plans for a youth retreat in the spring. Her journey to this position began with her parents Jeannie and Kevin Hohlefelder.

"I was born and raised Catholic through grade school and high school," Maggie said. "My family has been important in my faith formation. My parents encouraged practice of the faith at home. For example, we celebrated Advent and Lent practices and prayed as a family."

Maggie's faith was further nurtured by her Grandma Peggy and her mother. "When I was young my grandmother was my Confirmation sponsor. She was important in my middle and high school years. I love my mom. We are a lot alike. She has been a major role model for me," she said.

While her Catholic education at St. Hilary reinforced her faith, it was Maggie's experiences at Catholic Youth Summer Camp, now called Damascus Catholic Mission, that proved to be a turning point in her spiritual life. She attended the camp for five summers.

"I encountered Christ for the first time there because they made a space for that to happen and gave us the opportunity to explore our faith for ourselves. So, it moved from the faith that was my parents to making everything my own," she explained.

It also gave her the chance to explore her relationship with Christ. "At camp,

I realized during adoration, that that's God in front of me! When I got back to St. Hilary's youth group, I shared my camp experience with my friends, so they wanted to go, too. We ended up forming our own small group at camp the next year," Maggie recalled.

Her ability to share her faith with others was not lost on her parents "My parents joked and called me Maggie, The Evangelist, because I brought a lot of friends to youth group, which made me laugh."

'Serving the home parish I love so much is important to me.'

Maggie Hohlefelder

"My experiences in youth ministry at St. Hilary led me to studying theology in college and I found that at Xavier University in Cincinnati. I really got into my studies there and fell in love with getting deep into doctrine and thinking about God and those questions about faith. Everyone goes through times when they question their faith. Like, why do I believe this? or who is God? Why do we believe what we believe? I got to read the earliest Church Fathers to modern theologians," she said.

"I also loved not just learning about Catholicism, but also studying about God from the perspective of other Christian faiths and non-Christian traditions. I loved learning about other ways that people experience God. It helped me go deeper in my own faith life," said Maggie, who is completing a bachelor's degree in Theology.

After graduating from Xavier University in 2022, Maggie joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corp Northwest in Portland, Oregon, where she worked as Social Services Coordinator at the William Temple House, a food pantry. There she gathered food donations and helped clients access the food pantry, which was set up like a grocery store. The experience was life changing.

"My year of service was huge. It put me out of my comfort zone, which I wanted. I realized in college that theology can take you so many places, so I know that being a youth minister wasn't the only path.

"It helped me realize that because I was serving people in need through Corporal Works of Mercy—feeding people, I was praying through my actions. It's being the hands of Christ in whatever you do. As a result, direct service has a special place in my heart and I want to continue to do that."

Her studies at Xavier University and her year of service opened up Maggie to many possibilities of serving the people of God. "I took this job on an interim basis because it gives me time to discern if youth ministry is right for me. And serving the home parish I love so much is important to me," she said.



From top clockwise: Joseph, parents Kevin and Jeannie, Helen, and Maggie



Maggie (second from right) with St. Hilary's Youth Group at the 2016 Retreat



Transforming Lives for Jesus Christ

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Join us at these parish events!

For more information and our full calendar, visit our website: sthilarychurch.org.

October 27

Parents R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Catholic Kids) | 6:30 p.m., Gathering Area

October 30

Journey Women | 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Shady Hallow

November 3

Healing Waters Ministry & Knights of Columbus present:

First Friday Evening of Fellowship & Evening Prayer | 6 p.m., Gathering Area

November 3 & 4

SYMBOL or SUBSTANCE: A dialogue on the Eucharist

November 4

Annual Memorial Mass | 9:30 a.m., Church

