



News about St. Matthew Parish
& School in Oak Creek, Wisconsin

Special Parish Finance Issue

- Invitation to Parish Meeting
- Financial Recap of Past Fiscal Year
- Looking Ahead
- Building Fund Report

Join us at the

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, October 23 at 10:30 a.m. in Church
Includes Financial Accountability Report to the Parish

“What return can I make to the Lord for all that I have received?” Psalm 116

Dear Friends,

As a parish we gather weekend after weekend to recognize and express gratitude for our many blessings. The psalmist prays on our behalf with the question: “What return can I make to the Lord for all that I have received?” All that we are and have is a gift from God. These are treasures loaned to us as God’s stewards to be used wisely and freely shared. One day we will be asked to give an account for all we have received.

We believe we have been good stewards of the resources you’ve entrusted to parish leaders to oversee this past fiscal year. We believe we are accountable for the gifts you share and we desire to be transparent, that is, anyone can see and know how our resources are utilized. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve our stewardship of our resources, please contact any one of us. We have “Good News” to share! Invite your friends and neighbors to become part of our parish community.

The “master plan” for our church is much bigger than our buildings’ master plan. Ultimately, Jesus’ way is our Master Plan. Your Parish Council members are the leaders of our church master plan. We have a strategic plan. We’re developing more plans for collaboration with neighboring parishes. We have been emphasizing parish-wide stewardship this year. We have an extremely dedicated staff that we’ve hired to help us carry out our master plan. And, we have our building master plan. Our plans can only become realities if we improve our parishioner participation in every element of our plans.

We try our best to be church. We feel blessed to walk with you in the mission of Jesus Christ. We ask for your continued support in our parish ministry. This “Buzz” is a report of our financial stewardship this past year. These financial numbers don’t reflect all of our efforts to pray, lead, serve, educate, be loving families, follow, love, and be loved. We are incapable of producing such a report. This is part of our effort to be accountable.

May God’s blessings continue to be abundant for you, your family, and your loved ones!

Rev. Stephen J. Stradinger

Fr. Steve Stradinger
Co-Pastor

Micki Klappa-Sullivan

Micki Klappa-Sullivan
Chair of Parish Council

Michael Kuick

Mike Kuick
Trustee-Treasurer

What Happened

For our fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, we had a very good and challenging year! Even though parishioners sacrificed and gave \$257,596 to our Building Fund, our normal financial stewardship envelope and offertory giving totaled \$650,859 or \$43,704, 7.2 % more than the prior year. Program revenues, however, were \$10,744 below budget expectations. Because of salary reductions for some and salary freezes for the rest of staff, and health insurance cost reductions accompanied by higher co-pays for employees, our expenses were \$23,579 below our budget targets. A portion of a generous bequest of \$35,049 allowed for a small bonus to employees at Christmas. ***The net effect was a surplus of \$48,834. **Our surplus was primarily the result of the generous one-time estate gift and our health insurance premiums that came in lower than we expected.*** Without these two items, we would have been in a deficit position. All of our income and expense relating to our building projects' funds are segregated in a separate account that you can read on page 4.

We are so grateful for your financial support of our faith community. Please know that your support of the parish, including sharing your gifts of treasure from God, is our "life-blood." In 2004-05, 775 or 80.7 % of our families gave less than \$10 per week. If we are to be a vibrant community, we need everyone's participation in proportion to the gifts God gives us. Our pledging (sharing your intentions to give on an annual basis) increased which, as everyone knows, makes it easier for us to be good stewards on a parish-wide basis, allowing us to make decisions that are wise, prudent, and spend within our means. As members of St. Matthew, our responsibility is not to pay bills, but to build the Kingdom of God here in our Oak Creek area. We do that by worshiping together as a community of faith, serving the poor, meeting the needs of our members, providing Christ-centered education for all age groups, and being a light not only to ourselves, but to the world. Please be as generous as you can in sharing your time, talents, and treasure.

Statement of Financial Condition (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

General Parish:	Expense	Revenue	Net/Subsidy	Outreach Disbursements:	
Envelope Giving		623,424		Mission Collection	2,658
Offertory		27,435		Holy Land	468
Bequests/Memorials		35,049		St. Vincent de Paul	1,338
Capital Improvement	6,283	6,283		Catholic Stewardship Appeal	19,760
Archdiocese Assessment	25,005			Fall Combined Collection	3,722
Other	8,713	12,841		Spring Combined Collection	3,800
General Parish Subtotal	40,001	705,032	665,031		
Rental Property	11,905	16,755	4,850		
School Auction Textbooks	29,717	29,717	0		
Programs:				Reserves & Other Accounts:	
Prayer & Worship	136,814	4,698	(132,116)	Contingency Fund	125,000
Adult/Bapt/MOMS	1,261	970	(291)	Cemetery Account	17,135
Youth Ministry	66,904	29,476	(37,428)	Little Brick Church	29,021
Adult & Child Formation	75,924	14,926	(60,998)	Holy Name Checking	2,840
School	637,139	397,106	(240,033)	Rental House Security Dep.	1,350
Extended Care	13,250	13,600	350	Future Gym/Perform. Venue	3,657
Social Ministry	9,977	8,447	(1,530)	Program Deferrals	45,475
Pastoral Care/Administration	103,233	6,955	(96,278)	Prepaid Program Fees	76,551
Little Brick Church	10,007	10,007	0	Short/Long-Term Debt	842,985
Buildings & Grounds	29,826	10,666	(19,160)	Cash Reserves	161,732
Principal's Account	36,814	36,814	0		
Stewardship	38,462	4,899	(33,563)		
Program Subtotal	1,159,611	538,564	(621,047)		
Grand Total	1,241,234	1,290,068	**48,834		

**Without these two items, we would have been in a deficit or break-even position.

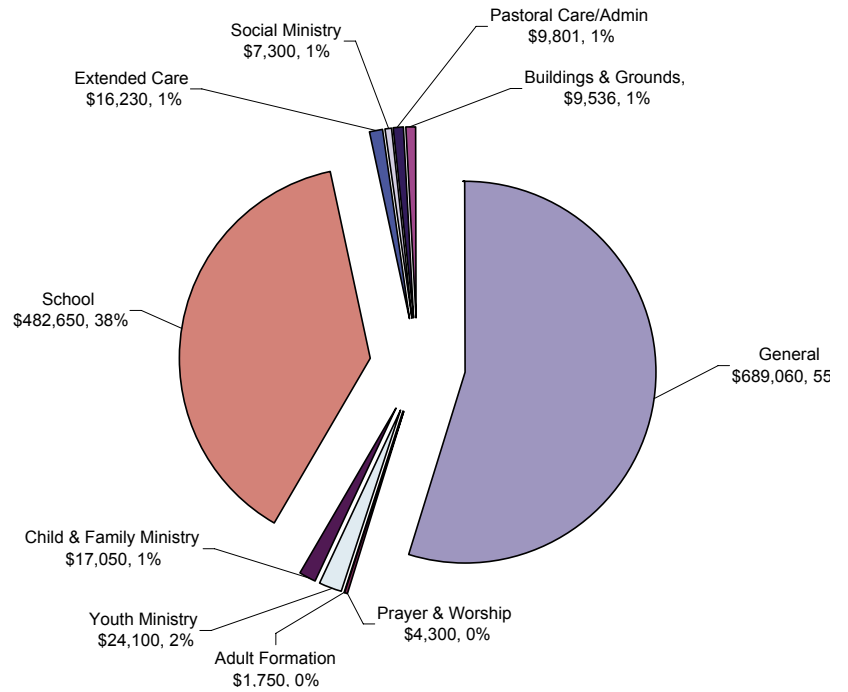
Looking Ahead

On the right is our revenue and expense projection for our new year 2005-2006. Below is how we anticipate using our financial stewardship giving in the envelope and offertory collections.

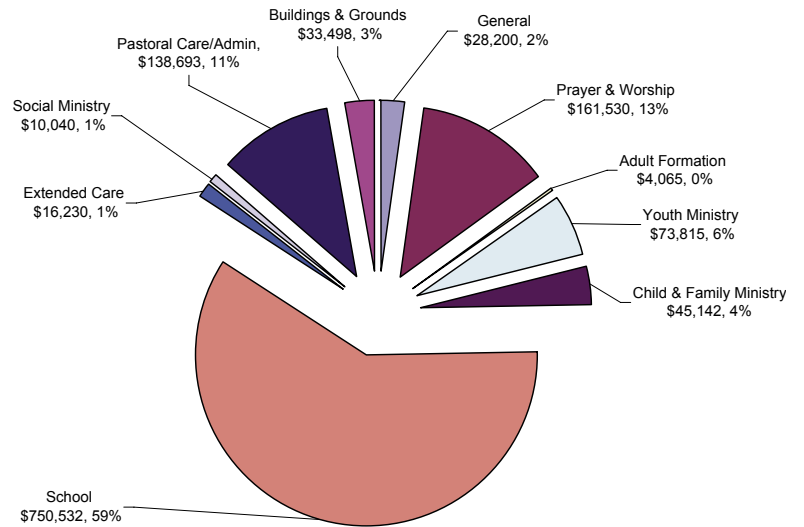
As you already know, our forecast required a reduction of ½ of a Director of Religious Education. We've given a generous 2-year increase in salary to our staff because of the reduction/freeze last year. We also hope to welcome many new families to our parish this year with your help that could also have a positive impact on our "fiscal bottom line."

As we work at improving our hospitality and welcoming, and as we improve our inviting parishioners to identify and share our God-given gifts of time and talent, we hope that we can all develop some new relationships and thus, build community. God is blessing us every day--let's remember our prayers and expressions of gratitude! The ideal of Stewardship is giving to God first--like offering the first fruits of the harvest in biblical times to God in thanksgiving. May we grow in our commitments to be good stewards and disciples of Jesus. May we continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit and Celebrate L.I.F.E!

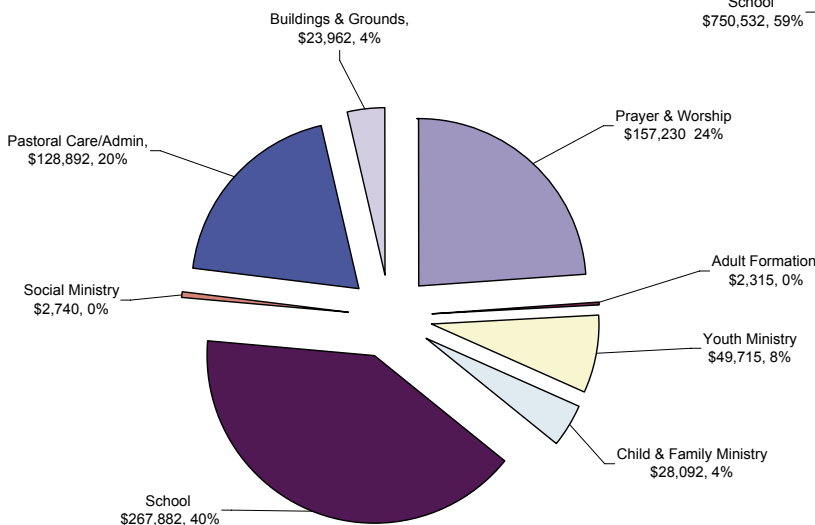
TOTAL REVENUE BUDGET 2005/2006



TOTAL EXPENSES BUDGET 2005/2006



SUBSIDY BUDGET 2005/2006



One Dollar of Contribution Provides:

- 40 Cents for School
- 24 Cents for Prayer & Worship
- 19 Cents for Pastoral Care & Administration
- 4 Cents for Child & Family Ministry
- 8 Cents for Youth Ministry
- 4 Cents for Building & Grounds
- 1 Cent for Social and Adult Ministries

Building Fund Report

This is a summary of income & expenses incurred July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2005. This does not include extensive donated labor or product by parishioners. During the entire period, we pledged \$985,947 and received payments of \$748,139 from parishioners (\$58,866 from families who chose not to pledge anything). Payments on pledges will be coming in from July 1, 2005 through April 2006. The Phase II Building Committee is holding formal "listening sessions" and is developing proposals for payment of debt and a campaign to begin our Phase II project consisting of a new church and consequently, our parish gym and performance venue.

INCOME	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005
Parishioner Donations/Cap Campaign	175,597	314,936	257,596
Corporate Matching/Foundation Contribution	25,000	29,502	20,155
Memorials	430	1,375	1,230
Fish Boil Contributions		2,000	1,000
Soccer Tournament Contributions	2,492	2,869	3,569
Sale of Hardwood Floor		200	
Other	449	893	500
Special Landscaping Donations		2,606	
Special Furnishing Donations		10,052	2,791
Eagle Scout Landscape Projects			3,907
Transferred from Designated Reserves:			
Initial Building Fund	28,852		
Air Conditioning		500	
Roof/Asbestos		9,609	
Building Contingency Fund		25,000	
Total Revenue	232,820	399,542	290,748
Three-Year Total Revenue			923,110

EXPENSES	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005
Architects	96,620	46,716	6,281
Resource Development Consultation	44,289		
Campaign Secretarial Support	5,425		
Capital Campaign Expenses	11,989		
Air Conditioning-Worship Space	2,054	28,791	
New Building/Construction Manager		1,022,976	179,162
Direct Payments-Sub-Contractors	6,534	229,506	6,835
Old Hall Demolition, grading		8,148	
Donated machinery/stone: \$4,700			
Recreational Space in Cafeteria		5,978	
Fire Alarm Monitoring Fee		425	
Building Security System		1,623	
Sound System New building		5,325	
Site Lighting: Parking & Cemetery		13,879	4,496
Underground Water Drainage -New Bldg		2,945	
Repair of Garage Foundation -Parish Office		3,083	
Bank Fees & Interest Expense		13,625	34,499
Landscaping (Donated Materials: \$3,950)		2,363	634
Furnishings (Donated: significant value)		7,539	10,902
Eagle Scout Landscape Projects			3,937
Total Expenses	166,911	1,392,922	246,746
Three-Year Total Expenses			1,806,579