



St. Charles Borromeo Parish

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Annual Report : FY 2022

December 1st, 2022

Dear Parishioners,

I am so blessed to be here at Saint Charles. We have a good and holy community. None of us are saints, just yet, but we try. This last year held many financial challenges for us, but with Mary's inspiration and protection may we have a blessed year moving forward. The Annual Report for 2022's fiscal year gives you, the members of our parish, an overview of the year, and shows how hard we all try to practice good stewardship.

Currently, we are in the process of updating the active census. These numbers show us how many people are registered with the parish, how many attended Faith Formation, and how many received the sacraments. By providing concrete numbers, we begin to form a more accurate picture of the demographics of our parish. I have published the current numbers of the parish, on the next page, and written a summary of the projects that were needed and completed this last year. It was my first year as administrator, and there were many unexpected situations that needed immediate attention; to keep our facilities in proper working order. It is all of you and your generosity that continues to support and keep us financially solvent, as a Parish, and it is the dedicated volunteers and staff that keep the grounds and building so amazing.

As I mentioned before, last year was very challenging. When I arrived at Saint Charles, I realized we had incurred debt to the diocese of \$120,000. This was a result of past due *cathedralticum**, *education assessment*, *insurance* fees from the diocese not paid during COVID (see page 4 of this report) in addition two of our building's needed emergency repairs. Within the second month being here, we failed our annual building inspection, boiler inspection, fire alarm inspection, and elevator inspection. Moreover, a lot of damage was done by an incomplete winterization of the convent the year before my arrival. We have a beautiful campus here at St. Charles and continued maintenance is needed for our facilities to function properly.

The parish staff also has experienced some changes. Our devoted Ann Clark announced that she was only temporary. Trish McCarron jumped on board for a few months to help me get to know the parishioners better and the lay of the land. Sean Purcell helped us in many ways, especially the artistic side of the bulletin, he left to pursue his vocation as a teacher. Starting in August, we have been blessed with Niqué Fiegel, as our administrative assistant. Her well-organized skills bring many good things to our office. She also volunteers and teaches the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program to our pre-K Faith Formation children. I'm also very happy to have on our team Michelle Henderson. In person faith formation classes resumed last year in the convent. Michelle also helps with the Confirmation classes at Saint Joseph church. We have organized events for our children, and will continue to add even more; as all children are welcome here at St. Charles! For a few months, we had our maintenance man Hunter Simpson. He was very supportive and hard-working. We wish him

many blessings as he joins the military; we thank him for his service to our Country. We have Sean Kolydys' company to take care of our landscaping, mowing, plowing, shoveling etc.. Also on our team is the very talented organist Joe Rose with our volunteer musicians and choir. Anyone who would like to join the choir or play an instrument during mass is welcome any time, please contact Joe. As music is a very important part of expressing our faith. [when you sing, it is like praying twice] ...

Our diocesan bills have stabilized. The Cathedra and obligations to the diocese are about \$85,000 we will pay slowly with time. The parish is the priority. Insurance bills did increase for us. Hopefully this year we will not have any major repairs. We do not plan for any additional repairs except both the side walls of the church. There is a fund left from the sold churches in Pittsfield in which there is around \$950,000 and St. Charles has the right to have a part of it. We did a lot of much-needed (emergency) improvements around the grounds and buildings.

Once again, thank you for your generous support. You keep your parish financially solvent and ministerially vibrant. God bless you. Together, we can accomplish life's challenges because God 's grace is amazing.

Sincerely submitted,

Fr. Daniel A. Cymer

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**Cathedra* (Lat., *cathedra*, episcopal seat or throne), the sum of money to be contributed annually for the support of the bishop, as a mark of honor and in sign of subjection to the cathedral church, hence its name

Census

Register Parishioners	2022
Total Households	620
Active	546
Students in Faith Formation	55
Sacraments	
Adult Baptisms	0
Profession of Faith	1
First Communion	9
Confirmed	8
Weddings	4
Anointing of the Sick	91
Funerals at. St. Charles	15
Avg. Sunday Mass Attendance	422
Avg. Daily Mass Attend.	28

Some thoughts on the Census

We are still getting “up to speed” while dealing with the ongoing challenges of COVID and with extra attention to health. That being said, we continue to struggle getting people back to church. Jesus’ mandate to “do this in remembrance of me” calls us to worship together in the great sacrament of the Eucharist.

Our First Communion numbers are encouraging but still not up to pre-COVID. Confirmation is also not what it could be. The bishop has moved the age of Confirmation to 9th grade, so we have a good number next spring because it will combine anyone in High School who has not received their Confirmation. Let’s continue to pray for those preparing for First Communion and Confirmation. May the Holy Spirit fill their hearts and lead them to communion at God’s Table.

Our faith community is in need of vocations, particularly the priesthood. We should continue to pray for and encourage vocations discernment in our parish. We need good and holy priests! St. Charles is a patron saint of the seminarians.

We had 4 weddings last year. May God bless these couples!

We were able to rejuvenate our visits to the homebound. Thanks to all our EMs for bringing them Holy Communion. That also means that Father is able to bring the Sacrament of Anointing to many more people than in previous years. We have anointing of the sick available upon request and after 4:00 PM Mass on first Saturdays.

Please pray for our beloved dead and those who mourn their absence.

Bishop William Byrne has brought back a count of Mass Attendance over three weekends in October. This is great as it gives us actual, real numbers of who attends church those weekends. These numbers are an actual headcount of people at Church this last October.

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u>	<u>St. Charles</u>
Income (collections, Bequests/gifts, etc.)	\$387,100.21
Operating account balance as of June 30, 2021	\$207,649.71
St. Charles, - Parish Endowment (As of 31/3/2022)	\$467,791.02
Elevator found	\$50,000.21
Expenses	
Salaries & Benefits	\$157,409.59
Cathedraticum & Property Insurance & General education	\$110,158.44
Church, office Supplies & Maintenance	\$42,353.55
Furniture, Equipment	\$16,696.80
Buildings & Maintenance	\$107,904.04
Boiler Room in the church Repairs	\$83,130.80
Utilities	\$49,342.71
Total Expenses	\$566,995.93
Net Income/ (Loss)	\$27,753.99

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BUILDING, GROUNDS AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS | JULY 2021 – JUNE 2022

For a full report go to the office. If you are interested in helping with parish, grounds/buildings, please contact the rectory.

Thanks!

- **St. Charles Offices:** renovation of the offices area in the convent (new phone extension, better WiFi, furniture, restrooms).
- **Phone System:** The phone lines were ported to an Ooma web-based system with phones and server for the rectory and offices & living spaces.
- **New Wi-Fi System for the Rectory/Church Offices:** An Amplifi Wi-Fi mesh system now provides consistent, seamless Wi-Fi coverage throughout the rectory. Wi-Fi throughout the building will provide Faith Formation leaders with more opportunities and tools in the classrooms.
- **New Computers for Parish Offices:** An HP laptop and one computer for priest.
- **E-Presence:** The parish website was updated and parish app. We purchased a subscription to FORMED, an evangelization and teaching tool. The Formed program was purchased and rolled out to the members of the parish. In addition, Flock Note, a parish informational email is being developed to send new information about the parish. The Parish events calendar has been made available online through myParish app. In general, an effort for increased online presence on multiple platforms is being initiated to reach out to more families in as many ways as possible.
- **New Refrigerator at the Rectory:** Through the generosity of several parishioners, we purchased a new refrigerator for the rectory.
- **Retaining Wall:** The crumbling retaining wall next to the Church Garage was removed and completely replaced. The property line was surveyed and pinned.
- **New Sound System:** A new sound system was installed in the Church; digitally based, it is a vast improvement & includes Hearing Assist Devices.
- **Emergency Lighting:** Repairs were made to the Church emergency lighting system. This was a requirement for us to maintain our Occupancy Certificate.
- **Emergency signs around the property.**
- **Heating Repairs:** On one furnace (blow out pilots & burners, reset gas pressures & replace condensate pump) on the other (replace filter and section of piping).
- **Heating Repairs at the Rectory:** The heating season at the rectory started roughly with a no-heat call. Heat was restored and the boiler received its annual cleaning, new steam valves
- **Heating Repairs at the Church:** The Low-Water Cut-Off Switch had to be manually reset. A new thermostat was installed. Pressure switch was replaced. New water tank and new pumps. All repairs done to pass the inspection
- **New boiler in the parish hall.**
- **Remodeling of the Convent Chapel** for daily Mass and Faith Formation children. Also, to cut our heating bill for the Church.
- **Installation of new gutter extensions at the rectory to prevent water in the basement.** The water is still after every rain.
- **Replacement of plumbing pipes and valves at the convent, rectory and church**
- **New freezer in the parish hall**
- **Furniture for the rectory.**
- **Painting the living room at the rectory**
- **Refinished floors on the second floor at the rectory.**
- **Kitchen and cooking supplies for the rectory**
- **Removed mold at the convent**
- **Removed mold in the basement of the rectory.**

For all repairs pictures and videos were taken to document work and are kept in the files.

Building future projects

Immediate Capital Project needs:

Fixing the south and north wall
Repairing the retaining wall

Future Capital projects:

New sidewalks and parking lot

Energy efficiency improvements for the church, parish center, and rectory

Handicap ramp to the parish center

Repair sewer line from the rectory

New flooring, the church

Painting the church

Painting the parish hall

Renovating the classrooms in the parish center

New windows in the parish center

Using parish center as a preschool of Saint Charles

New heating (heating pump) system in the church

Strengthening the foundations of the rectory

Solar panels on the garage, rectory, and parish center