



Saint Anne Catholic Community

2016-17 **ANNUAL REPORT**





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Saint Anne Catholic Community

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Online contributions to
Saint Anne Catholic Community
are made through Faith Direct –
www.faithdirect.net
Parish code: **TX629**

www.saintanne.org
www.stannecs.org
www.saintannefoundation.org

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Our Mission

We, the Catholic Community of Saint Anne, are called to follow the example of Christ and witness His living presence as we welcome in love and respect all who walk on our journey of faith.

Saint Anne Catholic Community

One of the oldest and largest churches in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Saint Anne Catholic Community has been providing spiritual leadership and guidance to the Upper Kirby, River Oaks, and Montrose areas within Houston since 1924. The Parish, under the direction of the Basilian Fathers, offers PK-8 education at St. Anne Catholic School and a large array of religious formation for parishioners.

PASTOR LETTER



My Dear Friends,

Once again, I am pleased to share with you the 2016-17 Annual Report for Saint Anne Catholic Community. Our Parish is thriving and growing – we now have 4,579 registered households, up from 4,356 a year ago. Saint Anne is a community that knows how to respond when called upon in times of need.

After our fiscal year concluded, Houston was significantly impacted by Hurricane Harvey in late August. We received tremendous support from our parishioners when the call went out in response to Harvey. We are fortunate to have caring, knowledgeable, and supportive parishioners.



Finances

The finances of Saint Anne Parish are in great shape for 2016-17 and we met our revenue goals for the Parish and to the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Our primary source of all funding comes from each of you in your offertory gifts and we continue to be responsible custodians of our financial resources. We have zero debt, as we continue to support our liturgical, worship, and pastoral expenses; support our educational, spiritual, sacramental ministries; and sustain the beauty and maintenance of our campus.

I am encouraged by the upward trend of online giving through Faith Direct. Online contributions have increased from 34.5 percent in 2015 to 49.3 percent in 2017. Online giving saves the Parish on postage, expensive envelopes, and it is convenient for our parishioners. While our registered number of households increased, our offertory funds remained relatively flat from a year ago. Please consider whether you can increase your weekly and annual giving to help us support the needs of our active and growing parish.

Response to Hurricane Harvey

One of the many reasons why Saint Anne Church is highly regarded in Houston is in how this Parish responds in times of great need. That was certainly evident in the aftermath of Harvey. The Parish response was phenomenal. Parishioners donated huge sums of items, monetary donations, and volunteered their time in collecting, sorting, and delivering these much needed goods to the victims of Harvey. It was estimated ~300 volunteers participated and that ~50 car loads of items were delivered to Casa Juan Diego, Christian Community Service Center, and to Beaumont. My sincere thanks to Saint Anne parishioners for responding in the best way possible.

Master Plan Process

We have recently completed a yearlong master plan and campaign planning process in which we gathered input and feedback from approximately 1700 parishioners, school parents, and Saint Anne ministries. I want to express my appreciation to the Master Plan Steering Committee and all who took the time to participate in this process. Following the master plan process, we conducted a campaign planning process. In early November of 2017, we began a series of meetings with parishioners to share the final results of the master planning process, the campaign planning study, and our next steps.

Summary

President John F. Kennedy stated, *"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."* To stay relevant in meeting the growing needs of our school and parish – change is necessary. I'm excited about the future of Saint Anne Church.

To conclude, I am thankful that we have a strong administration that manages our revenue and expenses in a judicious manner. I would like to express my gratitude to the Pastoral and Finance Councils for their steady and prudent guidance, as well as the Saint Anne staff and our many dedicated ministry leaders. And of course, to all the parishioners of Saint Anne, whose consistent support and generosity keeps our community growing and strong – I thank you.

Yours in Christ,

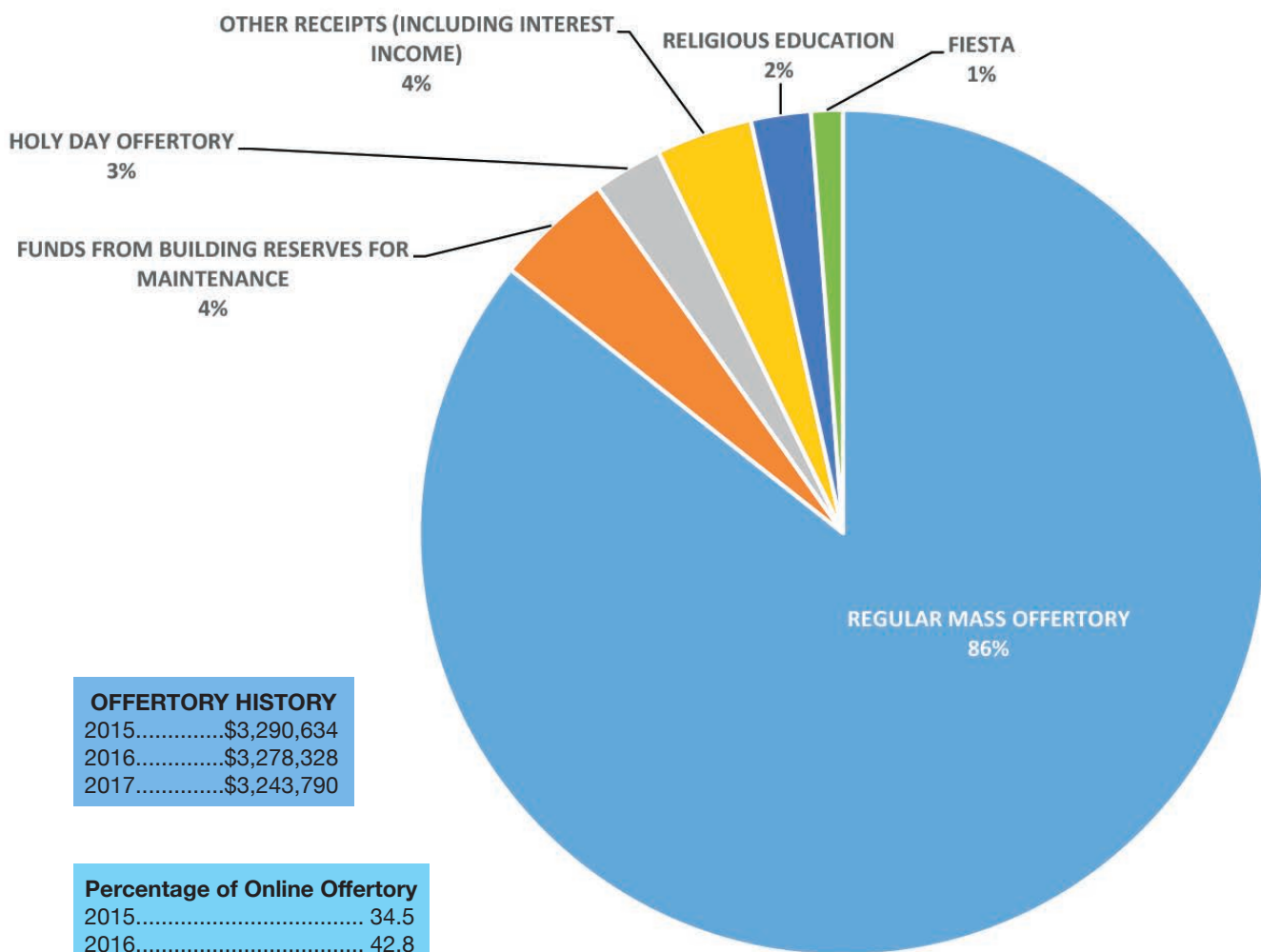
Rev. Al Sinasac C.S.B.

Rev. Al Sinasac, C.S.B.
Pastor - Saint Anne Catholic Community



FINANCES

SOURCES OF FUNDS \$3,672,700



Fiscal year is July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

FINANCES

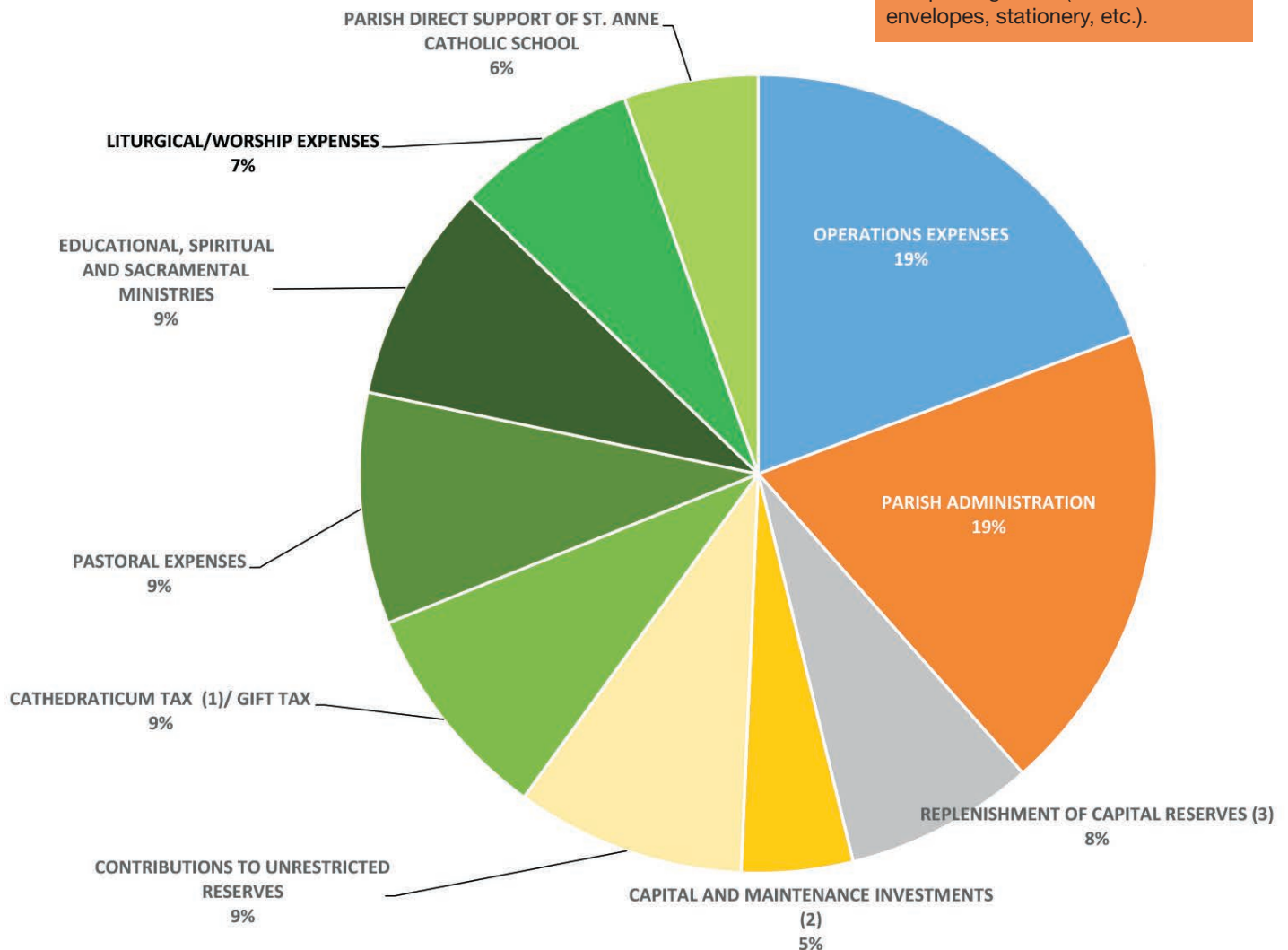


USES OF FUNDS

No significant changes in levels of expenses and investments from prior year.

Operations Expenses included utilities, insurance, building and grounds maintenance and repairs, and related personnel expenses.

Parish Administration includes the cost of running the church offices, communications costs, professional services, bank and credit card fees, and printing costs (collection envelopes, stationery, etc.).



(1) Payment required from all Archdiocese parishes to support Archdiocese level expenses and activities undertaken in support of all the parishioners in the Archdiocese (The Cathedraticum).

(2) Capital projects include: Bride's Room renovation, purchase of tractor and utility vehicles, security cameras, copiers, master plan, relocation of business office, lighting, security glass for Parish Office building.

(3) Capital reserves are required to be held by the Archdiocese to cover major repairs or improvements to church buildings and property.



RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Adult Confirmation

Adult Catholics, 18 years or older, who have received their first eucharist can start instruction to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation through a ten-week program. The 2017 program began in January with 10 participants. After Pentecost Sunday, confirmations were celebrated by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo at St. Michael Catholic Church.

Continuing Catholic Education

Continuing Catholic Education (CCE) for children at Saint Anne Parish in 2016-2017 was offered to parishioners with children between Pre-K 4 to 5th grade. The program is run by Director of Catechesis for Children Scott Harr and Early Childhood Coordinator Alicia Barboza. In addition to these administrators, CCE has 34 adult volunteer catechists. Parents are encouraged to participate by attending parent talks and participating in two service projects during Advent and Lent. Last year, there were 330 students, with 102 of them receiving sacraments.

The Early Childhood Catechesis Program

The Early Childhood Catechesis Program (pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade) holds ~130 students working actively with 16 volunteer catechists. The program prepares young children for their sacrament of reconciliation and first communion in the second grade by meeting two times a month and learning about God's word. The classes consist of prayers, activities, crafts, and lessons based on the theme or gospel of the day. *Our Sunday Visitor* serves as the main textbook and activity sheets are also utilized.

Hispanic Ministry

Sylvia Salinas, M.Div., leads the Hispanic Ministry and she works under the direction of Fr. Alvin Sinasac, C.S.B. and Fr. David Zapalac, C.S.B. Liturgies as well as cultural and religious devotions are celebrated in Spanish throughout the liturgical year. Lay ministry leaders coordinate all of the liturgical ministries and ministers. A strong emphasis is placed on education as it is important that the faithful understand the theology, tradition and history of the liturgy and religious devotions. The Hispanic Ministry serves a large and diverse population of Spanish-speaking faithful. They are an integral part of Saint Anne Catholic Community in their vibrant, devout, and traditional religious celebrations

Infant Baptism

Five times per year, classes are offered in English or Spanish to assist parents and godparents to prepare for the baptism of their infant. Each parent class consists between 40 and 60 couples, and the godparent classes are normally attended by from 25-30 godparents. Saint Anne's baptism team prepared ~200 couples to celebrate the sacrament of Baptism with their infants.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a formation process in which interested adults may explore Catholicism over time in a communal, relaxed environment and eventually enter into the Catholic faith community. RCIA gatherings, with the experience of worship and opportunity for service, help participants find their spiritual home. For



RELIGIOUS FORMATION



January 2018, six people have entered the inquiry process, two will celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, first eucharist, and confirmation at the Easter Vigil and four will celebrate first communion and confirmation in May. The individuals who began the journey in January 2017, will come into full communion with the Catholic church in November.

Youth Ministry

Saint Anne Youth Ministry helps young people foster a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church in an environment where teens can actively participate in their church community, ask questions, and leave prepared to live as disciples of Christ in the world. Youth Ministry at Saint Anne Church consists of Ignite for 5th and 6th graders, EDGE for 7th and 8th graders, Life Teen for high school students, and youths that are registered for confirmation and other sacraments.

EDGE meets on Sunday with 20 to 25 students in attendance and one Friday a month for social events. EDGE continues to pick up throughout the year and is a wonderful mix of traditional CCE and games. Discussion involves catechetical theme for the week, scripture, current events, and a question and answer session. Ignite meets on Sunday from 10-11 a.m.

Confirmation is a two-year process and meets two to three Sundays a month (August-May) from 6:15-7:30 p.m. Following the confirmation guidelines, candidates study creed, morality, prayer, and sacraments. On the third Sunday during Life Night, a topical subject such as the election, bullying, or chastity is discussed. Time is also spent answering questions teens leave in a question box.

On May 1, 2017, 51 confirmation candidates were confirmed and to celebrate, Fr. Al hosted a barbecue for the teens, their parents, and catechists.

All of the youth were given opportunities throughout the year to complete community service at Saint Anne. Many of the youth ministry teens were Vacation Bible School volunteers and assumed leadership roles. For the year, there were 85 confirmation candidates, 30 in Ignite, and 12 in EDGE.





ST. ANNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Anne Catholic School is the largest ministry of Saint Anne Catholic Community. The school serves the families and 509 students from Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade. The school has been teaching Catholic values since 1930.

For 69 years, the school has hosted FIESTA, a day-long community festival for the entire Saint Anne Community. Funds from sponsors, raffle ticket sales, and booth revenue during FIESTA 2016 was the largest fundraiser for the school community.

FIESTA 2016 brought in total revenue of \$321,015. Of the \$222,515 total net proceeds, \$173,978 remained with the school and \$48,537 was distributed back to the parish. FIESTA proceeds are used for general budgetary expenses.

Finally, the school has an Annual Golf Tournament benefit that provides various technology needs for the school. The well attended event raised \$38,415 and brought together the community for a fun day on the golf course!

The school also enlists an Annual Fund. The money raised provides financial assistance for the technology development, professional development for the teachers, and enrichment through the arts. The Annual Fund maintained 100 percent participation amongst the faculty, staff, and the School Board.



SCHOOL FOUNDATION



Since 1982, the St. Anne School Foundation mission has been to provide financial support to maintain and strengthen the learning environment of St. Anne Catholic School.

The goals of the Foundation are:

1. Provide an annual grant to support the school's operating needs.
2. Continue to build the St. Anne Endowment to ensure the school's financial stability.
3. Award scholarships to encourage spirituality, academic excellence, diversity, and community service.

During fiscal year 2016-2017, the Foundation conducted two major fundraising initiatives. The Father John Robbins Bourse Campaign raised \$113,895 to provide \$100,000 for 19 Bourse scholarships for the 2017-18 school year and continue to grow the scholarship fund in support of enriching the diversity of the school. The Bourse fund, which began in late 2009, currently holds more than \$800,000 for ongoing scholarship support.

In February 2017, the 19th Annual Foundation Gala, Escape to Paradise: Let Your Dreams Set Sail, raised \$883,615 less expenses of \$257,555. Proceeds provided a 2017-18 annual grant to the school of \$175,000 and helped grow the St. Anne Endowment. The school has designated the annual grant for campus security and safety.

The Endowment, which exists for the single purpose of supporting St Anne Catholic School, is currently \$2.7 million, with additional annual contributions added each year after the school receives its grant and other expenses are covered.

In May 2017, through the generosity of donors from the St. Anne Community and beyond, the Foundation also awarded 23 scholarships for the 2017-18 school year totaling \$25,000 for student scholarships and \$2,000 for faculty scholarships.

The Parish and the school are truly thankful for the generosity of the St. Anne School Foundation donors who continue to provide valuable support to the school for many years.





STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship activity this past year has been marked with triumph, tragedy, and tenacity. In every circumstance, the parishioners in our ministries, committees, and organizations have performed above expectations for the benefit of others.

Response to Hurricane Harvey

Hurricane Harvey provided Houston with a year's worth of rain over a four-day period causing overwhelming flooding, destruction, and devastation that affected thousands of people. The experience of this horrific storm gave Saint Anne the opportunity to demonstrate stewardship at its best, with people helping people regardless of differences. The Saint Anne Harvey relief initiative quickly and efficiently amassed truckloads of donated baby items, personal hygiene products, towels, blankets, food, and other supplies that were delivered to shelters – with many parishioners and ministry members actively taking part in the rescue, comfort, and clean-up efforts for those impacted. These personal acts of heroism in the face of great adversity reflected the essence of true stewardship.

Successful Ministry Fair

Despite the hurricane delay, the 2017 Ministry Fair was again a great success. Enthusiastic parishioners visited the festive Ministry Fair following the seven Masses and gave witness to the nearly 70 diverse ministries, committees, organizations, and educational opportunities. People of all ages and backgrounds visited colorful booths, met with over one hundred volunteers, asked questions, and found ways to give of their time and talents for the growth and well-being of our Saint Anne Catholic Community. After every Mass, the Ministry Fair truly painted a picture of who we are as a faith community with everyone striving to experience the living God through stewardship.

Ministry members demonstrated tremendous generosity with their time, talent, and treasure last year.

Here is a sampling of the great work performed:

Amazing Place volunteers report national recognition in Alzheimer's care and plans underway to expand into the West Houston/Katy market area.

St. Anne Archives completed cataloguing of all printed parish documents and continues with scanning and documenting parish historical photos.

Bridges To Life founder/CEO received the 2017 Carol Vance award recognizing his extraordinary efforts in reaching 27,000 volunteer hours and graduating 5,600 offenders in the program;

Saint Anne Care Team supplied rides and personal visits to over 15 grateful recipients.

Marriage Prep provided spiritual support and documentation to over 150 couples.

Prayer Shawl Ministry distributed numerous hand-made items within the parish community, St. Dominic's, and other outside organizations.

Rosary Guild provided two \$500 religious scholarships to St. Anne School and pledged \$1000 to the Capital Campaign.

Saint Monica Moms provided meals and support for nine families, lunches each month to Casa Juan Diego, weekly family rosaries, bake sales, and numerous other activities in support of the parish and school.

St. Anne's Guild redecorated, reupholstered, and refreshed the Bride's Room, and donated two \$3,500 Scholarships for Service for rising seventh grade girls at St. Anne School.

Saint Anne Young Adults (SAYA) members volunteered monthly at Casa Juan Diego and the Food Bank as well as providing a scholarship for St. Anne School and coordinating Bible studies for the parish community.



MUSIC



The activities of the Music Ministry include providing music and cantors for the weddings and funerals that occur at Saint Anne, and music at all five English-language masses each weekend. Singing is led either by a cantor, or by the Saint Anne Adult Choir at the 11 a.m. Mass between September and June. The Saint Anne Handbell Choir offers anthems at many 9 a.m. Masses between September and

June. There are currently over 40 parishioners involved in the Saint Anne Adult Choir, 20 cantors, and 10 ringers in the Handbell Choir. The Saint Anne School Choir has over 30 members.

Beatrice Garcia directs the Spanish adult choir and Serafines, the 50-member strong Hispanic children's choir. Both choirs lead singing at masses throughout the year.

In June 2017, the Saint Anne Catholic Community was deeply saddened by the loss of Matt McCue, director of music and liturgy since 2014. His passing was regretted by everyone who was touched by his passionate devotion to the music life of Saint Anne.



SAINT ANNE BY THE NUMBERS

205

BAPTISMS

72

WEDDINGS

512

STUDENTS

128

CONFIRMATIONS

60

FUNERALS

133

FIRST COMMUNIONS

