



2017-18 *Annual Report*



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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



Table of Contents

Letter from the Pastor	1
Financial Report	2
Religious Formation Summary.....	4
St. Anne Catholic School Summary	6
St. Anne School Foundation Summary.....	7
Stewardship Summary.....	8
Music Summary	9

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.

About 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 1925. 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.



Letter from Our Pastor

My Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the Saint Anne Catholic Community 2017-18 Annual Report. This past year we have seen many improvements to our campus and in how we communicate to you.

Saint Anne Parish's Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended the installation of a perimeter fence and gates along Westheimer Road. The fence serves as yet another safety measure for our St. Anne Catholic School students, better deters and reduces vandalism, and restricts transients from accessing campus.



There was a time when the Sunday bulletin served as the only means of communicating to the parish. Saint Anne Parish has since joined the digital age and is now totally immersed. In the last two years, we have launched a brand-new website, implemented weekly email blasts, and recently created a presence on social media through Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, links of which are on our website, www.saintanne.org. With engaging content, these platforms allow our administration to quickly and efficiently communicate news and information regarding events at Saint Anne, weather-related situations, for example Hurricane Harvey, and potential instances of crisis management to the Parish.

Finances

The finances of Saint Anne Parish are again fiscally healthy in 2017-18. We were able to meet our revenue goals for the Parish and our Diocesan Services Fund goal to the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

Offertory gifts are our number one source of funding and we continue to be humble custodians of our finances. We have zero debt and this is due to the selfless acts of giving from our parishioners. It is this giving that allows Saint Anne to fund our liturgical, worship, and pastoral expenses; support our educational, spiritual, sacramental ministries; and maintenance of our campus.

I would like to commend our Parish Finance Council (PFC) for initiating and executing *Raise the Bar*, a short-term awareness campaign regarding offertory giving. The Parish continues to grow in numbers, but our weekly offertory had essentially remained flat. Maintaining our beautiful campus and facilities depends upon the generosity of our community. *Raise the Bar* brought attention to the matter and the response from the Parish was exciting to witness.

Another aspect of the *Raise the Bar* campaign was the promotion of online giving through Faith Direct. The preferred method of receiving weekly offertory gifts and donations is through FaithDirect.net, as online giving saves Saint Anne money regarding expenditures on postage and expensive envelopes. It also makes it easier for our business administration to better plan and budget, while being convenient for our parishioners to give, in not having to remember and handle weekly checks and envelopes.

Online contributions have increased from 30.2 percent in 2015 to 44.5 percent in 2017.

Please prayerfully consider whether you can increase your weekly and annual giving to help us support the needs of our active and growing parish.

Summary

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,

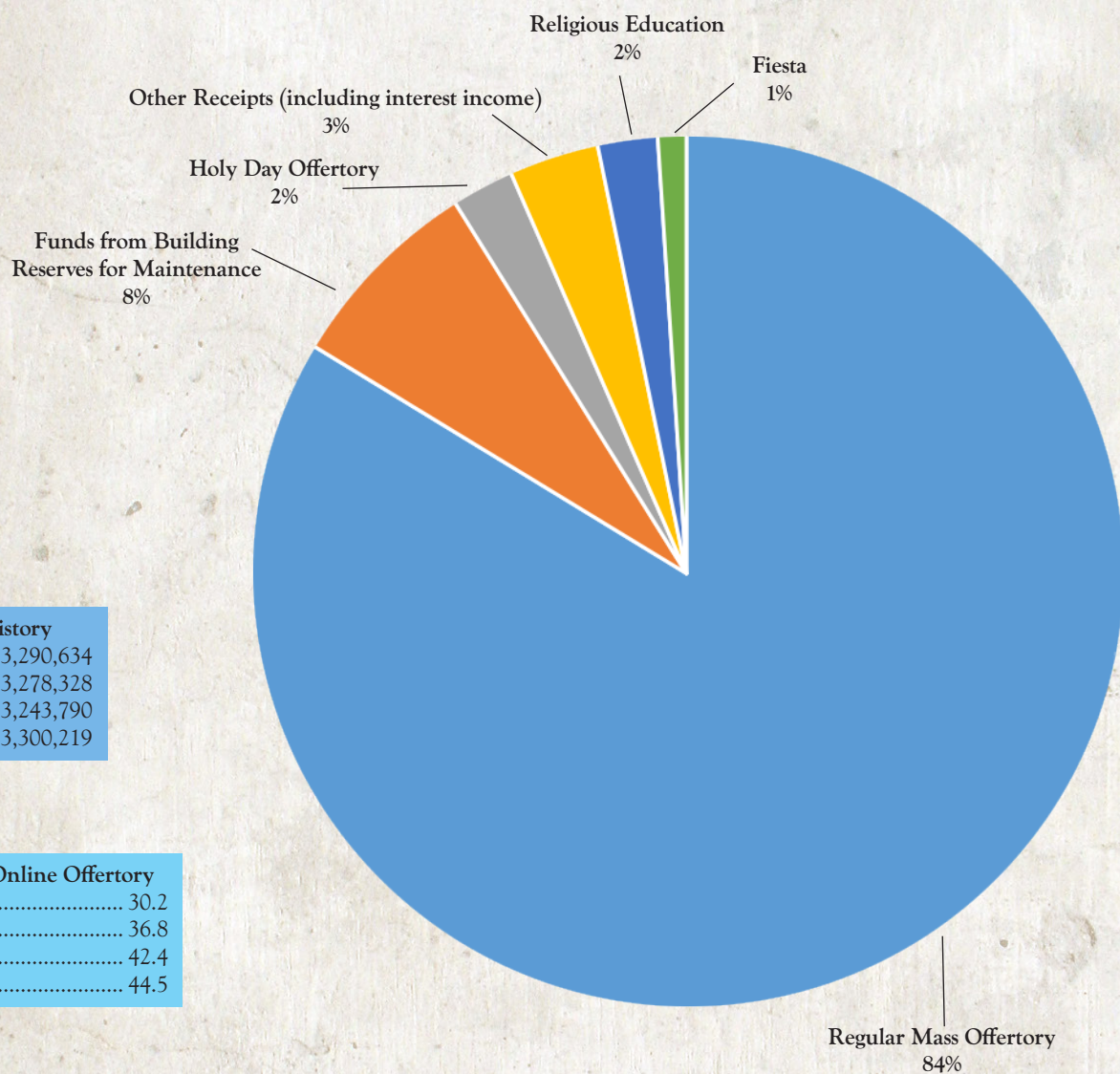
Rev. Al Sinasac C.S.B.

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

Finances

SOURCES OF FUNDS

\$3.8 million



Offertory History

2014-15		\$3,290,634
2015-16		\$3,278,328
2016-17		\$3,243,790
2017-18		\$3,300,219

Percentage of Online Offertory

2014-15		30.2
2015-16		36.8
2016-17		42.4
2017-18		44.5

Fiscal year is July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

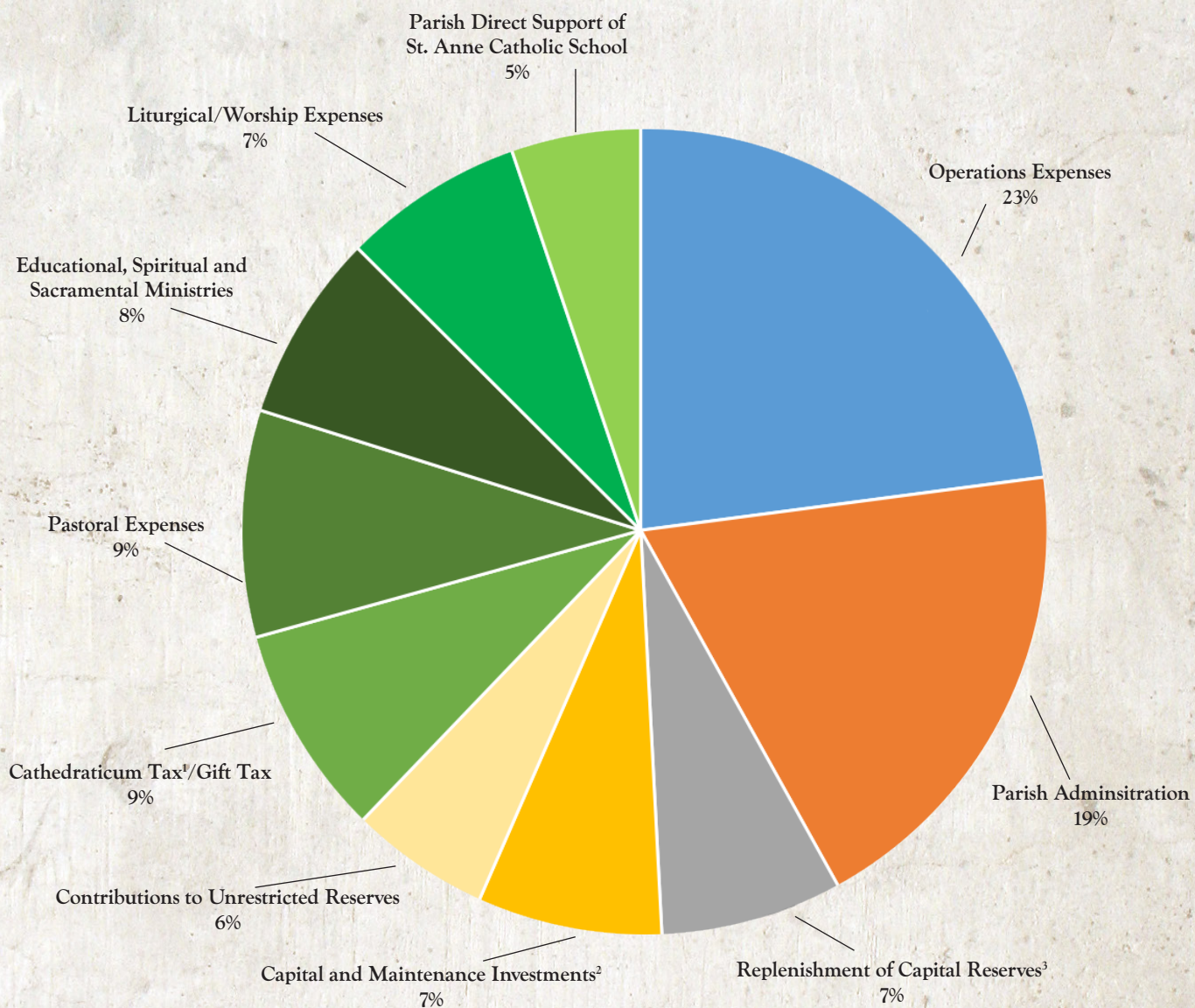
Finances

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 includes: church lighting, grand piano for church, sidewalk, concrete drive, asphalt repair, copier for music department, master plan, hardwood flooring in rectory, security cameras, custom fence and gates.

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 Faith Formation continues to offer opportunities for those wishing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation into the Catholic Church. We offer two start dates for RCIA and Adult Confirmation Preparation begins in February. Fifty to sixty adults participate in Adult sacrament preparation annually, receiving their Sacraments throughout the Liturgical year.

There are a variety of Faith Formation programs offered throughout the year for adults wanting to enrich their faith through Scripture study, religious reading groups and Liturgical Seasonal reflection.

Continuing Christian Education (CCE) for children provides catechesis and Sacrament preparation to over 400 children each year. Classes are held on Sunday mornings twice a month. The Children and their families participate in retreats, service projects and are encouraged to attend the Children's mass on Sundays. Parents attend workshops and parent formation meetings several times a semester while students attend CCE classes. Bilingual resources are available for Spanish speaking children and Spanish language parent formation meetings are offered simultaneously for Spanish speakers.

Infant Baptism

Our parish offers six pre-baptism



preparation classes throughout the year for both parents and godparents. The parents' and godparents' pre-baptismal classes are held on Saturdays. We offer baptisms most often twice every month

of the year in English and three times a year in Spanish.

Youth Ministry

Saint Anne started the year with



Religious Formation

27 Youth Ministry catechists, the goal was 18! Having catechists in place allows our staff to focus on the next two groups that need the most developments: Rooted and Post-Confirmation. Emily Bryant is working to create lesson plans that better fit with our curriculum and our calendar. Another goal of Youth Ministry is to increase the opportunities for Confirmation service within the parish. Currently, teens have opportunities to be trained lectors and ushers. Youth Ministry has a very active role in Fall Fiesta. Those registered in Ignite number 43, 22 in Rooted, and 95 are involved in Confirmation.



The Nursery is open on Sundays from 9 a.m. until noon to provide babysitting during Mass. The nursery is also available to Saint Anne ministry organizations, such as St. Monica Moms, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:15 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The Nursery underwent an update the spring of 2017. New furniture and equipment was purchased and the room was thoroughly cleaned.



Saint Anne by the Numbers

Baptisms.....	165
First Communions.....	103
Weddings.....	76
Confirmations.....	127
Funerals.....	21
Students	512

St. Anne Catholic School

A Legacy of Leadership

For over 88 years, St. Anne Catholic School's commitment to the Basilian philosophy of "Teach Me Goodness, Discipline, and Knowledge," has inspired our passion for educating students in body, mind, and spirit. Founded in 1930 by the Basilian Fathers and under the direction of the Sisters of Divine Providence, St. Anne is the first Catholic school in the Archdiocese to be accredited and continues serving as a leader among Houston area Catholic Schools.

A Reflection of Our Community

St. Anne Catholic School is the largest ministry of Saint Anne Catholic Community. The School serves over 500 students from Pre-Kindergarten three through eighth grade from approximately 50 Houston zip codes. Faculty and staff is comprised of over 60 members, who choose to serve Catholic schools. The strength of our diversity makes St. Anne Catholic School a proud reflection of our great city.

Fundraising For Fellowship

FIESTA is the largest, most important fundraiser for the St. Anne Catholic School and Parish, which brings the entire St. Anne community together for a day of fellowship and fun. Each year, funds from FIESTA supplement the gap between the actual cost to educate a child and the tuition that the school collects. Eighty percent of the money raised at FIESTA directly supports the school's budget, while 20% of the proceeds benefit the Church's religious education program. Funds from sponsors, raffle ticket sales, and booth revenue during FIESTA 2017

brought in a total of \$300,459. Of the \$201,214 total net proceeds, \$160,948 remained with the school and \$40,266 was distributed back to the parish.

Fundraising For Today

The St. Anne Catholic School Annual Fund ensures that St. Anne continues to be a leader of Catholic education in the Archdiocese. Dollars raised from the Annual Fund provides for all the enhancements, like innovative technology, continued professional development for faculty and staff, and for creative programming like Writers in the Schools. In 2017, the St. Anne Annual Fund raised over \$100,000.

Contributions to the Annual Fund allows the school to maintain the highest quality education experience possible for all students and staff.

Fundraising For Our Future

Preserving the legacy of leadership in Catholic education requires a long-term commitment. For that reason St. Anne Catholic School made an investment in the future of our Parish. In 2017, the School gifted \$700,000 towards the Generations of Faith Campaign, a substantial contribution to the growth of the school and parish.



St. Anne School Foundation

Focused on the Students of St. Anne Catholic School

The work and mission of the St. Anne School Foundation is to provide financial support to maintain and strengthen the learning environment of St. Anne Catholic School. The Foundation exists solely to serve St. Anne Catholic School, its students and faculty. All the Foundation's fundraising activities benefit St. Anne Catholic School. From funds raised and earned in 2017-18, the Foundation provided \$314,890 to the school for the 2018-19 school year.

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.

Supporting Quality Catholic Education in an Enriching Environment

Throughout its history, the Foundation has been committed to ensuring that the facilities and resources of St. Anne Catholic School support the exceptional teaching staff and provide an academically enriching environment for students. Over the years, the Foundation's contributions have supported needs-based tuition assistance, faculty continuing education, fine arts programs, technology needs, and classroom and campus enhancements. Recently, the Foundation pledged a Generations of Faith Capital Campaign gift of \$700,000 designated for the school's new Commons Building.

Dedicated to Philanthropy that Engages Donor and Recipient

The St. Anne School Foundation raises funds through two major initiatives – an annual gala and the Father John Robbins Bourse Scholarship Campaign. In addition, the Foundation solicits, manages and disburses more than 20 scholarships totaling more than \$28,000 for students and faculty. For the ongoing support of the school, the Foundation is building an endowment to benefit St. Anne Catholic School.

During fiscal year 2017-18, the Foundation conducted two major fundraising initiatives. The Father John Robbins Bourse Campaign raised \$120,000 to provide \$110,000 for 20 Bourse scholarships for the 2018-19 school year and continue to grow the scholarship fund in support of the enriching diversity of the school. The Bourse fund, which began in 2010, currently holds more than \$600,000 for ongoing scholarship support.

In February 2018, the Foundation hosted the 20th Anniversary Gala and raised \$807,000 less expenses of \$252,000. Proceeds provided a 2018-19 annual grant to the school of \$175,000 and helped grow the St. Anne Endowment. The school 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 \$2.9 million, with additional annual contributions added each year after the school receives its grant and other expenses are covered.

Established in 1982 as a Non-Profit

The St. Anne School Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was established by the pastor and parishioners of the St. Anne Catholic Community in 1982. It is governed by a 22-member Board of Trustees consisting of parents from St. Anne Catholic School, and parishioners and the pastor from the St. Anne Catholic Community. The Foundation is committed to the ongoing success of St. Anne Catholic School, whose mission is to develop each student academically, spiritually, culturally, physically, and interpersonally in a Catholic environment.



Stewardship

Houston is known for the generosity, resilience and community spirit of its people ... and the Saint Anne Catholic Community is no exception. Parishioners and ministries responded to the 2017 epic flooding of Hurricane Harvey by enthusiastically giving their time, talent and treasure, and continuing those efforts over the past year.

Reflections of Saint Anne stewardship spirit for our parish, our school and our Houston community include:

- **Amazing Place** servicing adults with mild to moderate memory loss and their caregivers is now expanding to two locations - Houston and Katy. New staff and volunteer opportunities will be available with this exciting growth. Saint Anne is a founding member and supporter of this exemplary initiative.
- **Christian Community Service Center (CCSC)** volunteers at Saint Anne raised an amazing \$5,026 after all seven masses to help fund 6,573 children (pre-K to 8th) in the Back To School drive. The Jingle Bell Express drive donated toys and gifts for over 2,500 children (infant to 15); notably 25 percent of the more than 800 volunteers for all phases of the huge operation came from Saint Anne – contributing approximately 2,400 hours to the program in 2017. In addition, more than 3,700 donated “bonus items” including new and gently-used clothing, shoes, backpacks, and accessories were distributed to students and family members.
- Members of **St. Anne Young Adults (SAYA)** excelled in community outreach. Volunteers assisted families in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey with donations as well as helping with the demolition of severely damaged homes. Members also routinely volunteered with All Saints food pantry, Loaves & Fishes kitchen and Casa Juan Diego. SAYA again raised funds to donate two \$750 scholarships for St. Anne Catholic School students.

- The generosity of Saint Anne parishioners made it possible for volunteers with the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** to make 236 home visits to families in need and provide over \$85,000 in financial assistance to prevent homelessness and substandard living conditions.

- **St. Anne's Guild** donated \$5,000 to replace the parish kitchen ice machine and awarded two \$2,500 Scholarships for Service to rising 8th grade students at St. Anne Catholic School.

Volunteers provided weekly lunches for Casa Juan Diego, assisted at all funerals and weddings, provided funeral receptions as needed and provided countless volunteer hours and material support to CCSC. The Guild also maintains an active prayer practice to spiritually support its members, their families, the parish and our community.

- Dedicated to Our Blessed Mother and healthy marriage, **Teams of Our Lady** teams of 5-7 couples met for monthly pot luck suppers, spiritual fellowship and study. Saint Anne currently has four Teams and are part of the Central Houston Teams which has 25 Teams.
- **Marriage Prep** volunteers provided spiritual support, guidance and administration for about 150 couples, which included those getting married at Saint Anne and in their home parishes as well as in destination weddings at Catholic approved locations.
- **Men's Sunrise Scripture Study** finished an extensive study of Bishop Fulton Sheen's Life of Christ and are now engaged in a study of St. Paul's



letters to the Corinthians.

- Volunteers with **Saint Anne Archives** continued to expertly catalog and organize parish historical documents and photos to meet current and future needs.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry's** 20 members created and delivered 35 baby blankets to Birthright, a nonprofit charitable organization. Another 22 prayer shawls, lap blankets and fiddle blankets were delivered to individuals in Saint Anne parish, all since January 2018.
- **Saint Monica Moms** provided meals for some needy families as well as for Casa Juan Diego each month. Members also support the parish and school with bake sales, spiritual events and numerous other activities.
- **The Stewardship Committee** hosted both the Ministry Leaders Social event and the very successful 2018 Ministry Fair, which attracted throngs of interested parishioners and new volunteers, and also produced the beautifully illustrated 2018-19 Ministry Directory.

The traumatic and heartwarming memories of Hurricane Harvey remind us that goodwill still lives strong - one of the many reasons we are so proud to be here in Houston and belong to the Saint Anne Catholic Community. We are Houston strong and **Saint Anne Strong!**

Music

The very active Ministry of Music at Saint Anne has experienced quite a lot of change within the past year under Tom Jaber, the director of music and organist. He is assisted by Andrew Salyer, assistant director of music, Donald Buckholt, administrative assistant, and Beatrice Garcia, in the Hispanic Music Ministry.

The Saint Anne Choir has expanded its reach beyond the 11 a.m. Mass, so that those attending the other Masses could experience the beautiful singing of the Choir. As such, the Choir has performed at the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday and Sunday, as well as the 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. Sunday Masses. These additional appearances have enhanced the Mass experience for the congregation, beyond that of the assigned Mass cantor. The Saint Anne Choir also sang at the annual Ministry Fair in St. Basil Hall

Mr. Jaber has been aided in the playing of the organ with the support of Andrew Salyer and Corbin Young on a weekly basis. These two gentlemen play many services for the Parish annually, including weddings and funerals.

Andrew also assists Bea Garcia with the Hispanic Music Ministry. Mr. Jaber has also joined from time to time in helping with the Spanish Masses that Adrian Zavala leads weekly. Andrew, incidentally, is the pianist for the Children's Choir in the St. Anne Catholic School and is the leader of our adult handbell choir, which rings regularly at the 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

The Music Ministry provided music for Christmas eve Mass and the overflow Mass in St. Basil Hall, and sang as a combined choir with many members of the Hispanic Music Ministry for the bi-lingual Easter Vigil.

On September 9, 2018, the Music Ministry, along with the Houston Masterworks Chorus, performed the "Of Faith and Freedom" concert inside the Church. The event included a talk by Billy Forney, son of parishioners Carolyn and Bill Forney, who recounted his amazing experience in surviving the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center towers.

The Choir also performed a beautiful Lenten cantata entitled, "The Weeping Tree" on Good Friday of 2018. This beautiful piece provided anthems to sing during Mass throughout Lent,



and culminated in the singing of the piece in its entirety during the Good Friday services. The Saint Anne Choir also participated in a special Holy Week musical presentation on the Tuesday evening of Holy Week 2018. The Choir was joined by vocal soloists Kelly Brueggen, Mark Thomas, and Benjamin Schaefer as well as James Dunham, violist and Benjamin Laude, pianist as they offered works by Vaughan Williams, Bach, Beethoven, and Dubois.

For much of his first year as music director, Tom Jaber was joined in leadership by his gifted wife, Dr. Andrea H. Jaber. She volunteered her time to help to lead the choir by conducting them so that Tom would be free to play either the piano or organ for any given Mass.

It has been a busy and enthusiastic year for Music at Saint Anne Catholic Community.



