



ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

1

A YEAR OF COMMUNAL CELEBRATIONS

Special and seasonal observances gave us opportunities to gather. The St. Vincent de Paul Society hosted a profitable Lights-Out Bingo. On All Souls Day we celebrated Latino culture with a Dia de los Muertos meal. In Advent the Marantha novena was an occasion to pray, sing, and hear reflections from parishioners. A May crowning brought people to visit a specially-set outdoor shrine to Mary, and a parade of parishioners saluted Fr. O'Toole on the 25th anniversary of his priesthood. And the Young Adults and Professionals group gathered monthly for socials at the rectory.

2

A YEAR OF CONTINUED GENEROSITY

Being good stewards, parishioners attended to the temporal needs of our operations. With steady weekly contributions, thanks in large part to electronic giving, we kept pace with ordinary operating expenses. Pledges paid to the capital campaign remained on track, allowing us to complete on time the installation of air conditioning in the school. We were also blessed by two estate gifts, and an Ensuring Parish Viability grant from the ACA.

3

A YEAR OF UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

The pandemic descended on all of us, and social distancing impacted our morale. The temporary suspension of public Masses, the inability to assemble and celebrate Holy Week and Easter, and the delay of First Communion, Confirmation, and initiation of adults were all spiritual hardships. In March the school was obliged to shift abruptly to virtual learning.

4

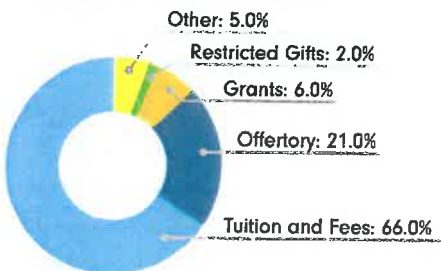
A YEAR TO VALUE THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY

The Eucharist, the centerpiece of our life as a parish, was, and continues to be, celebrated with faith and devotion in ways that protect everyone's health. Mass is coming into homes via live stream, and Holy Communion is brought to those who are not with us. Using available social media technologies like Zoom, parish organizations and ministries stay connected in their service to the community. And as our country confronts a reckoning with the sin of racism, we stand and work in solidarity with our hurting neighbors of color.

COMBINED OPERATING BUDGET (not including capital)

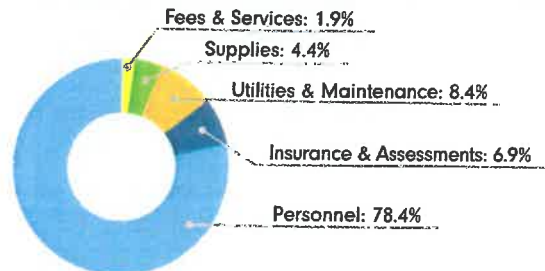
OPERATING REVENUE \$3.4M*

* \$2.56M School // \$840K Parish



OPERATING EXPENSES \$3.2M*

* \$2.56M School // \$661K Parish



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS MADE
Total - \$68,780

PRESERVING OUR FUTURE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

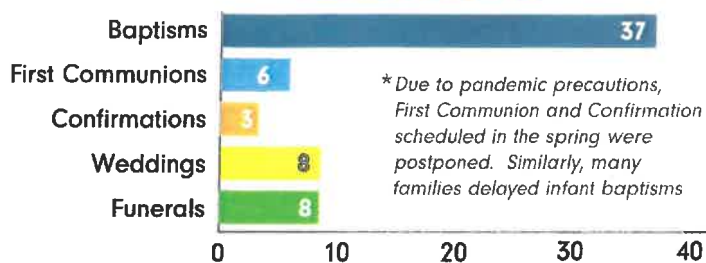
Total Pledges - \$1,471,184
Total Pledges Paid - \$843,821
Percent Pledges Paid - 57%



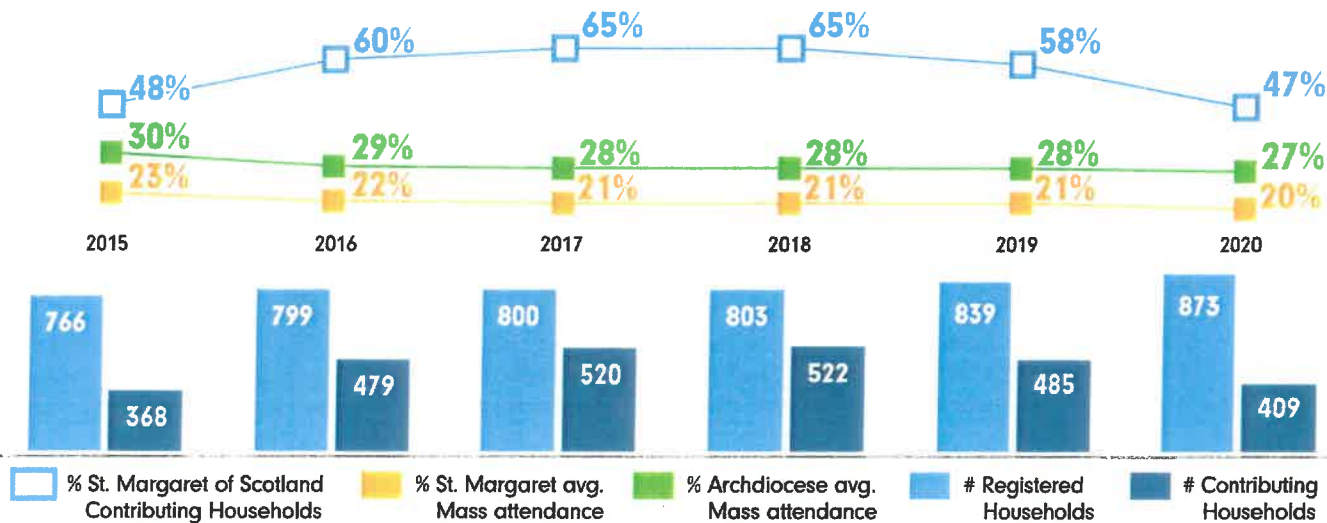
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT



SACRAMENTS *



PARISH STATISTICS



A WORKING PARISH ADAPTS

In response to challenges created by the pandemic, we are finding new ways to celebrate faith, including live streaming. Accommodations are made to ensure the health of those who gather for baptisms, weddings and funerals. The choir, while presently unable to assemble, produced and shared with us a digital recording to uplift spirits and help keep our faith vibrant. And we look forward to the installation of the refurbished pews, a project of the capital campaign we have been fortunate to begin ahead of schedule. In preparing for the reopening of school, the variety of gifted and talented people collaborated to make the "Return to Learn" a thoroughly considered plan. Their earnest work and careful anticipation of so many factors were evidence of a sincere desire to serve the best interests of our students, families and faculty. Financial strength has allowed us to avoid furloughing school employees and to meet the needs of a dual learning platform. A timely and generous grant from the Kemper Foundation likewise assisted our school's technology plan.

Some pressing personnel needs continue to be deferred due to budget limitations. The goal remains to have full or part-time assistance for the parish's data management and social media communications. We continue to assess the possibility of filling these roles. As we go forward, we face new frontiers: keeping parishioners and school children engaged; supporting the mental and spiritual health of our community; successfully navigating the financial strain that the pandemic has caused; and responding to those who are in special need. With dedicated leadership, engaged membership, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we can face the future with confidence and joy.



OUR MISSION - St. Margaret of Scotland Church is a diverse, urban, Catholic parish. Inspired by the Holy Spirit and the example of our patroness, we are called to be a vibrant voice and beacon of Catholic Faith in our neighborhoods. We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action by: Praying and celebrating as a Eucharistic community, Educating children and adults to live a full Christian life in today's world, Serving others with unconditional generosity, and Living just lives and working for a more just society