



Saint Julie Billiart Parish

August 1, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

I write to you today with an update on our parish finances. The previous fiscal year ended on June 30, 2021, so we have prepared an Annual Financial Report, on the reverse side of this letter, showing our annual income and expenses, with comparison to the previous fiscal year. As you know, each month, we publish in the bulletin the income and expenses from the previous month, but it is the Annual Financial Report that gives the full picture, since finances differ from month to month. As you will see, in spite of all the challenges we faced during the pandemic, St. Julie's had a very good year, financially, with a net profit of \$119,826.

The purpose of any Catholic parish is not to have a financial profit, but rather to give praise and worship to God while providing spiritual services to His people. These spiritual services, however, always require the responsible and prudent use of material resources. One main reason for our financial "success" of the past year was a substantial decrease in our annual expenses, in the amount of \$156,259 (22%) from the previous year. As I communicated to you previously, the initial decrease in income caused by the pandemic and the resulting forecasted deficit caused us to take a serious look at our expenses during the past year. I am convinced that faithful stewardship of the resources God gives us always requires careful attention to expenses, regardless of income levels.

But the other main reason for our annual surplus was the eventual return of our collection amounts, which eventually even surpassed the total income of the previous year. Thanks to your great generosity, the parish income during this past year actually increased by \$34,492 (5%) from our pre-pandemic income. This return of the collection amounts occurred during the second half of the fiscal year, which included our very successful Annual Appeal, and put us in the black.

One happy effect of this bright financial picture is that it lessens the pressure to conduct fundraising events for the parish. We do, however, have some significant upcoming expenses, such as necessary pavement repairs and landscaping, as well as other expenses that were not necessary or possible due to the lack of activities during the pandemic. It is also necessary, during these continuing uncertain times for the Church, to be fiscally prudent and look beyond the current year, in order to safeguard the financial stability and future of the Parish.

So, let me, once again, thank all of you for your great generosity and support of the Parish. I am also grateful to our Business Manager, Steven Guillotte, and the members of the Parish Finance Council who have advised me during this first year as Pastor here at St. Julie's. With a solid financial footing, we look forward to a bright future for St. Julie's Parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Dave Pignato

Rev. David A. Pignato

494 Slocum Road, Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747

www.saintjulies.org 508-993-2351