

Church of the Assumption  
2021-2022 State of Parish Report  
September 24 & 25, 2022

Hello, I am Al Pytel, Business Manager for the Parish. We are required by the Diocese of Cleveland to share the Financial Report of the Parish with the congregation. This financial report is for the fiscal year ending June 30th 2022. The two page report is located in the bulletin for your review and will also be posted on our website. It contains actuals results for 2021 and 2022 and our projected budget for this current fiscal year of 2023. I am glad to report for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row that the Parish is reporting a surplus.

Our Assumption Parish was founded in 1857 and is over 100 years older than many neighboring churches. Our Academy, founded in 1957, has been in operation for over 60 years. Assumption Parish property is situated on over 11 acres of land that includes 5 buildings comprised of over 94,000 square feet. Our maintenance personnel do a great job of maintaining and beautifying the Assumption campus. The Assumption Parish property is owned by the Diocese of Cleveland and we, as members of the Diocese, take care of this property so we can worship as a community and evangelize our neighbors. We have a lot to be thankful for and a lot to be proud of. We have a longstanding tradition of Faith and Learning that has positively impacted the surrounding community over many decades, and we look forward to continuing that tradition.

Our parish **families** have remained steady at nearly 1,700 which constitutes 3,300 members. This past year, we welcomed 54 new families, many of whom are with us today! We hope you have found Assumption to be warm and inviting and we encourage everyone to join one of our many ministries here at Assumption. New members are always welcome!

Our **Academy** was once again ranked as one of the best places to work in Cleveland! Our school enrollment began this year at 152 for Kindergarten through grade 8 and 37 for preschool. We did lose some students who chose to attend one of the two new public school buildings in Brecksville and North Royalton but some of those have returned back and others have joined us for various reasons, too.

For the past two years, the church has been a benefactor of government programs that were available for institutions that kept employees working, schools operating with in class participation, and kept their doors open and operating. These programs were the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Employee Retention Credit (ERC).

In addition, our two main sources of revenue which are the Weekly Offertory and our one day giving event, We Give Catholic, have allowed the church to remain fiscally sound. Our mandated Stewardship campaign yielded an 11% increase in offertory and our 4th year of the WeGiveCatholic campaign raised \$350,000. 228 organizations raised over 3 million dollars that day, and Assumption can proudly say that we brought in 11% of that total.

**Weekly Offertory** is our largest source of revenue to operate the parish and subsidize the school. Of our 1,700 registered families approximately 900 give something each year. Of those 900, 400 make up 86% of all Offertory dollars. If we could get the remaining 800 families to give just \$15/week, we could increase our Offertory by \$624,000. If the 500 families that already give could meet the average of the top 400, it would add an additional \$950,000. Those two increases could:

- Keep tuition for our school low or even reduced
- Replenish the Parish funds for capital improvements
- Fund future projects for our Parish and School

**We Give Catholic** is an annual day of online giving. This year it will be held Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. For the past 4 years, our parish community raised more money than any other in the diocese – last year reaching over \$350,000. This money was used to lower the parish subsidy for the school, capital investments in Phase 2 renovation of our church, heating and cooling upgrades for the school and other necessary projects to keep advancing our facilities to provide a safe and healthy environment for all to enjoy. This year we are targeting our drive to support a group of initiatives that we will share with you next month. Let's go for 5 in a row!

Other sources of revenue for the parish come from our renters. The **diocesan Culture Project** and **Nomad Culinary** continue to lease our Convent and Kitchen. We are entering into the third year of the four-year lease with the Culture Project.

This past **Fish Fry season** was, once again, take-out only. Over the 6 Fish Fry's, we grossed over \$80,000 and once again, 2/3 of all orders were processed by credit card. We had many of our seasoned veterans back and many new volunteers learning the pierogi making process. We look forward to this coming Lenten season. God willing, we will be returning to an eat-in and take-out evening. As always, we want to thank Jack Wahl for his leadership and many years of countless hours shepherding the event.

We continue to make **investments** in our Parish, our children, our community. Making Church of the Assumption and Assumption Academy a destination for all. We added a Marketing and Communications professional, hired a Director of Youth Ministry, and increased the support hours from our bookkeeping positions. Through these investments, we are positioning ourselves for continued development of our youth, our programs, and our impact to the communities we serve.

So, to **conclude**, on behalf of Fr. Justin and the Finance committee, thank you for your support you offer our Parish with your generosity, time and your many ways of financial support. Rest assured we are diligent in spending the funds bestowed to us in a prudent way.