

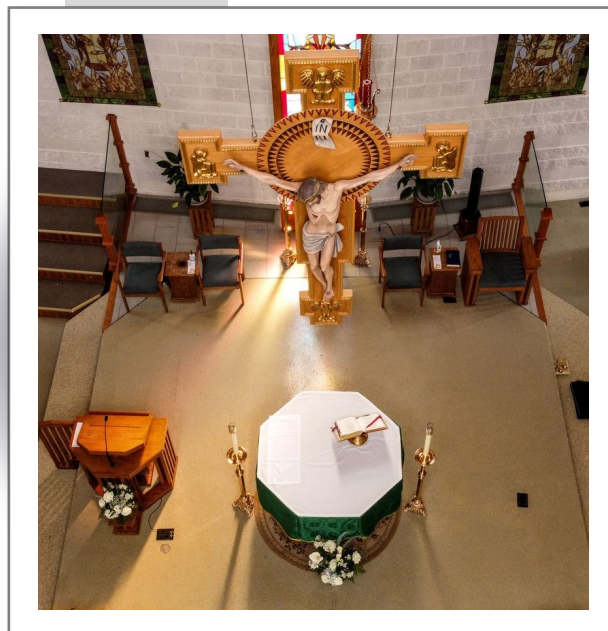
Hello Everyone,

The fiscal year 2022-2023 was an incredible one at St. Mark. Not only were we finishing up a capital campaign, but we were building a new parish life center! While that was certainly the most visible occurrence of the year, there was so much more that took place here at St. Mark. The wonderful thing about this annual report is that it gives a much fuller picture of what parish life is really like here. The Sacraments, our ministries, our social events, our outreach events, and our financial health as a parish are all captured in this report.

I want to thank the Stewardship Committee and all who helped put this annual report together. It truly is a mammoth undertaking for a parish our size. I also want to thank all of you our parishioners, who make this parish such a wonderful place to be and as this report shows, make it such a vibrant community of faith.

God Bless!

Fr. Tim



ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

2022-2023: By the Numbers

Parishioners

Number of Households	1327
Number of Individual Catholics	3738

Sacraments

Receptions into the Church

Infant Baptisms (0—6 years)	51
Minor Baptisms (7-17 years)	2
Adult Baptisms (18 and older)	2
Received into Full Communion <i>Other Christians who became Catholic</i>	4

First Communions	41
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Confirmations	43
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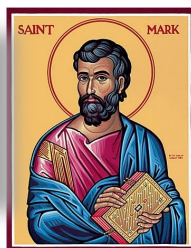
Burials	25
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Marriages

Catholic	5
Interfaith	1

St. Mark Catholic School

Number of Students	513
Number of Staff Members	61



Ministry Impacts...Just a Glimpse!

Parish Festival

\$49,000 Raised



Home Visitation

22 Parishioners Visited Weekly

Men's Club Night Out

50 Men Attended

Big Bake 2.0

18 + 21 = 60 Valentine Goody Bags for Parishioners
Adults Youth

Coat Drive

600+ Coats for St Vincent de Paul

Dinner Dance

Guests **300**

\$27,500 Raised

MMA Christmas Luncheon

190 Attendees

Welcome Baskets

27+ Baskets for Refugee Families

\$9,247

Advent Giving Tree

Donated for Neighbors in Need

Year in Review

2022

2023

JULY

- Introduction of Myanmar Masses
- Funfest Parish Festival
- Parish Center Demolition
- World Grandparents Day
- Youth Ministry "Meet a Monk"

AUGUST

- Start of School
- Staff Restructuring
- Pilgrimage to St. Mary's Cathedral
- Men's Club Golf Outing
- Home Visitation Ministry Training

SEPTEMBER

- Faith Formation & Confirmation Pgm Kick-off
- Bible Study on Book of Revelation
- Angi Swiezy's Retirement
- Return of Coffee and Donuts
- SVdP Blanket Sunday

OCTOBER

- Medicare Seminar
- Mother-Daughter Brunch
- Rosary for Peace
- Flu Shot and COVID Booster Clinic
- Trunk or Treat

NOVEMBER

- All Souls Mass of Remembrance
- Youth Ministry Ignite Conference
- SVdP Winter Coat Drive
- Initiation of Parish Survey
- Start of Advent Spirituality Series & Giving Tree

DECEMBER

- Junior High Winter Wonderland Dance
- MMA Christmas Luncheon
- Filipino Simbang Gabi Celebration
- Babysitting Offered by Girl Scouts
- Holy Season Concert

2022

JANUARY

- Beginning of Parish 75th Anniversary Year
- "Catechism in a Year" Initial Podcasts
- Publication of 2021-2022 Parish Annual Report
- Men's Club Night Out
- Catholic Schools Week

FEBRUARY

- Stewardship Celebration of Volunteers
- Big Bake Event 2.0
- Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance & Fundraiser
- Study of St. Joseph
- Launch of Lenten "Welcome Basket" Project

MARCH

- Continuation of Lenten Spiritual Activities
- Junior High Youth Day
- Tax Filing Assistance for Parishioners
- Youth Confirmation Retreat
- Soul Sisters Uniform Swap

APRIL

- MMA Sock Hop
- Holy Week, Easter, & RCIA Candidate Initiation
- Staff Retreat
- Start of Pictorial Directory Photos
- Special Mass for Feast Day of St. Mark

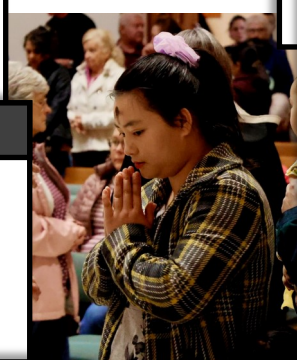
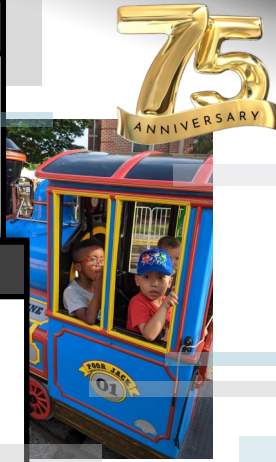
MAY

- Mary's WAY
- Bell Choir 10th Anniversary Concert
- High School Senior Recognition Mass
- MMA Game Night
- Arrival of Deacon Sam Roscoe

JUNE

- Start of Summer Citizenship & English Classes
- Corpus Christi Processions
- Holy Hour with Deacon Sam
- INTENSE Weekend for Youth

2023



Staff Spotlight

Farewell & Thank You!

In September 2022, **Angi Swiezy** retired from her position with the parish as Director of Faith Formation. Throughout her tenure which began in 2001, Angi took on many and varied responsibilities for the spiritual and communal life of the parish. Though she is missed, the profound impact she has had on many religious ed students, catechists, parishioners, and colleagues will not be forgotten.

The parish community thanks Angi for her service and wishes her well as she ventures into an exciting new chapter in her life.

In September, the parish also welcomed **Chris Risch** back to staff as Executive Director of Ministries.

Chris shares, "I have been in the St. Mark parish for over thirty years. I love the St. Mark family! Our diversity here is a reminder to me of God's love. He loves us all! It does not matter to Him the color of skin or the color of hair or what language we speak. He loves us all, and He only asks us to love as He loves. Simple? This is not always easy for me.



"But He gives us tools and these tools can look like the people He places in our lives. For me, He placed my brother Michael in my care. This is one of the best gifts I have received because he displays a constant reminder of how to love unconditionally.

"Other means God provides are the gifts He has given each of us as tools to love Him. We can share these gifts through service, prayer, maybe financial gifts. All of these connect us as a parish family. What an exciting time to be here at St. Mark as we approach the end of construction of the new Parish Life Center, Schafer Hall, parish offices, and Pre-K classrooms.

"I look forward to using our new facilities to regain who we are. We will have space to enrich our spirituality, welcome families at coffee and donuts, cheer on youth at games, and bring impact to the community. This can only be possible from you, the parishioner. Is there something you have wanted to become involved in but haven't yet?"

At the end of April 2023, **Frank Litz** turned over the reins as Director for St. Mark Athletics. Frank had served in the AD role for three and a half years. During his tenure, he oversaw CYO sports for St. Mark involving nearly 300 athletes and 30 teams per year and navigated the pause of athletic activities during the COVID pandemic.

Thanks to Frank for his years of fulfilling this challenging role!

Jake Eagan stepped into the role of St. Mark Athletic Director in spring of 2023.

Jake is a graduate of St. Mark Catholic School, Roncalli High School, and Wabash College. He is currently employed as a manpower manager at a southside construction company. He has been coaching multiple CYO sports since 2015. Jake shares, "I always loved assisting when I could. I am looking forward to helping transition our sports program as we enter the school year with a new gym."

He also offers special thanks to Cameron Bowling. Cameron will be serving as the new gym manager at St. Mark. He will manage the schedule and work side-by-side with Jake, together ensuring the venue is set up for success and fun for both kids and families.



Welcome!

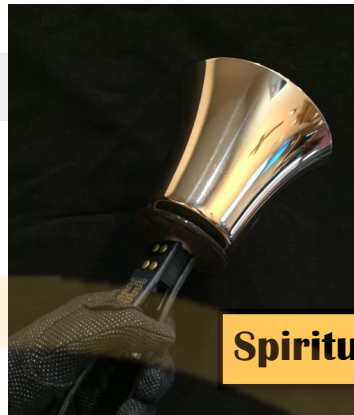
After his recent welcome to Indianapolis, Fr. John had an immediate impact on the parish by beginning to offer Masses in Burmese Languages weekly.



Ministry Snapshot



Faith Formation



Spiritual Life



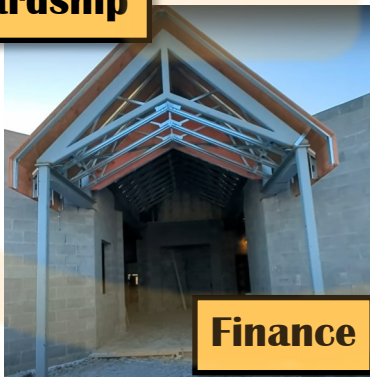
Outreach



Parish Life



Stewardship



Finance



School

Ministry News

Vocations

Vocations are so important to St. Mark Parish!

Last year, parishioner Nick Martin was ordained a permanent Deacon and has blessed the church with his care and wisdom. Over the summer of 2022, the parish hosted seminarian Brother Fraternus Fidelis who was in his last year of study at Saint Meinrad and was ordained a transitional Deacon shortly after his time at St. Mark. Over the summer, the parish also welcomed Fr. John Mang as Associate Pastor. Parishioners have been truly blessed with his service, and in a very special way, his presence to offer Burmese Language Masses.

Parishioners Timothy Khui Shing and Kiang Thu continued their formation at Saint Meinrad, both in the Configuration Stage of becoming priests. They have had great opportunities for serving the Catholic community as well as traveling on pilgrimages to grow spiritually, experience different cultures, and learn more about the history of the Catholic faith throughout the world.

In May 2023, Deacon Sam Rosko arrived to spend the summer at St. Mark as a seminarian. Deacon Sam assisted at Mass, gave homilies, led a Holy Hour, and called the community to focus on the True Presence of Christ's Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Eucharist. This was verily a gift to the parish to kick off the Eucharistic Revival.

Please continue to pray for these and for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life at St. Mark!



Brother Fraternus Fidelis and Kiang Thu assist with the celebration of Mass at St. Mark.

Eucharistic Revival

Led by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Eucharistic Revival is focused on strengthening our belief in the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith.



Corpus Christi

St. Mark launched our own parish celebration of the revival with Eucharistic processions on the Feast of Corpus Christi in June. After all Masses, parishioners were invited to join in a Eucharistic procession and to remain to spend time praying in the presence of Jesus.

Holy Hour

The Spiritual Life Committee and Deacon Sam Rosco presented a Holy Hour in Honor of the Sacred Heart. This followed the dedication of the newly named Sacred Heart Chapel.

Over forty attendees prayed the Liturgy of the Hours and listened to Deacon Sam share ways of encountering our Lord during Exposition of the Eucharist. Those present were invited to be a part of the procession through our church, returning to close the Holy Hour with Benediction.

Home/Hospice Visitation Ministry

The Home/Hospice Visitation Ministry is a small but committed group of eight parishioners who visit those of the parish who can no longer attend Mass. The team has visited 20-22 individuals in their homes, assisted living facilities, or hospice care sites. The ministry began after the year of COVID restrictions. All who wish a visit and communion will see a minister on a weekly basis. The ministers also care for other ministers by covering each other's visits as needed. Of course, receiving Communion is the prime reason for visits, but ministers also socialize with their brothers and sisters. They bring them the weekly church bulletins and any seasonal worship aids or devotionals as well. Those visited appreciate having people come around to just talk with them. Ministers let them know that they are individually praying for each one of them.

Myanmar Masses

With the arrival of Fr. John Mang as Associate Pastor, the parish was able to begin celebrating a Myanmar Mass each week. The language in which the Mass is offered rotates from week to week:

- ♦ Masses on the first and third Sundays of the month are spoken in the Myanmar (Burmese) language.
- ♦ The second and fourth Sundays are spoken in Zomi.
- ♦ When a fifth Sunday lands in a month, the Mass is a combined celebration with English, Myanmar, and the songs in Zomi.

The musicians are so active, contributing to lively, spirit-filled liturgies. The Myanmar community is thankful for the opportunity to host these Masses at St. Mark, and they welcome all parishioners to attend with them.

After Mass, the community gathers to share in a meal or coffee and donuts. Together, they celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, meals of thanksgiving, and home blessings.

The Myanmar Community also holds prayer and benediction every Saturday night at 7:00 pm. Every two weeks, they have house-to-house prayer and rosary.

St. Mark is certainly blessed to have this group of parishioners who are so actively engaged and committed to our faith!



Members of the Myanmar Community celebrate Mass.



Along with RCIA candidates, all are called to renew their baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil.

RCIA

Each year, new members are welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church and into the parish community through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Since inception, an estimated 300 people have received the sacraments of initiation at St. Mark through RCIA. The program has four distinct stages of faith development and celebration.

Stage One: Inquiry

In this initial stage, those inquiring about the Church are exposed to the basics of the Catholic faith, including beliefs about Jesus, the Trinity, the Church itself, Mary and the saints, prayer, and divine revelation. This stage is intended to help candidates decide if they want to move forward.

Stage Two: Catechumenate (Teaching)

Those desiring to move forward are welcomed into a more formal period of study. Topics include the Mass, sacraments, sacred scripture, human sexuality, the Ten Commandments, precepts of the church, morality and social justice. Candidates are given a sponsor from the parish to accompany them on their journey and to support and pray for them.

Stage 3: Purification and Enlightenment

This stage prepares candidates to receive the Easter Sacraments. It includes special Rites at the parish and at the Cathedral with the Archbishop. It is a period of reflection and prayer, both personal and public.

Stage Four: Initiation

Initiation is the culmination of the entire RCIA journey. Those who have not been baptized receive the sacrament of Baptism, All are Confirmed and then invited to the Lord's Table to receive the Eucharist. It is a joyous celebration with family, friends, and the entire community at the Easter Vigil Mass. Those received into the Church continue their faith development for a period with meetings and special events. Most RCIA participants have enthusiastically joined parish ministries and programs. They are actively involved as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, hospitality ministers, choir members, serving on parish outreach ministries such as St. Vincent de Paul, helping with parish fundraisers and other parish events.

The RCIA program at St. Mark continues to be a major contributor to Evangelization and Welcoming Fellowship.

Ministry News

St. Mark Catholic School

The 2022-2023 school year brought many changes and challenges. The entire school year was completed in the midst of a large capital construction project, which presented many challenges. The school's new principal, Jen Kocher, worked closely with the construction foreman, architect, and Parish Director of Operations to ensure safety for all students, staff, and parents throughout the process.

The theme for the school year was "Grow in Grace." This was a beautiful way to prompt everyone to remember grace with each other through the challenges and difficulties of the changes ongoing, including new leadership and construction restraints.

Some achievements throughout the year included a city championship in football and numerous other athletic teams out competing and representing St. Mark. Rosie Pha (now an eighth grader) was recognized for her excellent artwork at the Archdiocesan Legacy Gala. She was interviewed that evening by the host, Rafael Sanchez, and wowed the audience! She was one of several students who had artwork in the gala auction, and it speaks to the tremendous Fine Arts Program the school has to offer. St. Mark also won 24 awards in the Roncalli annual Junior High Quest for Excellence competition! Fabulous achievement by students in all the domains!!



The Fine Arts program is a strength of the school.

The school year was also a year focused on safety. Says Principal Jen Kocher, "School safety, as it should be, is of the utmost importance to us. We have made many updates this year to ensure we are doing all we can to keep our students and staff safe.

"First, we have great support from local authorities as well as a safety team working on our protocols. During the summer of 2022, IMPD performed a full safety assessment, which identified a few vulnerabilities. We have addressed or have plans in motion to address all of those, including a new walkie talkie system for communication in an emergency. Some classroom doors and doorknobs were identified as vulnerabilities. Therefore, we have replaced some classroom doors and all the doorknobs.

"We had active shooter training for all staff given by the Indiana State Police. We have practiced drills for fire, tornado, and lockdown procedures with all students and staff. The Indianapolis Fire Department joined us for a fire drill and helped identify any changes needed to our evacuation plans.

"We have updated our camera system to increase reliability and reduce blind spots. We updated our door access system, which will also tighten accessibility. In addition, in the near future a new, updated emergency alerting and paging system will be installed on the entire St. Mark property.



"Finally, we have changed multiple internal procedures including attendance reporting and visitor tracking. We asked both IMPD and the Fire Department to come back when construction is complete to reassess our property for any new vulnerabilities. They both gave us a glowing report for our safety assessments.

I assure you, we are proactive and diligent on safety procedures and protocols. Though no safety plan can guarantee absolute security, we continuously plan and adjust safety procedures with assistance of local authorities."

Students enjoy a snack and a smile.

Ministry News

Growing in the Good News



Reflection on the building project by Fr. Tim

This past year, we have seen an incredible construction project begin and nearly end. We broke ground in June of 2022, but the work didn't really begin until July of 22. While it was sad to see the old parish center (and convent before that) go, it was well past time, as the building was in quite a state of disrepair. Also, I was thrilled that they were able to save the archway façade above the main entrance for our new parish life center lobby. Once the old offices were out of the way, the real work of building the new space began.

Though they did not teach us construction management in seminary, this past year has been quite the learning experience on this front. Our Architect: Michael Eagan, General Contractor: Tony Gutzwiller, and Job Foreman: Andy Meer, have all been with us through this whole project. With bi-weekly meetings, we have navigated an incredible number of issues and updates on the project. Areas of difficulty in working with the city of Indianapolis for permits and approvals, the ever-rising costs of materials and labor, and unforeseen issues were an almost weekly occurrence. But the team that we hired for this job, as well as assistance from Eric Atkins, an architect who works as Director of Management Services for the Archdiocese, and our incredible team of staff and parishioners have made this whole thing manageable, and even enjoyable!

There are few things as tangible and satisfying as watching a new building rise from the ground to completion. I have greatly enjoyed the experience, even if it dominated most of our efforts over the past year. It is amazing to see just how much coordination is needed to complete a project well over 5.5 million dollars. By the end of this project, we will have built new offices, a new gymnasium, a new cafeteria, new pre-kindergarten classrooms, a new main entrance to our church, and completely revamped Schafer Hall as a meeting space for our ministries. That is an incredible amount of physical growth in one year. That was only possible because of our parishioner's generosity, and the many experts who helped make it all happen, without which I would have been quite lost in the whole process! But buildings and grounds are not the only things that make a parish. The ministries that fill these spaces are what it is all about. I cannot wait to see our completed new spaces be put to use in the decades to come.



Financial Report

For the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ The school finished the fiscal year with income ahead of expenses.
- ♦ Boosted by ordinary collections, total income for the year was over \$360,000 more than expenses.
- ♦ The excess allowed the parish to contribute \$250,000 toward the capital campaign.
- ♦ Reported income and expenses do not include the capital campaign. However, liability for construction costs and contributions to offset these costs are reflected in the Statement of Financial Position.
- ♦ Income received from endowments each year is used for school operations and tuition assistance.

INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME

Ordinary Collections	1,059,300	23%
Fundraising <i>(Festival, Dinner Dance, and Men's Club)</i>	143,149	3%
Other Income <i>(Donations, capital improvement donations, misc income, endowment investment income, etc.)</i>	203,478	4%
School Income	3,311,381	70%
TOTAL INCOME	4,717,308	100%

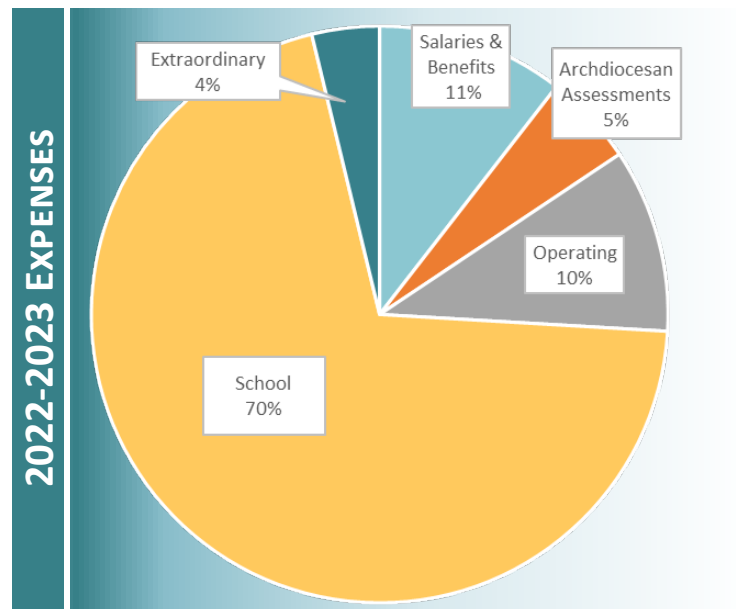
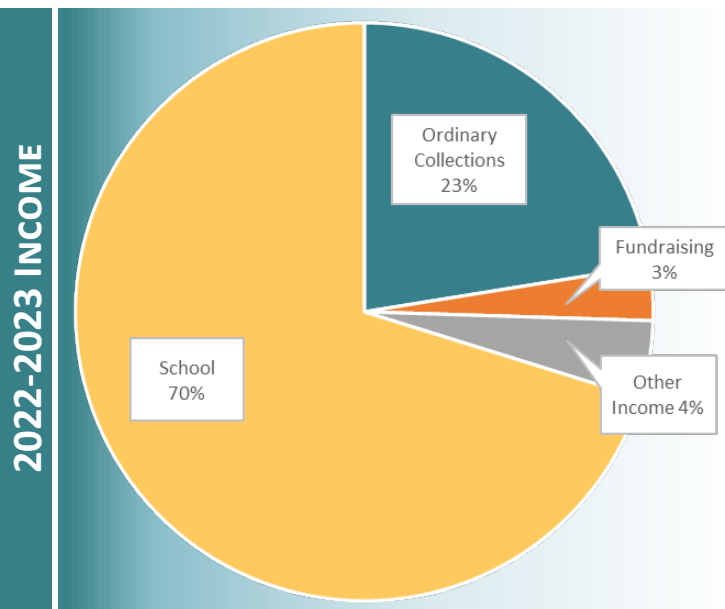
EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits <i>(Parish Staff and Admin)</i>	457,133	11%
Archdiocesan and High School Assessments	223,054	5%
Operating <i>(Occupancy and Administrative)</i>	448,599	10%
School Expense	3,059,268	70%
Extraordinary <i>(Capital assets & improvements, mission support)</i>	164,996	4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,353,050	100%

EXCESS CASH RECEIVED OVER CASH EXPENDED **364,258**

ANNUAL PARISH PLEDGE TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN **(250,000)**

NET CASH RECEIVED OVER CASH EXPENDED **114,258**



Financial Report

June 30, 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash	2,536,754
ADLF Savings	59,495
Other Assets	16,930
Total Assets	2,613,179

LIABILITIES

Deferred Income	72,666
Other Liabilities	4,906

Capital Campaign

Campaign Funds Received	3,280,322
Construction Expenses	(5,008,268)
ADLF Loan	2,919,000
Net Capital Campaign Liability	1,191,054

Total Liabilities	1,268,626
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NET ASSETS

Total Net Assets	1,344,553
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	2,613,179



Many volunteers contribute to the success of the parish festival.



Volunteers were welcomed to an annual celebration of time, talent, and treasure shared with the parish.



The Advent Giving Tree offers an opportunity to assist neighbors in need.

SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS

St Mark School Endowment	\$231,835
Molli Cassetty Scholarship Endowment	21,386
Evan Taylor Tuition Assistance Endowment	7,349
Joe Cauchi Tuition Assistance Endowment	26,725
Blanche Kern Library Endowment	58,255
Total	\$345,532





*O God, who raised up Saint Mark the Evangelist,
And gave him the grace to preach the Gospel,
Grant, we pray, that our parish, established in his name,
May also proclaim the good news to the world.*

*As we celebrate our 75th anniversary as a parish,
May you continue to bless us and inspire us,
To follow joyfully in the footsteps of Christ.
Who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.*