

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2019-20





MY DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS,
HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE THIS PAST YEAR? WE
HAVEN'T SEEN ITS LIKE IN A CENTURY. THANKFULLY,
OUR THEME FOR THE YEAR WAS "LIVE A LEGACY OF
LOVE." MANY OF OUR FAITH FORMATION FAMILIES
SHARED WITH THE LARGER COMMUNITY HOW THEY
WERE GOING TO LIVE THAT STATEMENT
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. HOPEFULLY THAT
COMMITMENT HELPED THEM NAVIGATE THE
TREMENDOUS CHALLENGES THAT CAME WITH
COVID19. THIS PANDEMIC FORCED OUR COMMUNITY
TO MAKE GREATER STRIDES IN SOCIAL MEDIA
TECHNOLOGY THROUGH LIVE-STREAMING MASSES
AND SETTING UP ZOOM MEETINGS. I AM SO
THANKFUL TO OUR PASTORAL STAFF AND PARISH
VOLUNTEERS THAT STEPPED UP AND MADE ALL THIS
AVAILABLE. ALTHOUGH OUR FINANCES TOOK A HIT,
WE ONLY HAD A DEFICIT OF \$25,000. THE GIVING
AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS NEW FISCAL YEAR HAS
BEEN QUITE HOPEFUL. THANK YOU FOR BEING
FAITHFUL STEWARDS. THANKS, TOO, FOR YOUR
SPIRIT OF PATIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY. THOSE
PREPARING FOR THE EASTER SACRAMENTS WERE
FINALLY WELCOMED INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON
AUGUST 14, THE VIGIL OF THE ASSUMPTION OF
MARY. OUR FIRST EUCHARIST CANDIDATES WILL
FINALLY CELEBRATE ON TWO SATURDAYS IN
SEPTEMBER.

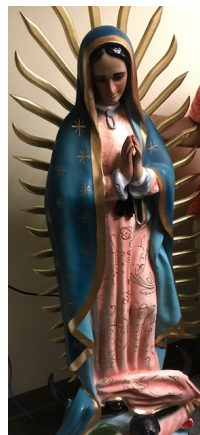
THIS PAST YEAR HAS ALSO HAD AN IMPACT ON MY
LIFE. I WAS ASKED BY THE ARCHBISHOP TO STAY ON
ANOTHER YEAR AT ST. JOHN'S. IT'S BEEN MY
PRIVILEGE TO COMPLY. MY BIG ROAD TRIP WILL
HAVE TO WAIT A YEAR. THE IMPORTANT THING IS
THAT WE GET THROUGH THIS YEAR TOGETHER.
KNOW THAT THE LORD IS WITH YOU ON THE
JOURNEY. MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU IN EVERY WAY.

LOVE,
FR. JIM

Live a Legacy of Love

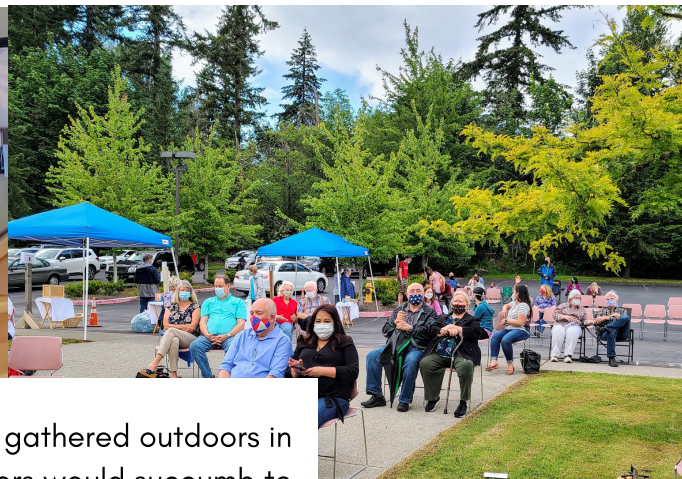
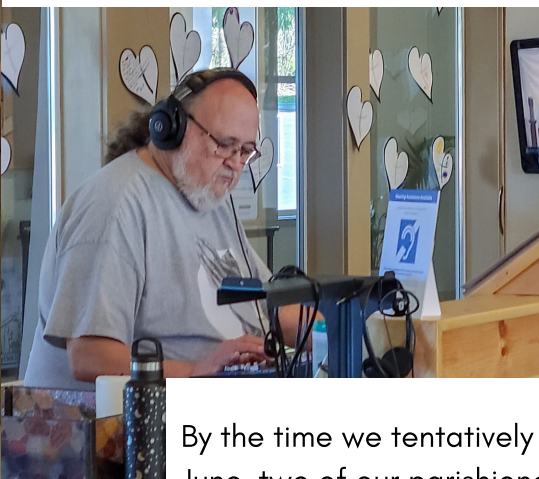


On December 12th, 2019, St. John the Baptist welcomed Our Lady of Guadalupe into the sanctuary. Bishop Eusebio Elizondo presided at the Mass and personally blessed the statue, capping off a celebration that began with Mananitas before dawn.



St. John the Baptist celebrated 8 weddings and 9 lives lived this year.

ON DECEMBER 15TH, WE WELCOMED ARCHBISHOP PAUL ETIENNE TO CELEBRATE MASS AT OUR PARISH FOR THE FIRST TIME. THREE MONTHS LATER (MARCH 11TH), WE GATHERED AROUND OUR COMPUTERS TO HEAR HIM TAKE THE EXTRAORDINARY STEP OF SUSPENDING ALL PUBLIC MASSES DUE TO THE SPREAD OF COVID19, THE ILLNESS CAUSED BY THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS.



By the time we tentatively gathered outdoors in June, two of our parishioners would succumb to the virus. Funerals and weddings became small events attended only by close family. Rooms were sanitized and re-sanitized. Parishioners constructed and donated hundreds of cloth masks. And the mass recording team was mobilized within a week of the Archbishop's announcement, such that a Sunday mass could be recorded on a Thursday and posted by Saturday Evening.



Vacation Bible School came in with a ROAR and ended with a ROAR! We celebrated the story of salvation through songs, games, skits, story time, and crafts!



Faith Formation



Over 200 of our adult learners journeyed with Fr. John Quigley in September at our Annual Fall Mission. Fr. John broke open the gift of LOVE in the very person of Jesus Christ who emptied Himself completely for our sake, our salvation. We started the year of Living a Legacy of Love by entering into this mystery of Christ in our world today.

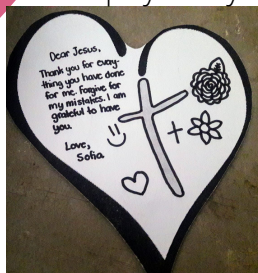
St. Luke's Production performed their play, "Tolton" in our sanctuary on December 3rd. Ron Ryan, Sr. Alexandra Kovats, Anna Johnson, and Erin McGuire rounded out our Adult Formation for the year, leading us through Retreats, Missionary Discipleship, and neighborly love! It was a fantastic year of Formation open to all.



Students

136 in Adult Small Faith Communities
129 PreSchool-4th
89 5th-8th
88 9th-12th

As the world moved into a new reality of quarantine with the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, SJTB Faith Formation Staff moved programming into the homes and onto the screen. The beginning of the FF Newsletter was established on March 30, 2020. This has been a great "Touchstone" for our families to the parish as we found ourselves physically distancing.



Sacraments

18 Baptisms
40 First Reconciliations
38 First Eucharists,
12 Professions of Faith
28 to be Confirmed

Our CREW (Middle & High School Students) put together a number of video lessons for our Elementary students, and many volunteers helped to create a video library of children's stories for parents to use with their children at home. We began Parish Wide Gatherings via ZOOM in March 2020. We saw an emphasis in the reality of home being the 'Domestic Church' as Catholics.

Live a Legacy of Love



St. John the Baptist parishioners have always been generous, and drives for school supplies in the fall, dinners for Thanksgiving, gifts for Christmas, and food after the pandemic started, were stunningly successful, even when conducted in the parking lot of the parish.

Life, Justice, Peace

Happily, just before the pandemic made travel impossible, a small group of parishioners from St. John's travelled to Union de las Aldeas in Guatemala to visit the legacy of parishioners who have gone before: the parish church, the stoves, as well as the legacy of Blessed Fr. Stan Rother, who was martyred in 1981 while serving in the village of Santiago Atitlan.



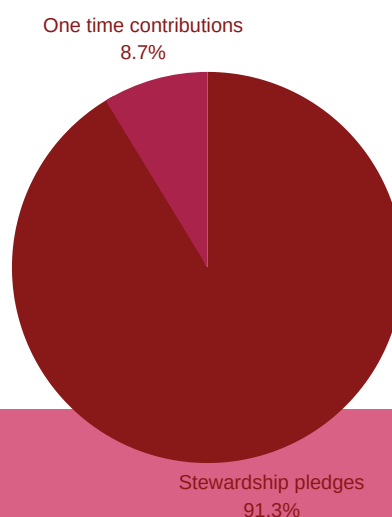


Stewardship of Treasure

This year, Mark Williams and Anne Frederick introduced the parish to "Financial Peace University" - a David Ramsey program that teaches young and old participants how to achieve freedom from debt and financial independence.

Total Contributions to SJTB in 2019-20
=\$1.02 Million

536 out of 1159 households made a financial pledge to St. John the Baptist, and 99% of those pledges were fulfilled.



Stewardship of Time



In January, parishioners received Fr. Ron Rolheiser's book on prayer as a gift for our 29th parish anniversary. This resource has been well used both by individual parishioners and several small faith groups to deepen our daily response to spend time in conversation with God.

Although we are currently restricted with in-person meetings, St. John the Baptist has continued to stay connected through a variety of Zoom gatherings.

This platform has allowed our staff and parish leaders to develop new ways to serve and pray with one another.



Stewardship of Talent



In November, we had one of our largest gatherings to welcome new parishioners. We were very grateful for the collaboration with our Hispanic leaders, who helped us reach out and connect with many of our Spanish speaking families.



Although the Covid pandemic has restricted many of our volunteer ministries, it also has opened new ways of serving the People of God. During the spring of 2020, a small group of dedicated women were able to call every family in the parish to check in on their well-being and to find out how we might continue to assist them during this challenging time.



2020 started with a new roof installed in the pouring rain of January.



Facilities & Grounds

It continued with the installation of a new sound system, replacing 12 speakers in the rafters with 2, upgrading the wireless so 5G signals would not interfere, and eliminating the infamous "dead zone" where Father Jim's voice used to disappear. Here we see Frazer from Morgan Sound training two members of our tech and recording team: Daniel V. and Wilson D.

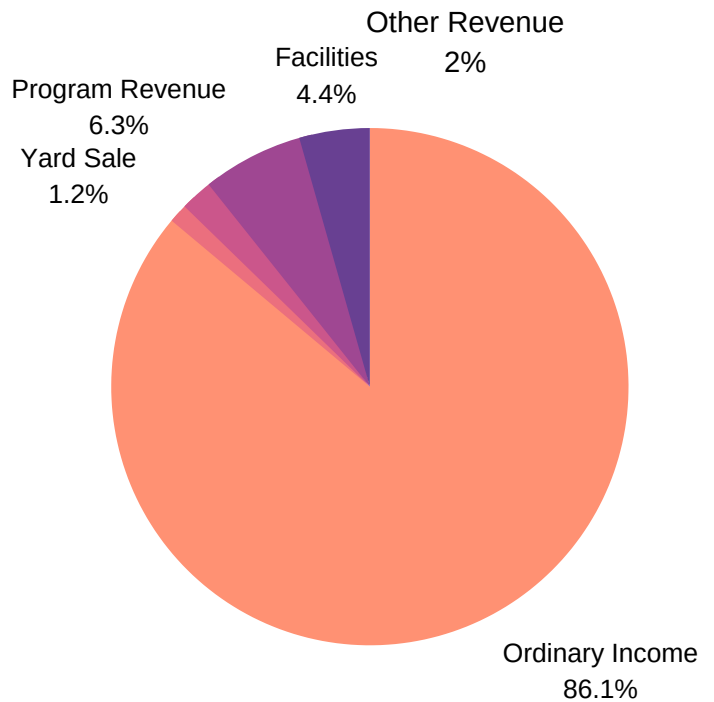


With money we received as a rebate from the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal, our Facility Supervisor, David Aldous, created a library/commission room out of the former work area. He consolidated the staff work room and volunteer area, created a new volunteer desk, installed shelving and had a new door made.

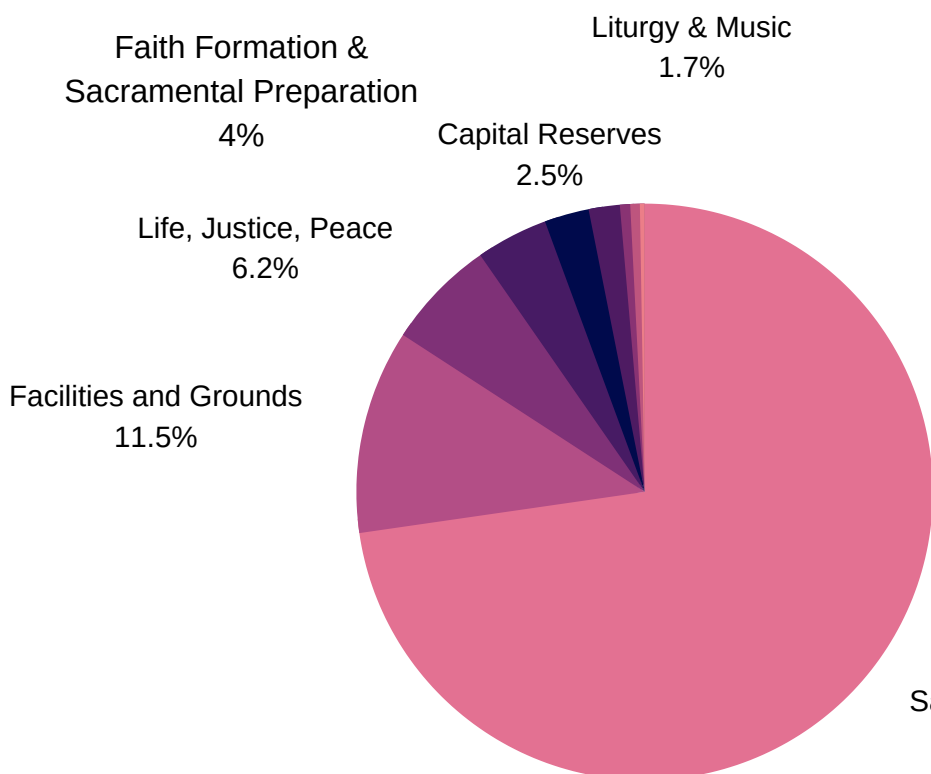
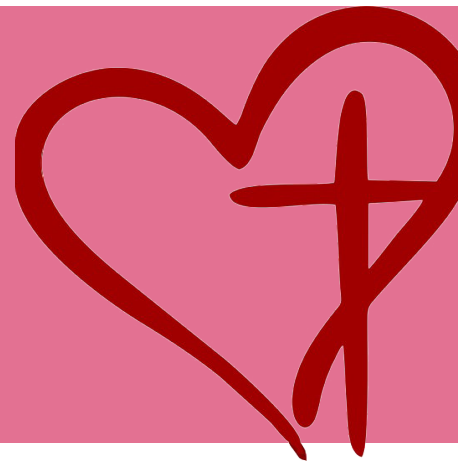


Two of our Boy Scouts completed projects for their Eagle Scout honor at St. John's. Joseph and his crew created a concrete ramp that connects us to the neighborhood to the east of us - replacing a shaky concrete block that neighbors used to access our walkway. Benny and his crew rebuilt our fire pit, in anticipation of the Easter fire we will light next year when we can gather together! Thank you for leaving us this legacy!

St. John the Baptist finished the fiscal year with revenue totaling \$1,280,918. "Ordinary Income," which is the stewardship of parishioners, was \$10,755 greater than expected, even though the pandemic closed our doors for the last quarter of the fiscal year. Total revenue, including the net of Annual Catholic Appeal rebates earned and spent, was \$1,280,918. Ordinary Income includes your stewardship pledges and additional gifts for the church.



Financial Health



Expenses were \$3386 higher than expected at \$1,306,035, primarily due to increased facility and technology expenses. Even so, they were offset by revenue such that our shortfall was a little over a quarter of what was expected, about -\$25K. St. John the Baptist has sufficient savings to cover such shortfalls; we can fund 3 months of expenses on savings alone, should that become necessary, without touching capital reserves.