

The Year of the Family

HAPPY + HEALTHY + HOLY



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 2021-22

ANNUAL REPORT





Dear Parishioners,

This report reflects the stewardship of time, talent and treasure in our parish during the fiscal year that ran from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. During my first year with you, I have been impressed how the community has navigated through COVID. As we emerge from the pandemic phase of this disease we will learn how deal with its endemic phase, much as we do with the seasonal cold and flu. This will be a time of rebuilding community and ministries. Fostering stewardship as a way of life will enable that.

With a commitment of talent comes embracing the Lord's mission. Each of us has a role to play. As ministries placed on hold due to COVID reemerge and new ones are established, you have the opportunity to share your talents and strengths. Maybe some of the programs highlighted in this report or explained in the weekly bulletin might appeal to you.

With a commitment of treasure, we show where our heart is at. Thank you for your financial generosity to the parish and other charities, and keeping your heart close to the heart of Christ. Your generosity helped substantially reduce the size of our anticipated budget deficit.

Through a life of stewardship, we encounter Jesus, accompany each other and live the gospel. Thank you for being a part of that here at St. John the Baptist.



On October 9, 2021, Pope Francis formally opened a two-year process of listening and dialoguing in the Church. This Synod on Synodality, following from the Church's "renewal" proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission.

From January through March of 2022, 263 parishioners gathered in 21 parish synod sessions to share their experience of being Church. They identified challenges the Church is facing today as well as their hopes and dreams for the Church. This resulted in 61 pages of comments. Our Parish Leadership Team and those who facilitated the synodal sessions gathered in retreat to review the comments and began to identify major themes that seemed to be emerging. Two members of the Parish Leadership Team were then entrusted with the prayerful task of further refining those themes for the parish's summary report to the Archdiocese.

The parish synod report as well as the reports from the Seattle Archdiocese; the regional report from the ten dioceses of the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana; and the national report from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops can all be found on our parish web page at <https://sjtbcc.org/synod/>.



Over the past year, a successful trend emerged when we had new parishioners attend both a Welcome Gathering and our Living Your Strengths classes. Almost every participant volunteered for at least one parish ministry. This was especially gratifying, as we were still restricted to offering both programs only via Zoom.



The Stewardship and Evangelization Commission gained five new members this past year. We are actively reaching out to young adults. Our book study on the Art of Accompaniment has been a rich resource for spiritual growth and paradigm shifting for us. We are actively engaged in monthly work parties for our parish island that are also helping us deepen our collaboration. Newer members are proposing innovative ways for reaching out and engaging less active parishioners





Thanks to the talent and gracious service of Daniel Victor, we now have a Welcome Video "Welcome to St. John the Baptist" (sjtbcc.org) posted on our website. We are gradually revising, updating and expanding our stewardship and evangelization postings on social media and the bulletin.

Financial Peace University returned in person this past year. It was deeply appreciated by those who attended. They continue to reach out to express their gratitude and to ask questions about stewardship of treasure.



Our Parish Health Ministry Fair last fall achieved four out of its five goals. We were able to be good stewards by cleaning out parish closets of books and devotional items that were shared with parishioners. We identified and recruited around 20 health practitioners, who shared many helpful resources and remain interested in future opportunities to offer workshops in our parish. We now have a volunteer parish nurse who meets archdiocesan requirements and offers monthly blood pressure screenings. The weekend provided a good opportunity for Fr. Bill to meet new people and helped us recruit some new volunteers for parish ministries.

Adult Formation: We kicked off the year with Ann Garrido leading our Parish Mission, “Finding a Home within God’s Story.” Throughout the year we worked through two Bible studies: “Peacemaking & Nonviolence” and “The Holy Spirit.” Fr. Bill took us through a three-night series on “Who Is Jesus For Us?” The Adult Formation Committee partnered with Creation Care Team to present two evenings on “Care for the Creation” with Sr. Dorothy Verna, CSJP, and Jeff Renner. We also retreated together focused on “The Incarnation: Our Invitation to Transformation” for Advent, and with Dan Schutte’s Lenten Video Retreat “Ashes to Glory.” Along with these opportunities, we have a number of Small Faith Community groups meeting to continue their formation. Also, we had formation sessions with Parents and/or families within our Children’s & Youth programs! Over the year we had 263 adults continue in their formation of faith at St. John’s.



Middle & High School Youth Formation: We continued to navigate the COVID-19 mitigating protocols as we provided opportunities for our 5th-12th grade students to gather. Through the school year we moved from virtual to in-person in the weekly Wednesday evenings for 5th-8th and Sunday evenings for 9th-12th grade students. It was Chelsea Wilde’s final year as our Youth Minister. The year included caring for the needs of the students that arose from the pandemic, growing community while returning as the pandemic subsided a bit, and keeping a connect with God through prayer and sacraments. We had 82 students in 5th-12th join the programs this year.



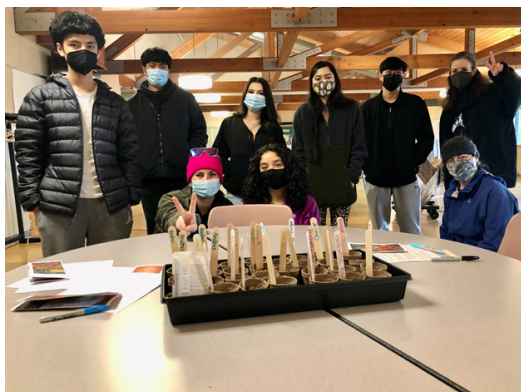
PK-4th Elementary Formation: We ventured through the year with an in-person option, and a virtual option for our students. The CREW (a Team of 7th-12th grade youth who minister to our Children’s ministry) came back to life with their normal weekly connect in the program! Therese McHenry continued our opportunities for Advent Fun Day and Lent Event through take home materials. We had 29 students/22 families join virtually, 43 students/31 families join in-person, and 2 students/2 families join through the at home program. Our preparation for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist were prepared for in-person this year!

It was an eventful year in the area of outreach ministries and efforts at St. John the Baptist!

Throughout the year, the parish participated in three major drives for school supplies (supporting students in need through Communities in Schools), Thanksgiving (collaborating with seven organizations to provide meals to over 500 families), and Christmas (providing holiday support to over 60 families assisted through St. Vincent de Paul). These were in addition to the weekly collection of food donations received throughout the year which support those facing food insecurity in our community served by our St. Vincent de Paul ministry and our partners Covington Storehouse.



During the fall, the parish was excited to receive a visit from a family of our sister parish in Guatemala. After a twenty+ year relationship, this was the first time we were able to welcome a few of our Guatemalan brothers and sisters. Through two drive-thru vaccine clinics held in October in partnership with Catholic Community Services and Bird's Eye Medical, over 100 individuals received a vaccine or booster for Covid-19. Several parishioners also took part in an 8-week series on Faith and Racial Justice learning about the criminal justice system in our country.



The first half of 2022 saw St. John the Baptist hosting a weeklong training, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, receiving the invitation to do so as a result of the relationship built with our local police through our Safe Parking Ministry. The season of Lent allowed our Elementary Faith Formation families to collaborate with other South King Deanery parishes by putting together "Welcome Home" baskets for individuals moving into the brand new Renton Permanent Supportive Housing which opened in April, providing stability for over 100 individuals who had been experiencing long term homelessness.

Finally, two ministries came to life over the course of the year!

The Creation Care Team, which had been slowly forming, launched with a variety of events, beginning with the Season of Creation during the month of September by bringing forth produce from our parish garden during the offertory. They applied to receive certification as a Kateri Habitat, becoming the first in the Pacific Northwest and received a grant through Catholic Climate Covenant to create a pollinator garden. During the spring, the ministry worked with Adult Faith Formation to bring two creation-focused speakers to the parish, Sr. Dorothy Verna with Earth Ministry and former King 5 Chief Meteorologist Jeff Renner. The Team finished off the year by collaborating with the Facilities & Grounds Commission and Stewardship & Evangelization Commission to relaunch a parish island adoption effort receiving dozens of parishioners and ministries stepping forward to care for our grounds.

One Parish, One Prisoner was formally launched in June of 2022 after much prayer and discernment. For the next two years, a group of parishioners will be growing in intentional relationship with a community member currently incarcerated. Through regular meetings, letter writing, and phone calls, the group is learning how to grow in kinship and work towards mutual transformation.

The Life, Justice, Peace Commission continues to steward a portion of the parish giving to support outreach efforts both within our community and the larger community.

Funds went to support the following ministries, programs, and organizations:

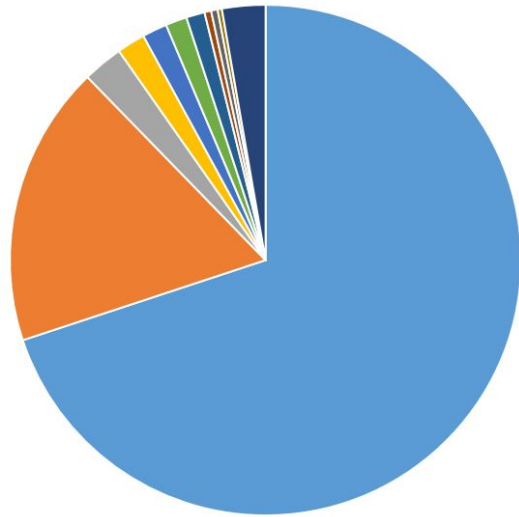
- AIDNW - \$2,400
- Project Rachel - \$600
- Crop Walk - \$500
- Kent HOPE - \$300
- Holy Child Program - \$2,000
- St. Vincent de Paul - \$35,000
- Hispanic Ministry - \$7,486
- Pregnancy Aid - \$8,921
- CCS Community Engagement Center - \$7,500
- Vine Maple Place - \$6,000
- PREPARES - \$200
- Creation Care Team - \$1,275
- Archdiocese Criminal Justice Ministries - \$2,999



Even with another full year of COVID-19 restrictions and archdiocesan guidelines affecting so many segments of parish life, the music never stopped. There was music at every single weekend Mass and the special seasonal liturgical celebrations of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. The music was "live" and well, thanks to the dedication of St. John's music group leaders, cantors, pianists and guitarists who shared their gifts of music in the midst of the pandemic. Full choirs and congregational singing were not allowed during this period, but by carefully orchestrating and scheduling St. John's most gifted cantors, singers and accompanists, there was music to support and enhance the liturgies this past year.

It is important to also note that during this period, the state of the art audio and video systems in the sanctuary at St. John's allowed for the weekly livestreaming of a weekend Mass and the year's seasonal celebrations. People who stayed home because of COVID could still attend Mass from the safety and comfort of their living rooms, thanks to the livestreaming of Mass. Masses were always recorded and uploaded to the parish's website for convenient access to Mass 24/7.

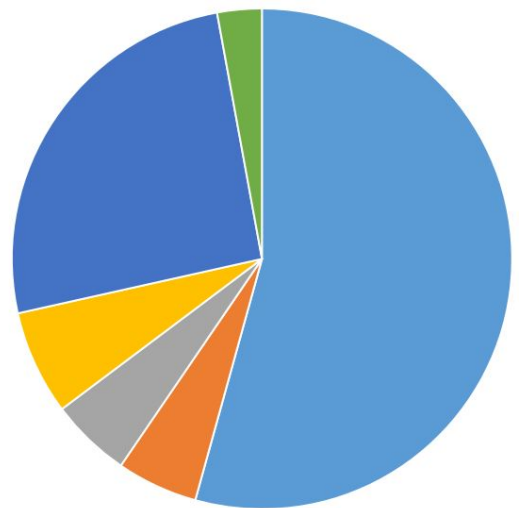
Income	
Sunday Collections - Enevoles	69.92%
Sunday Collections Loose	17.81%
Rebate Annual Appeal	2.55%
Holy Day Enevoles	1.79%
Grounds Use of Restricted Funds	1.57%
LJP - Designated Funds	1.35%
Funeral Donations	1.17%
Holy Day Loose	0.42%
Liturgy-Stipens & Stole	0.41%
LJP -Other Donations	0.27%
Ministry Revenue	2.74%



St. John the Baptist finished the fiscal year with revenue totaling \$1,304,654. Giving was up over previous year by 7.8% or \$94,115.

The revenue growth in 2021-22 reflects a positive growth trend as parishioners continue to return to church and support the parish.

Expenses	
Salaries and Benefits	54.30%
Business Expenses	5.24%
Insurance and Maintenance	5.22%
Parish Assessment	6.75%
Parish Ministries	25.61%
Donations to Charities	2.88%



Expenses were \$1,217,363 which was \$1,557 less than last years total expenses.

Keeping our expenses under control allowed us to end the year on a positive basis due to an increase over projected income from loose collections (Collection given during Mass) of almost \$73,000 for the year. Staff did a good job overall in controlling expenses throughout the year.