

SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH
VOORHEESVILLE, NY
2018 PARISH REPORT

In a year that has been very difficult for our church, especially for those who have been abused by clergy and Bishops in years past, your parish of St. Matthew's continues to grow and thrive. This is because of your faith, service and commitment to this community and I am very grateful.

Our faith development programs, Generations of Faith, First Reconciliation and First Communion, Confirmation and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults all grew and helped pass on the faith. Our finances continue to meet our expenses and our finance committee continues to steward our resources wisely. Our buildings and grounds continue to be well maintained by our staff. Our pastoral care committee continues to reach out to our shut-ins and sick and our Family Promise program continues to host recently homeless families for three or four weeks each year. And at the request of the diocese we began a fund raising campaign called Re-Igniting our Faith which has been charged with raising \$500,000.00 over five years to guarantee that St. Matthews remains a vital and vibrant parish long into the future.

I invite you to read this annual report carefully. If you have any questions, comments or recommendations for future projects or programs please do not hesitate to call me. Let us together pray that our parish continues to grow and thrive for years to come.

Fr. Chris DeGiovine

PARISH DEMOGRAPHICS



Our parish has 996 registered families an increase of 28 families since July 2017. The majority of our parishioners reside in Voorheesville, Slingerlands, Altamont, Delmar, Guilderland, the Hilltowns and suburban Albany zip codes. Our parish is clustered with St. Lucy's/St. Bernadette's, Altamont, Christ the King, Westmere and St.

Thomas, Delmar. We are members of the Beverwyck Vicariate. The October 2017 Mass count showed an average number of 587 people per weekend vs. 590 in 2018. We currently have 430 families contributing through weekly envelopes and 64 E-giving families. 302 families have made pledges to the 2018 Bishop's Appeal.

2017-2018 FAITH DEVELOPMENT

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH



Thanks to the support and partnership of staff, volunteers and the parish community, 2017-18 was another year of blessing and growth for our faith development programs. In 2017, we changed the name of our faith formation program from *Family Faith Development* to *Generations of Faith*. In so doing, we recognized that our parish-wide religious education program had truly become inter-generational: enriching, engaging and educating parishioners of all ages. We experienced growth in this signature program as we welcomed many new and returning participants. We were particularly inspired by the number of adults without children who joined our program, witnessing to the truth that faith formation is, indeed, a life long journey. In our intergenerational faith formation program's fifth year, we learned and grew in faith together while building our curriculum around the theme: "*Jesus of History, Christ of Faith.*"

In the fall of 2017, our parish celebrated with over 50 teens who received the sacrament of Confirmation. We are thrilled to report that more than 50% of these wonderful young people have chosen to continue their post-Confirmation faith journeys at St. Matthew's as Peer Mentors to successive Confirmation groups; as members of the HOPE Club (Helping Out People Everywhere,) a youth service group; as members of a teen bible study and prayer group; as volunteers and participants in the Generations of Faith program; and as liturgical ministers at Mass. The servant leadership and faith witness of these teens is truly inspiring and has been a deep source of blessing to our community. In the spring of 2018, we celebrated again, this time with the 40+ young parishioners who received the sacrament of First Holy Communion. We further welcomed and supported several Candidates through the RCIA program, joyously celebrating the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. From July, 2017 through June 2018, our St. Matthew's community welcomed fifteen infants and children into our family of faith through the sacrament of Baptism.

Additional highlights from 2017-2018: We continued to offer adult faith formation opportunities through our bible study mini-course series: three bible study courses were offered in 2017-2018. We expanded our Little Angels story hour from a monthly to a weekly program. We partnered with teens to create a teen bible study and prayer group at their request. We began publishing *Faith Notes*, our monthly Generations of Faith newsletter for the parish. We began producing *Living the Lectionary*, a weekly electronic educational resource for Generations of Faith participants. And we created the Faith Development Resource Table to provide additional educational resources for the parish.

We look back on the 2017-18 year of faith development at St. Matthew's with deep gratitude, and we look ahead to the 2018-19 year with great excitement.



SACRAMENTS CELEBRATED

BAPTISM..... 15

FIRST COMMUNION..... 44

CONFIRMATION..... 59 (3 adult—RCIA)

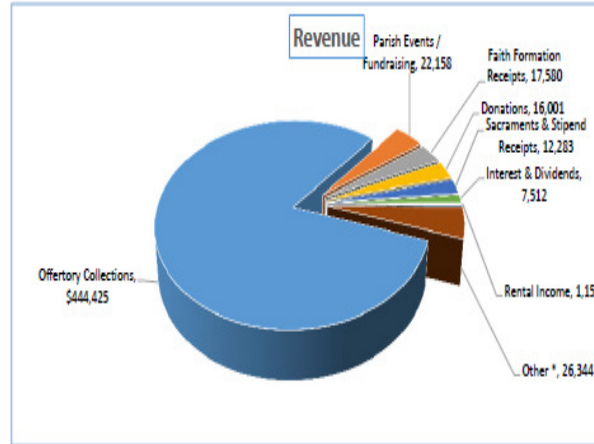
MARRIAGE..... 5

FUNERALS..... 18

St Matthew's Church - Voorheesville
 Financial Operating Results
 for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

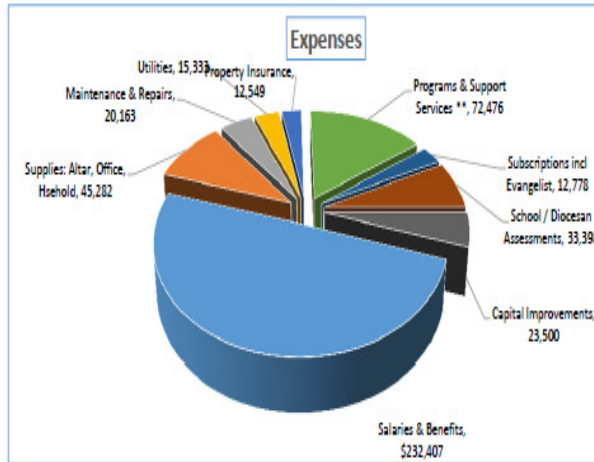
Revenue:

Offertory Collections	\$444,425
Parish Events / Fundraising	22,158
Faith Formation Receipts	17,580
Donations	16,001
Sacraments & Stipend Receipts	12,283
Interest & Dividends	7,512
Rental Income	1,150
Other *	<u>26,344</u>
Total Revenue	\$547,454



Expenses:

Salaries & Benefits	\$232,407
Supplies: Altar, Office, Hsehold	45,282
Maintenance & Repairs	20,163
Utilities	15,333
Property Insurance	12,549
Programs & Support Services **	72,476
Subscriptions incl Evangelist	12,778
School / Diocesan Assessments	33,398
Capital Improvements	<u>23,500</u>
Total Expenses	\$467,885
Net Operating Income	\$79,569



* incl Bishop's Appeal Rebate (\$3,629), Realized Gain on Investment (\$4,889) and Unrealized Gain on Investment (\$14,880)

** incl Parish Events and programs, training, education, staff & parish appreciation, retreats, and priest reimbursements

PARISH MINISTRIES

Our Parish Ministries help to keep St. Matthew's a vibrant community. We are grateful to all our volunteers who share their time & talents.

- ◆ Altar Linen Ministry
- ◆ Altar Servers
- ◆ Alzheimer Care Ministry
- ◆ Baptism Ministry
- ◆ Collection Counters
- ◆ Eucharistic Adoration
- ◆ Generations of Faith Volunteer
- ◆ Family Promise Ministry
- ◆ Funeral Ministry
- ◆ HOPE Club
- ◆ Liturgical Ministers
- ◆ Men's Association
- ◆ Music Ministry
- ◆ Office Assistance
- ◆ Pastoral Care Ministry
- ◆ Prayer Chain Ministry
- ◆ Prayer Shawl Ministry
- ◆ RCIA
- ◆ Respect Life Ministry
- ◆ Resurrection Choir
- ◆ Rosary Ministry
- ◆ Social Events/ Hospitality Committee
- ◆ Word of God Faith Sharing
- ◆ Young Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Family Promise Ministry, which started at St. Matthew's in 2016, hosted homeless families for a week at a time in March, June and will again in December 2018

Currently there are nearly 100 volunteers from St. Matthew's, St. Lucy/St. Bernadette and Christ the King. Some of our volunteers also participate in regional Family Promise fundraisers or work at the Family Promise day center on weekends.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- ◆ Classroom insulation rehung
- ◆ Low spot in parking lot was repaved.
- ◆ Furnace repairs
- ◆ Sprinkler system maintenance
- ◆ New Air Conditioning Units installed for the church

HOSPITALITY & PARISH EVENTS

- ◆ Feast Day Picnic: Sports Day
- ◆ Blessing of the Animals
- ◆ Confirmation Reception
- ◆ Blessing of Bikes
- ◆ NYC Hello Dolly Bus Trip
- ◆ Christmas Wreath Sale
- ◆ IHC Mystery Players: The Way of the Cross
- ◆ Worship Night in America Concert
- ◆ Coffee Socials after Mass
- ◆ First Reconciliation Reception
- ◆ First Holy Communion Reception
- ◆ Cluster Retreat by Bishop Emeritus Howard Hubbard
- ◆ Holy Saturday Reception
- ◆ Hilltown Players Performance "Carol Burnett"
- ◆ Gavin Nichols Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner
- ◆ Graduation Mass



PARISH COMMITTEES

Pastoral Council: Our newest members are Anne Jo-McTague and Linda Conway replacing Ellie Dorn and Rich Bogdany. They join Sabrina Balbuena, Oliva Barringer, Deb Engel, David Ernst, Claire Reilly and Tim Vivian—Chairperson.

Finance Committee: The FC has added 1 new member Chris Madden who replaces Karen Finnessey. Thank you, Karen for your years of service to our Parish Community. Chris joins Millie Selby, Josette Guastella, Diane Rapp—Chairperson, Mary Seeley and Steve Vanderwarker as our committee members .

Trustees: Chris Gorka & Peg Neri

Liturgy Committee: Our Liturgy Committee was formed in 2017. Its goal is to meet the liturgical needs and concerns of our parishioners. Our members are Bill Brett, Madge Devine, Ellen Doolin, Maggie Doolin, Carole Fraser—Chairperson, Andrea Freeman, Bob Harms, Jenny Novosel, Colleen Schultz, Millie Selby, Paul Steinkamp and our 2 newest members are Philomena Donaldson and Yiselle Ruoso replacing Jim McAssey and Terry Rodrigues.