

SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH

VOORHEESVILLE, NY

2022 PARISH REPORT

Dear Friends,

In every age, the timeless nature of scripture speaks to us in particular ways. Consider this reading from the Gospel of Luke (14:16-23).

"A man gave a great dinner to which he invited many. When the time for the dinner came, he dispatched his servant to say to those invited, 'Come, everything is now ready.' But one by one, they all began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, 'I have purchased a field and must go to examine it; I ask you, consider me excused.' And another said, 'I have purchased five yoke of oxen and am on my way to evaluate them; I ask you, consider me excused.' And another said, 'I have just married a woman, and therefore I cannot come.' The servant went and reported this to his master. Then the master of the house commanded his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in here the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame.' The servant reported, 'Sir, your orders have been carried out and still there is room.' The master then ordered the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedgerows and make people come in that my home may be filled.'"



Great things happen at banquets. Gifts are shared. Friendships are renewed. Old wounds are healed. New life is celebrated. Losses are mourned. We are nourished body, mind and soul. God throws His banquet as a gift to savor, not a chore to be endured.

Some are back to Mass and to other parish community events.... but a lot are still missing. In every age we can find excuses to stay away.... which is why this reading is so timeless. In this particular age we might be apt to add one more excuse: "COVID is keeping me away from the banquet". For some that is still a valid reason. For others who are out and about doing other things, it rings hollow.

People are asking me, "Fr. Rick, how will you get people back to church?". Here is my response: "What is needed in an invitation from you". The parish has prepared the banquet. We have beautiful liturgies with good music and good homilies in a sacred space. There are other community events highlighted in this report as well. As families and a society in general, it seems that we have lost the expectation that coming to the banquet is part and parcel of who we are. Only the people can change that.

Please, make a concerted effort to remind everyone that we are here. Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in your friends and neighbors. Invite the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame. Tell everyone why you come to the banquet....as gift to be savored beyond duty to be endured. Only when you do that, will the banquet hall be filled.

Fr. Rick

PARISH DEMOGRAPHICS

Total registered families ...1,004	Envelope Contributors.....367	E-Givers.....70
2021 Avg. Weekend Mass Count246	2022 Avg. Weekend Mass Count.....268	
2021 Diocesan Appeal Total Gifts.....\$97,958	Total Contributing Families.....230	

2021-2022 Faith Development at St. Matthew's Church

St. Matthew's faith development programs continued to have an enriching and blessed experience during the 2021-2022 year. With the cooperation of our Faith Development team and a dedicated group of volunteers, we were able to facilitate many faith-filled experiences.

- ◆ Generations of Faith (GOF) offered two in-person sessions each month, with 38 families participating. Our theme, "Come to the Table," centered on the Mass. Each session focused on a part of the Mass, and offered some in-depth, hands-on experiences to help develop a richer understanding of the Eucharist. In Advent we took a deeper look at the Nativity, using our puzzle solving skills to "unlock" the Nativity stories and prepare our hearts for Christmas. Everyone had great fun breaking open the Word. Our final session was a "teaching" Mass with Fr. Rick as the celebrant.
- ◆ In the fall of 2021, the First Communion program kicked off with 14 new candidates. In addition to attending all of the GOF sessions, the candidates participated in three retreats, and in May they celebrated their First Communion with our entire church family. Every candidate was able to serve as readers or gift bearers! Celebrating such an important day at our regular weekend Masses again was certainly a highlight of the year.



CONFIRMATION

- ◆ 20 St. Matthew's teens completed their yearlong preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation on October 6, 2021 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. 30 new candidates began their preparation that month with 9 Peer Mentors and Allison Relyea added to the leadership team. It's been an excellent year of conversations, faith sharing, service, bonding, and fun!



SACRAMENTS CELEBRATED

BAPTISM..... 17

FIRST COMMUNION..... 14

CONFIRMATION..... 20

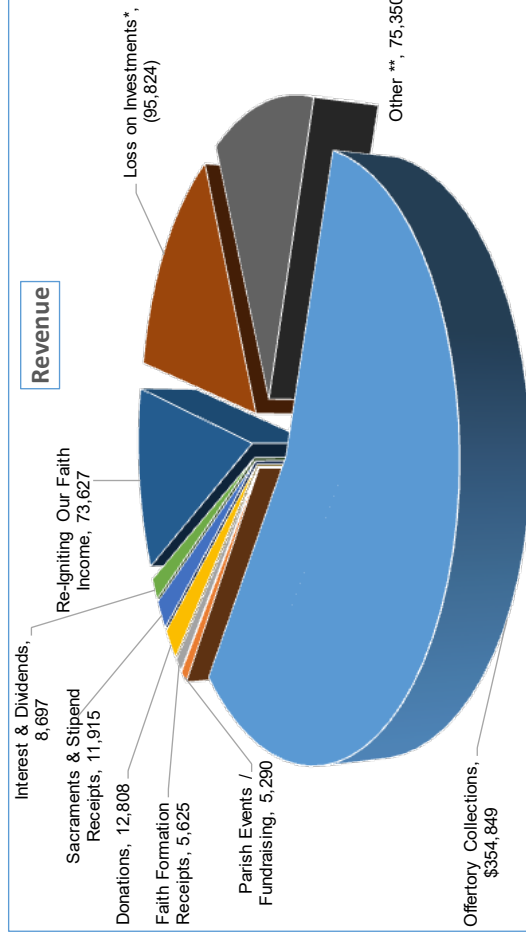
MARRIAGE..... 2

FUNERALS..... 15

St Matthew's Church - Voorheesville
Financial Operating Results
for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

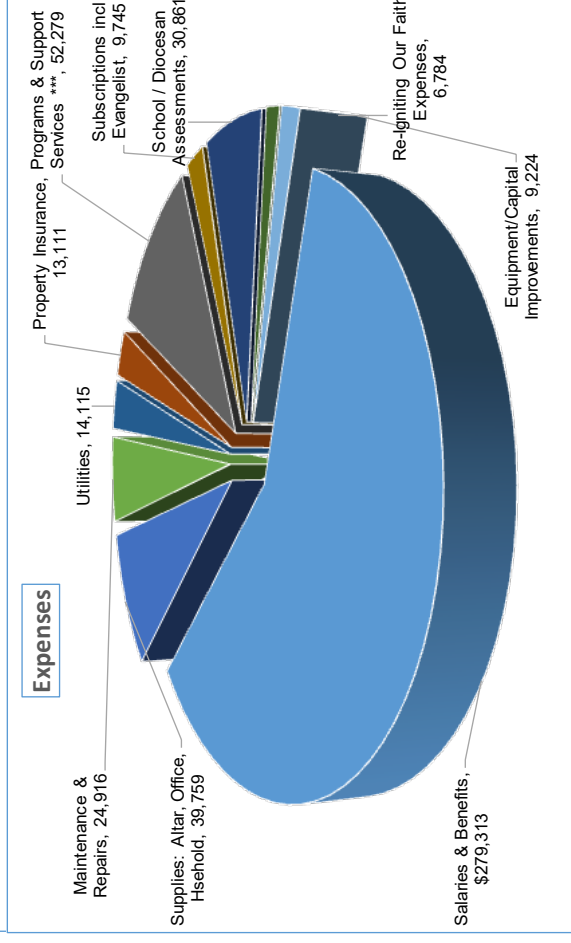
Revenue:

Offertory Collections	\$354,849
Parish Events / Fundraising	5,290
Faith Formation Receipts	5,625
Donations	12,808
Sacraments & Stipend Receipts	11,915
Interest & Dividends	8,697
Re-Igniting Our Faith Income	73,627
Loss on Investments*	(95,824)
Other **	75,350
Total Revenue	\$452,336



Expenses:

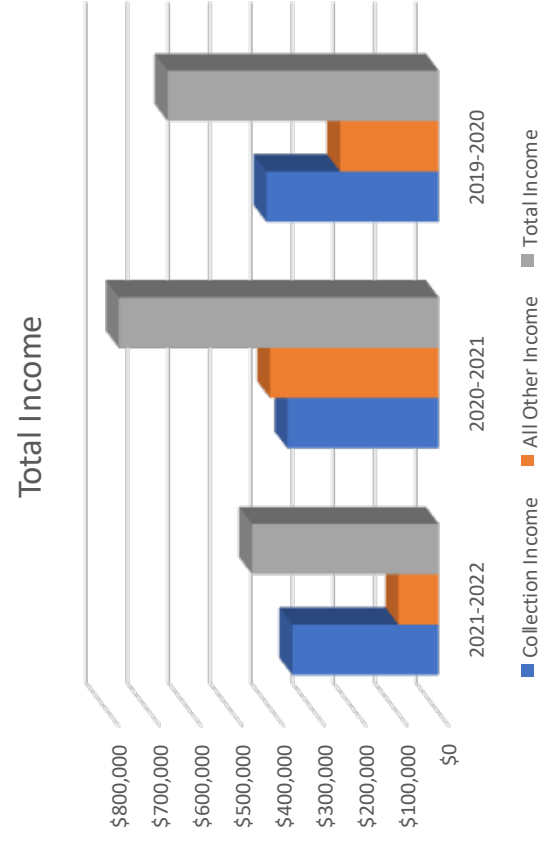
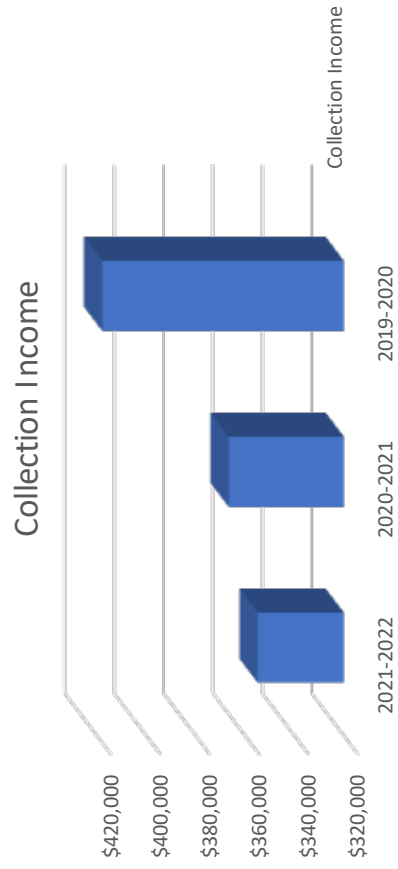
Salaries & Benefits	\$279,313
Clergy	111,096
Faith Development	51,375
Admin/Music/Maint	116,843
Supplies: Altar, Office, Hsehold	39,759
Maintenance & Repairs	24,916
Utilities	14,115
Property Insurance	13,111
Programs & Support Services ***	52,279
Subscriptions incl Evangelist	9,745
School / Diocesan Assessments	30,861
Re-Igniting Our Faith Expenses	6,784
Equipment/Capital Improvements	9,224
Total Expenses	\$480,107
Net Operating Income	(\$27,771)

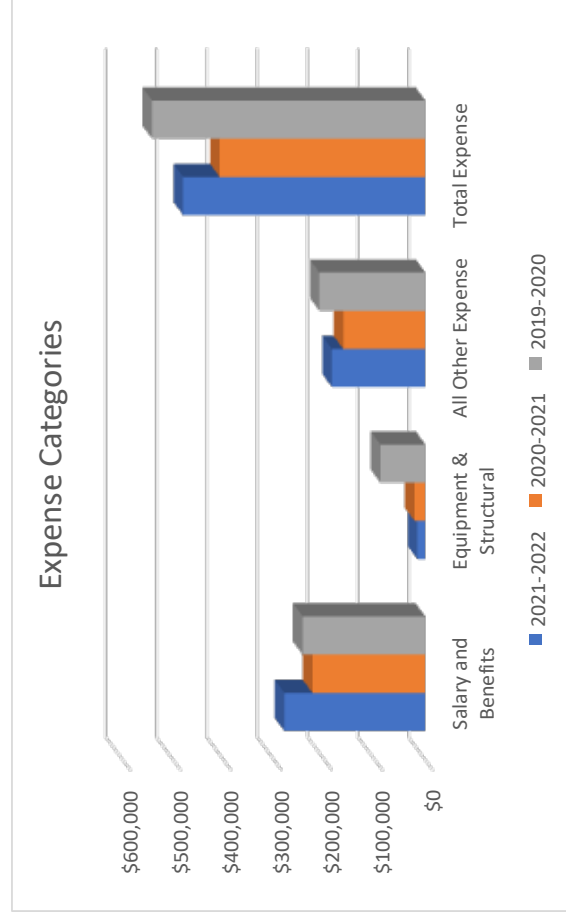
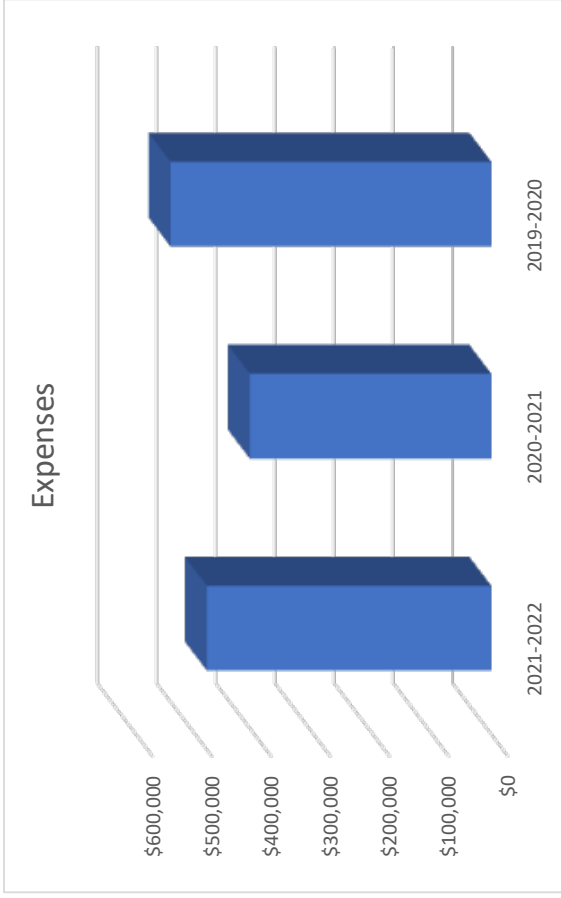


* Loss on Investment includes both Realized Gain (\$30,957) and Unrealized Loss (\$-126,781) on Investments.

** Includes Rental Income and Reimbursed Expenses from the Diocese, Christ the King and St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

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





PARISH MINISTRIES

St. Matthew's is blessed with a dedicated group of Liturgical Ministers. Greeters, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans and of course our Music Ministry make our liturgies a prayerful experience.

Our Family Promise Ministry continues to be active preparing meals and delivering to the day center and this past summer we once again housed guests in our classroom wing.

St. Matthew's is an active social Community. Our Hospitality Ministry & Men's Association have helped out with many events including our Annual Parish Picnic, various Coffee Socials after Masses, our 1st Friday Soup's for Seniors and volunteering with the Albany County Community Lunch Program.

PARISH COMMITTEES

PASTORAL COUNCIL

David Ernst-Chairperson, Sabrina Balbuena, Linda Conway, Cheryl Dacullo-Hoyer, John Dilanni, Deb Engel, Frank Gariboldi, Loraine Gariboldi, Jeff Lampman, Josh Terry

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chris Madden—Chairperson, Jim Connolly, Josette Guastella, Richard Polsonilli, Roz Robinson, Mike Markham - Parish Accountant

TRUSTEES

Mary Gay Wood, Steve Goss

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Bill Brett, Madge Devine, Andrea Freeman, Bob Harms, Millie Selby, Anne Smolen, Nick Ascioti

HOSPITALITY & PARISH EVENTS

July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Kid's Summer Olympics
Reception for Fr. Dan
Reception for Fr. Rick & Fr. Chris
Family Movie Day – Despicable Me 3
Rail Trail Event w/ St. Thomas' Church
"Together Again" Feast Day Picnic
Senior Citizen's 1st Friday's Soup /Pasta Salad
Blessing of the Pets
Apple Picking Day w/St. Thomas' at Indian Ladder
Halloween Coffee Social
All Souls Day Reception
Thanksgiving Coffee Social
Advent Coffee Social
Movie: "The Shepherd" Advent
Christmas Caroling Event
Chosen Movie Series Season 1
January Coffee Social
Mardi Gras Coffee Social
Ash Wed Soup Supper
Good Friday Soup Supper
60th Anniversary Receptions
Movie: "Pray" Fr. Patrick Peyton
Season 2 "The Chosen" Movie Series
1st Communion Receptions
Pentecost Receptions
High School Graduation Reception
Synod Listening Sessions

