

With All Your Heart

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Annual Stewardship Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015



**WE ARE CHURCH
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Our parish logo is an open-ended cross. The arms are equal in length, reaching out to the whole world. Each direction has the same importance. The openness stands for access—open to all everywhere, any time, leading directly to the heart. The cross is made up of four separate hearts. The union of hearts forms the cross through which we renew our daily pledge to embrace Jesus' Most Sacred Heart as we carry our cross with love.

With All Your Heart is our Mission.

With All Your Heart offers a way to invite Catholics to fully live their faith as members of a thriving parish. The aim is to strengthen our parish life by increased involvement, generosity and membership. The name is inspired by the Great Commandment taught by Jesus – Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. (Mark 12:30)

Dear St. Benedict Parishioners,

Greetings to you in our Lord Jesus Christ and His Immaculate Mother!

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis' recent visit to the USA and his divinely inspired words regarding the family inspires us all to look beyond ourselves. Family members come in all shapes and sizes, young, old, tall, short, diverse, identical, outgoing, introvert-

ed and as our Holy Father reminds us, each is a critical member to be loved, cherished, nurtured and protected. It is not always easy, but he encourages us to strengthen the family and there by strengthen our Holy Church.

St. Benedict Parish is a spiritual family, gathered around our Father's table and engulfed by His love and care. We cannot comprehend the level of love He offers us as our Father, if we but open our hearts to His words and try earnestly to live according to His example. He has blessed our St. Benedict family in so many ways this last year including: the addition of 152 families, so we now have a total individual count of 2161; our Religious Education program expanded to two days a week with participants exceeding 300; our First Communion celebrations have extended to two ceremonies to accommodate the attendees; we have added an additional weekend Mass; our Columbarium is adding an additional 64 niches because the other 80 are no longer available. In addition, through private donations we have been able to build a storage facility to free up space in our church while providing other opportunities for maintenance of our grounds and facilities. I also want to extend a deep word of appreciation for one of our Scouts who is receiving his Eagle status by building a beautiful Stations of the Cross pathway that will be placed in the Columbarium prayer garden.

The Staff has worked diligently to prepare this report and I thank them for being the gift they are to the parish. I often reflect on how pleased St. Benedict must be when seeing how under his saintly patronage we as a parish family are growing not only in number, but above all in our faith witness. This is made evident in our passion for praying, serving and sharing, which divinely radiates our Catholic identity in the profession of our Christianity. I further realize that as we seek to conform to God's Will in all things we are experiencing a blossoming of our faith family. As you peruse this Annual Stewardship Report and the details of the life and growth of our parish, should you have any questions we await the opportunity to respond.

In closing, I along with Fr. Vincent, and my Staff, want to extend our deep appreciation for the love and support you bring to our parish, which enables us to be a vibrant and growing faith community.

Gratefully yours in Christ our Lord and His Immaculate Mother,

Fr. Dan



HEART TO PRAY



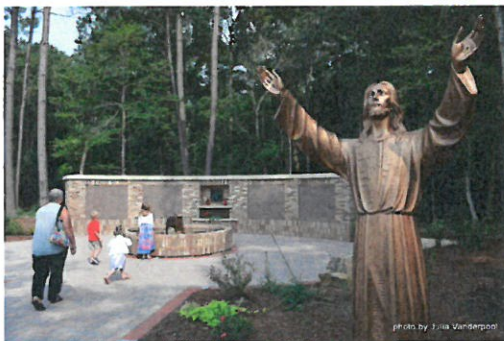
Confirmation 2014

Somerby Ministry



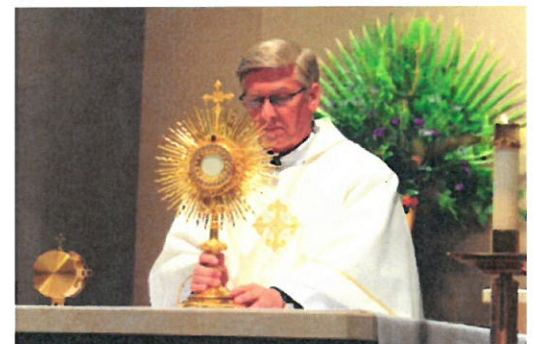
First Communion
May 2nd 2015

First Communion
May 9th 2015



Adoration

Columbarium



Prayer Shawl

Blessing of Animals



We have a beautiful facility that already has enriched our spiritual life and brought us closer together as a community in Christ. Many more parishioners are taking advantage of the devotional, educational, faith formation and fellowship opportunities previously not available without our own facilities. Now is the time for all to make an investment in St. Benedict.

Invest your Time in St. Benedict.

Invest your Talent in St. Benedict.

Invest your Treasure in St. Benedict.

Doesn't it make good sense to invest your Treasure where you invest your Time and your Talent?

“When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.” Isaiah 43:2

A Year in Review

2014-2015 was a year of anchoring ourselves to His Word. We dedicated ourselves to understanding the Bible better than we did a year ago. Our Bible studies have grown leaps and bounds, our CCD now offers a second night, and we have taken on a brand new Youth ministry program that engages and challenges are youth to be greater disciples for Christ. God continues to bless St. Benedict and we can see how He demonstrates that to us, both in our daily lives and how we experience the world. Let's challenge one another to be a church who remembers with gratitude our story and how far the Lord has taken us. In Psalm 105:5 we read, "Recall the wondrous deeds he has done, his wonders, and words of judgments." Let the reminder of God's goodness this past year inspire us to continue to actively and passionately strive to be all that God has created us to be.

Heart to Pray Team

Heart to Pray Highlights As Of June 2015:

- 970 Registered Households
- 152 New Families
- 38 Infant Baptisms
- 2 Adult Baptism
- 63 for First Communion
- 21 for Confirmation
- 11 through RCIA
- 15 Marriages
- 12 Funerals
- 267 Students in CCD
- 22 Catechists in CCD
- 22 in Youth Group
- 144 Adoration Volunteers
- 50 Knights of Columbus
- 120 Men's Ministry
- 105 Women's Club
- 86 Extraordinary Ministers
- 17 Mass Coordinators
- 45 Greeters
- 40 Choir Members
- 39 Ushers
- 52 Lectors
- 45 Altar Servers
- 837 Homebound Visits
- 344 Hospital Visits
- 105 Anointing of the Sick
- 40 Small Faith Sharing
- 270 Jeff Cavins Live
- 140 Bible Study Participants
- 87 Kids in Vacation Bible School
- 44 Nursery Volunteers
- 19 Children's Liturgy Volunteers

Heart to Pray Season is a time to focus more deeply on renewal and prayer.

Each year during the Heart to Pray season we have the opportunity to journey deeper into our relationship with Christ, focus on God's vision for each one of us and heed Christ's call into a deeper relationship with Him.

As we began the Heart to Pray season in 2015, we introduced the new Traveling Pilgrimage Statues ministry. We can now enjoy the opportunity to host one of the five holy statues in our homes for a week. During our week we are encouraged to pray together as a family for our personal intentions and the intentions of others.



Each statue will travel to the homes of all our host families and hope that it will be a source of encouragement and fellowship for all who journey on this pilgrimage throughout the year.



HEART TO SERVE



“Volunteering comes from deep inside my heart, not out of obligation or only for obedience’s sake.”

Wendy Albano

Hundreds of volunteers served at our parish and around our community. Whether our volunteers were greeting guests prior to Mass, showing guests and members to their seats, singing in our choir, teaching our young children, or sending packages to our seafarers, they all gave their time and used their talents to serve those at the parish or around the East Cooper Area.

Outreach and Service Projects:

- Neighborhood House - Christmas
- Sea Farers- Christmas at Sea
- St Vincent de Paul
- ECCO Grocery Food Drive
- Change for Change (GREP)
- Water Mission Walk
- Homeless Awareness Drive
- Troop Christmas Cards (GREP)
- Hospital Visits
- Birthright Drive
- Outbound Adoption (13 kids)
- Women’s Club Craft Fair
- Youth Ministry Spaghetti Dinner
- Chili Dinner
- Caroling to Seniors at Somerby
- Angels Feeding Angels
- Blessing Bags
- Letters and Cards to Deployed Troops
- Women’s Club Bake Sale



Q10: How would you best describe the process to get involved within our parish?

An amazing 89% of you said you were either currently serving in a ministry, were encouraged to join a ministry and knew how to get involved, but 10% of you responded that you were never asked. We want EVERY single member to be encouraged and know how to join a ministry and for this reason we hosted a ministry fair this spring and had 257 new sign ups! We thank you for your input and hope to make this an annual event.



As Each One Has Received A Gift, Use It to Serve One Another As Good Stewards of God’s Varied Grace. (1 Peter 4:10)

This Year's Highlights

Collected 3,505
Pounds of Food for
ECCO

Provided 480 meals
to a local school for
under-privileged
children.

Sent 100 letters
and cards to our
deployed men and
women.

257 new volun-
teers added from
our ministry fair.

353 Service
Hours by Our
Youth

Sponsored 13 kids
from third world
countries.

275 Christmas
Gifts for our
angel tree.

141
Serve Saturday
Participants

152 cookie jars
delivered to new
parishioners

Heart to Serve Highlights As Of June 2015:

- 970 Registered Households
- 257 New Ministry Fair Sign ups
- 22 in Youth Group
- 50 Knights of Columbus
- 22 St. Vincent de Paul
- 15 St. Vincent de Paul Warehouse
- 120 Men's Ministry
- 105 Women's Club
- 86 Extraordinary Ministers
- 17 Mass Coordinators
- 45 Greeters
- 40 Choir Members
- 39 Ushers
- 52 Lectors
- 45 Altar Servers
- 37 Youth in Homeless Awareness
- 87 Kids in Vacation Bible School
- 353 Service Hours by Youth
- 44 Nursery Volunteers
- 19 Children's Liturgy Volunteers

Heart to Serve



What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? James 2:14

Heart to Share

Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

Operating Revenue

		Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014
Offertory	89%	\$ 797,012	\$ 726,679
Religious Ed Fees	6%	\$ 57,497	\$ 42,325
Designated Offerings	3%	\$ 23,485	\$ 30,738
Other Income	2%	\$ 15,815	\$ 24,338
Total Operating Revenue		\$ 893,809	\$ 824,080

Operating Expenses

		Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014
Administration	51%	\$ 447,603	\$ 399,561
Operations & Maintenance	11%	\$ 99,939	\$ 75,764
Church	13%	\$ 115,065	\$ 117,624
Diocesan Assessment	10%	\$ 82,317	\$ 74,599
Religious Ed	7%	\$ 59,139	\$ 50,867
Rectory	3%	\$ 21,771	\$ 25,374
Outreach	5%	\$ 45,168	\$ 45,397
Total Operating Expenses		\$ 871,002	\$ 789,186
NET OPERATING SURPLUS		\$ 22,807	\$ 34,894

Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
Assets		
Operating Cash	\$ 54,129	\$ 55,526
Building Fund Cash	\$ 199,715	\$ 348,666
Columbarium Fund Cash	\$ 77,783	\$ 86,414
Gift Shop Cash	\$ 5,222	\$ 0
Operating Reserve Fund Cash	\$ 52,409	\$ 47,451
Total Cash	\$ 389,258	\$ 538,057
Land & Church Building	\$ 6,406,792	\$ 6,342,085
Rectory and Other Assets	\$ 217,438	\$ 217,438
Columbarium	\$ 174,518	\$ 169,533
Other	\$ 475	\$ 475
Total Assets	\$ 7,189,435	\$ 7,267,588
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	\$ 250	\$ 250
Land & Church Loan	\$ 3,126,103	\$ 3,378,581
Total Liabilities	\$ 3,126,353	\$ 3,378,831
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	\$ 4,063,082	\$ 3,888,757

OPERATING COMMENTS:

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, our weekly offertory and holy day collections provided 89% of total revenue. The \$797,012 collected in offertory combined with Religious Education fees, designated offerings and other income enabled us to meet our expenses of \$871,002 to end the year with a net operating surplus of \$22,807. Our goal for the current fiscal year is to collect offertory in amounts sufficient to cover all operating expenses. This can be accomplished as we pray and share as a parish family.

Administrative salaries and benefits account for 46.4% of expenses. This includes salary, health insurance and retirement benefits for staff and clergy. Administrative salaries and benefits are 38% of expenses and clergy salary and benefits are 8.6% of expenses. The Diocese of Charleston sets the compensation for the clergy. Ideally, we would like to be at 40% of total expenses.

As you plan for the year ahead, we encourage you to reflect carefully on what you are able to give to support St. Benedict and its ministries. We also ask you to consider enrolling in our online giving program. This helps provide a consistent revenue stream and alleviates declines in the weekly offertory associated with natural disasters, holidays and vacations.

- Building cash insures meeting \$290,000 annual mortgage obligation.
- Major Maintenance Fund established to provide for future repairs.
- The bulk of cash funds is on deposit with diocese at 2.25% interest.
- Columbarium reserve established to provide perpetual maintenance.
- Columbarium is self-funded and does not affect the Operating or Building Funds.



“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your produce,

St. Benedict Building Campaign from July 2014 through June 2015

Building Fund Budget Fiscal Year 2015

Building Fund Budget for 2015

Opening Cash Balance	\$ 199,715
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 275,000
Interest Earned	\$ 7,000
Total Revenue	\$ 282,000
Total Funds Available	\$ 481,715
Building Expenditures	\$ (10,000)
Diocesan Loan Repayment	\$ (170,981)
Interest Expense	\$ (110,590)
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 190,144

- We continue to separate Building Fund and related expenditures from Operating funds and expenditures.
- Fiscal 2015 ended with building fund cash of \$199,715.

	Fund Cash Balance	Land & Church Loan
As of June 30, 2014	\$348,666	\$3,378,831
Building Fund Contributions	257,960	
Other Collections	16,000	
Interest Earned	7,872	
Diocesan Loan Repayments	(252,478)	(252,478)
Interest Expense on Loans	(132,924)	
Campaign /Other Expenses	(45,381)	
As of June 30, 2015	\$199,715	\$3,126,353

Parish Survey Question #13—Were you aware that St. Benedict is in its first year of a Capital Campaign in order to meet our current mortgage and make progress toward reducing our remaining debt?

Although many of you are aware that we are in the midst of a building campaign 10% of you were not and 35% of you have not yet contributed to it.

If you have joined our parish in the last several years or are not currently giving to the With All Your Heart building fund, please consider sharing in the responsibility to help fund our campus and Church. In our recent survey, some parishioners responded that they would contribute to the building fund, but were never asked to participate. Now we are asking, and would like your decision to be made with a spirit of joy and love in your heart. Giving this way, I know you will be truly blessed by your generosity.

The idea is a "Take Jesus to Dinner" concept of giving by donating an additional \$25 each week specifically to the building fund. If 250 families responded in this way, we would cover our \$25,000 monthly mortgage payment. Currently we pay \$135,000 per year in interest, which limits our ability to expand our ministries. Of course, you may be in position to give more, or less, but giving something every week makes it possible for you to give a large amount – a little at a time. We strongly encourage you to participate by using our Online Giving Program, which makes it even easier to give.

Will you join us in our Take Jesus to Dinner Club for \$25 per week or decide what works best for you? Your commitment to be a part of this growing and faithfully generous family is what matters most.

Yes, I'm taking Jesus out to dinner!

It's not how much we give, it's how much love we put into giving.—Mother Teresa

Making Disciples For Christ

This is what we were created for: to love God and be loved by him. Jesus said it was the most important of all the commandments. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30). According to the Word of God, love is not something that you fall into involuntarily. It's something you choose. It's not primarily about feelings, but rather a willful response. It doesn't just happen without effort. It often requires great strength.

So much good is being done to reach others for Christ both locally and abroad. Take a look at what God had in store for us as we reached out to others this year.

- Heart to Witness Team

And whatever you, do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. —Colossians 3:17



Thank you for taking the time to read through the amazing things God has done and is doing through each of us at St. Benedict. We mostly want to thank you for your commitment to your parish. It is through your time, talent, and treasure that we have been able and continue to reach other for Christ. We hope you continue to journey with us in 2015-2016 as we focus on becoming better disciples for Christ.

*As Each One Has Received A Gift,
Use It to Serve One Another As Good Stewards of God's
Varied Grace.*

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Outreach and Service Projects:

- Neighborhood House - Christmas
- Sea Farers- Christmas at Sea
- St Vincent de Paul
- ECCO Grocery Food Drive (3,505 lbs.)
- Change for Change (CCD)
- Water Mission Walk
- Homeless Awareness Drive
- Troop Christmas Cards (CCD)
- Birthright Drive
- Outbound Adoption (13 kids)
- Stamp out Child Hunger
- Juvenile Diabetes Walk (CCD)
- Juvenile Arthritis Walk (Youth)
- Caroling to Seniors at Somerby
- Angels Feeding Angels
- Blessing Bags
- Prayer Shawls
- Our Lady Of Mercy Community
- Mt. Pleasant Christmas Parade
- Serve Saturday
- Respect Life
- Christmas Angel Tree
- Christmas Caroling
- Truck or Treat Halloween Event

Trunk or Treat - Oct 2014

