



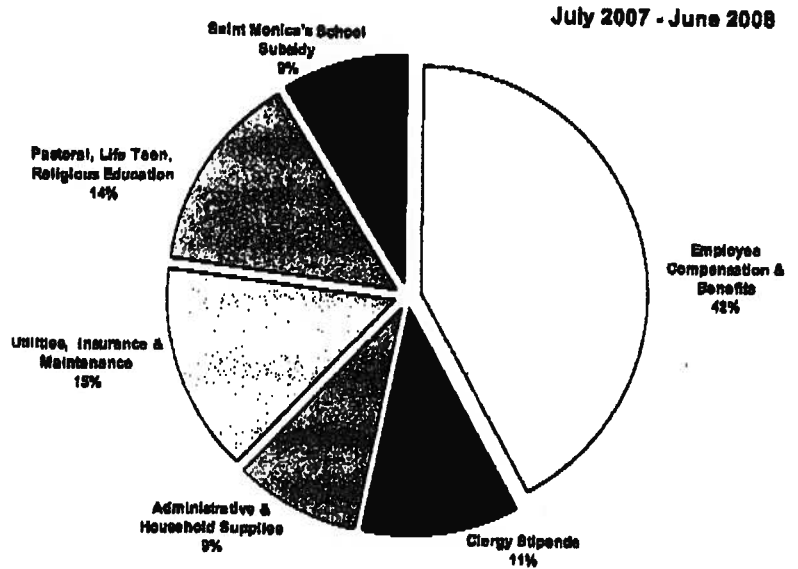
# **Saint Monica Financial Report**

**2007-2008**

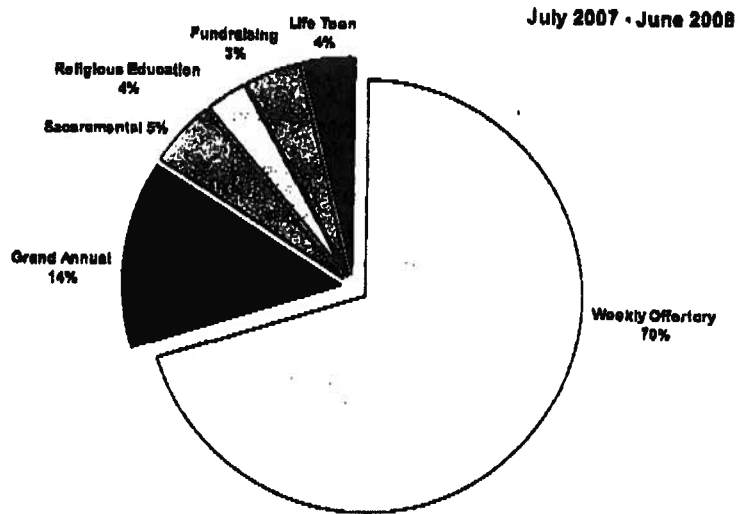
Dear Parishioners:

We have good reason to be proud of what we've accomplished together over the past few years here at Saint Monica Parish in Methuen. Working together, we've been able to serve the poor and needy of Methuen; we continue to provide excellent Religious Education for the young and the not-so-young; we've solidified the school's infrastructure; we've transformed the liturgical life of the Parish with music and preaching; we've been able to beautify the grounds and the interior of our magnificent Church; we've built up our ministry to the young (Life Teen and EDGE), and we've drawn more individuals and families to the worship of our God.

Last year (July 2007-June 2008), the Parish spent a total of \$909,546. Of that total, 42% was spent for Employee Compensation and Benefits, 11% was spent on stipends for unassigned clergy, 9% was spent on Administrative and Household Supplies, 15% was spent for Utilities, Insurance and Maintenance, 14% was spent for pastoral programs, Life Teen, Religious Education and Fundraising and 9% went to Saint Monica's school subsidy.



The income that we used to meet these expenses totaled \$923,311. We received the bulk of that income from our weekly offertory--70%, in fact! Thank you for your consistent generosity to your parish! The remainder of this income came from the Grand Annual Collection (14%), sacramental offerings (5%), fundraising (3%), Religious Education (4%), and LifeTeen (4%).



During this fiscal year (July 2008 - June 2009), your Parish Finance Committee projects that our expenses will total \$888,092. This amount represents expected increases in fuel costs (a projected 10% crease), utilities (a projected 10% increase) and employee compensation and benefits (a projected 2% crease). We expect to hold the line or to cut costs in the amount spent on stipends for unassigned clergy and on the school subsidy.

This means that we will need income of at least \$900,000 to meet these expenses. We hope and pray that certain types of income will remain constant (flowers, Mass intentions, etc.), and that some may even increase (candles, sacramental offerings). But as always, the bulk of our Parish income will need to come from two main sources: the Grand Annual Collection and the regular weekly Offertory.

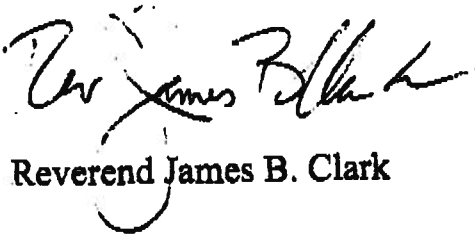
Last year, the Grand Annual Collection realized \$123,892, in part because of one significant gift of \$35,000. This year, our goal is \$100,000. We wondered, "What if we asked every person in our parish to donate just one dollar each day?" A dollar's not a huge amount to most of us, and if we could give that amount to our Church in the Grand Annual Collection we'd reach our goal. For those who are parents, it presents a great opportunity to speak to your children about generosity to others and to your parish. Remember: every penny donated to the Grand Annual Collection is used here at St. Monica Parish.

If you wanted to contribute that amount to the Grand Annual Collection in one lump sum, it would be \$365; if you wanted to make that contribution once a month for October, November and December, you could send \$122 each month. Perhaps you don't think you could donate one dollar a day – in that case, whatever donation you think you can afford would be gratefully accepted. Perhaps God has blessed you with the ability to give more – we thank you in advance for your generosity! Our Grand Annual Collection begins next weekend and continues through December.

Finally, please take a minute to consider your weekly Offertory. If you have been using budget envelopes, we thank you for your consistency; if you have not, would you consider signing up for them as a way of making Saint Monica's part of your monthly plans? And again, if every parishioner (man, woman and child) were to give just one extra dollar a week in the weekly Offertory, we'd be in great shape financially!

We are filled with gratitude to be part of such a vibrant, active and loving Parish, and we are inspired by the many who have been here for so long and are enthusiastic about the direction our Parish is heading. We hope you feel as we do – that as members of St. Monica Parish we are all so richly blessed! Thank you in advance for your continued support and generous love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend James B. Clark



Reverend Patrick Armano

**Our thanks to the members of our Parish Finance Committee:**

**Ken Bourassa**

**David Brown**

**Mary Lou Boes**

**Nancy Carace**

**Teresa Drelick**

**Andrew P. Lippo, Chairman**

**Gary Melville**

**Richard Tatarczuk**