

Companions on the Journey



Above photos courtesy of: *Vagabond View Photography*



SACRED HEART PARISH
340 CENTER ST.
MIDDLEBOROUGH, MA 02346

Blessings Shared and Multiplied...

Through our special collections and our parish tithe, the Good Stewards of Sacred Heart/St. Rose have contributed **over \$113,700** toward the efforts of humanitarian, religious and civil organizations locally, within the diocese, throughout the United States, and around the world! You are truly the hands and feet of Christ!

"The Lord give you peace! We are very grateful for all your wonderful love and support. We continue to remember you, your intentions and all the faithful of Sacred Heart in our daily prayers and especially during Eucharistic Adoration. May the Immaculate Mother of God bless and keep you all in her tender love and care! In the Sacred Heart" - the Little Brothers of St. Francis

"Thank you, Father Richard, for supporting our work for Christ so faithfully and generously over the years. Sacred Heart has helped us serve so many people, like Mary and her grandson." - My Brother's Keeper

"Your donation will have a direct and immediate impact on men, women, and children facing homelessness in our community. They receive health care, counseling, employment services, and case management to help them remain in their home permanently." - Father Bill's & Main-Spring

"Thank you for continuing the tithing and being so faithful to Missions of Mary over the years. May God bless you all." - Medical Missionaries of Mary Incorporated

"In the midst of this very cold winter, your wonderful gift arrived. It truly warmed my heart! And it will help to keep the children warm and the programs strong. Thank you so very much; words cannot capture my gratitude and the good that results from such generosity." - Red Cloud Indian School

ANNUAL REPORT

SACRED HEART PARISH

Serving the Faith Communities of Middleborough & Rochester

Autumn 2010

Dear Parishioners,

Once again it is my duty and pleasure to come to you, through this parish newsletter, to give the annual financial report as well as some updates concerning the parish. I begin by acknowledging the fact that the life and work of the parish, both in Middleboro and in Rochester is the combined and generous efforts of many, many people, paid staff, and literally hundreds of volunteers. We are grateful for so many of the generous, faith-filled efforts that work together effectively to give witness to Christ's love.

Quite often, when someone gives a report, they say, "Good news and bad news, which one do you want to hear first?"

Why don't we start with the "good"! First, as mentioned above, we count the blessings of so many people willing to commit to a stewardship way of life – putting their gifts at the disposal of the parish as a response to God's goodness to them. We have also seen, this past fiscal year, an increase in number who use the weekly parish offertory envelopes, which help us better plan our finances. Also, the fact is that a "wrapped gift" is usually a more thoughtful, generous gift.

I am also happy to report that Mass attendance at St. Rose of Lima has continued to gradually increase, translating into more support and more involvement in the faith-works of the community in Rochester. Finally, we continue to be inspired by the generosity and concern of parishioners who have responded to specific, unplanned needs during this past year: relief for our brothers and sisters in Haiti following the devastating earthquake; replacement of the church boiler at Sacred Heart which cracked during the winter, and a generous response to a newly-initiated monthly maintenance fund collection at St. Rose, enabling us to address physical needs of the buildings there.

Now the "challenges"! First, as with many churches, the startling decline in church attendance (Mass attendance at Sacred Heart has declined 50% in the 12 years I've been Pastor.); next, a steady rise in costs of multiple insurances, particularly healthcare costs; finally, a drop-off in areas of fundraising which have provided significant financial help for many years—the seasonal Thrift Shop in Middleboro, and also the 500 Club.

We have worked hard as a staff to respond to difficult financial realities so that the mission of the parish can continue and grow. The parish staff has accepted a salary freeze. Parish staff members have participated in various updating and skills-enhancing courses so as better to serve you. They have paid the major costs of these courses by themselves with a small amount of aid from the parish.

We're hoping that the annual collection this year will find a generous response among you. This collection enables us to meet expenses when ordinary weekly income isn't sufficient, and also provides a budgetary safeguard. You will be receiving a separate letter from me concerning the Grand Annual in a short time.

In conclusion, I want to thank the many people, who throughout these twelve years, have supported me through prayers, generous service, and financial support of the parish and its many works. May God continue to bless our united efforts.

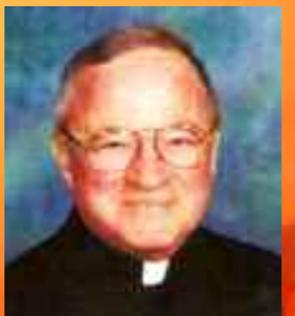
May God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Richard P. Crowley

Rev. Richard P. Crowley

Pastor



Parish Finance Council



Pictured (l-r): David Cunningham, Gina Lewis, Karl Tinsley, Rev. Richard Crowley, Mike Isabelle, Clare Cole

Look What's New

Something new happened to Sacred Heart's offertory this year, and we failed to recognize the extent of the trend until the year's close. A larger and larger portion of our parishioners are utilizing online banking services, and having their offertory sent directly to the business office.

These offerings were unfortunately overlooked in the tithe calculations. You may have noticed the new "mail-in" offertory figure that now appears in our Financial Blessings Section of the bulletin which began this summer to address the error.

In response to the trend toward online banking, Sacred Heart/St. Rose will offer Online Giving through our website <http://www.sacredheartstrose.org> beginning in October! We hope this will be helpful to those of you who find it a more efficient way to conduct your affairs!

Coming in October: Online Giving!

Q & A

What are Capital Improvements/Acquisitions?

- Capital Improvements are expenditures that add value to, or extend the life of existing holdings.
- Capital Acquisitions are purchases, usually of larger equipment or systems that have intrinsic value.
- The minimum threshold for a capital expenditure in the Archdiocese of Boston is \$3000.

SACRED HEART PARISH PROFIT & LOSS JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010

	St. Rose of Lima	Sacred Heart	Parish Total
Income			
Offertory	82435	341565	424000
Maint/Fuel St. Rose	7823	*	7823
Grand Annual	3286	27987	31273
Flower/Sacramental	2665	22273	24938
Gifts/Bequests/Donations	300	12591	12891
Religious Education	7800	60690	68490
Interest/Dividend/Mkt Gain(Loss)	0	10472	10472
Rental	300	18296	18596
Ministry/Fundraising/Other	5223	47248	52471
Total Income	109,832	541,122	650,954
Expenses			
Salaries/Benefits/PR Exp.	38993	233315	272308
Rel. Ed. Salaries/Benefits/PR Exp.	29253	70708	99961
Rel. Ed. Supplies	4399	25208	29607
Office/Administative	6659	36843	43502
Rectory	0	8833	8833
Utilities (heat/electric/W&S)	11818	36982	48800
Property Insurance	4111	12166	16277
Maintenance	9493	21732	31225
Parish Tithe/Charitable Works	3827	30910	34737
Pastoral/Liturgical	4530	26899	31429
Central Minsitries Support	7512	26741	34253
Total Expenses	120,595	530,337	650,932
Net Operating Income (Loss)	(10,763)	10,785	22
Non-operating Income and Expense			
SH- Maint/Parish Improvement Fund		47787	47787
Capital Improvements/Acquisitions	1486	32726	34212

Reaching Out

The Society of St. Vincent DePaul began at a meeting on September 29, 2004 conducted by Fr. Richard Crowley. Early on, we decided that we would take over the operation of the "Middleboro Parish outreach food pantry" upon their closing. The Sacred Heart Food Pantry brings us into direct contact with the poor and needy.

The Society is an all-volunteer group of parishioners that helps out the needy in many ways. We try to adhere to the Gospels as closely as possible, by feeding the hungry, clothing those in need, and providing shelter to the homeless.

In addition to the Food Pantry, we have a summer camp program, a security deposit program, and a parochial school tuition program. We provide help with rent, utilities and such. We have a fuel assistance program during the winter months, as well as our annual C.O.A.T drive that provides warm coats, scarves, mittens, and gloves during the winter months.

Our Holiday Meals Program provides a Thanksgiving meal, a Christmas meal, gifts for the children through the Giving Tree project, and an Easter meal with a small gift for the little ones from the Easter Bunny.

Through the hard work of our members, associate members, contributing members and our volunteers, we have been able to provide for all of these programs with funding from our annual golf tournament, our fall wine tasting event, and generous donations from Sacred Heart/St. Rose parishioners and other people and organizations throughout the four towns we serve.

I personally feel very honored to have been selected man of the year by my peers in the community due to the hard work of all of the volunteers that give of their time. Without the volunteers none of this would have taken place...

W.M. Pye, President, SVDP



Expansion Update
The engineering is complete, and we are awaiting final approval of our application. We expect to break ground on the new section before year's end!

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY PROFIT & LOSS JULY 2009 THROUGH JUNE 2010

Income	FY 09	FY10	Budget 11
Sale of Lots	40480	35660	24000
Openings	25050	27150	24000
Foundations	6726	3934	3000
Interest/dividend	1805	1557	1260
Total Income	74,061	68,301	52,260
Expenses			
Salaries	9300	11364	11856
Benefits	3659	4734	5214
Office	2226	2548	1550
Facilities	20144	20448	19523
Operations	15799	17807	18300
Capital Improvements	3840	0	30000
Total Expenses	54,968	56,901	86,443
Net Operating Income(Loss)	19,093	11,400	(34,183)
Non-Operating Income and Perpetual Care Fund			
Market Value Gain(Loss)	(14620)	13795	

Pastor's Notes

Keeping in mind that our main purpose in having several buildings in addition to our two houses of worship is to gather as a faith family to praise and thank the Lord for His amazing goodness to us and to unite with, and be inspired by on another to go out and live and proclaim the Good News of Jesus, I give you a brief summary of our stewardship of these properties this past fiscal year.

At Sacred Heart Church, the boiler was replaced. We tried "limping" along until spring with the crack in the old boiler, but it was just too expensive. We also purchased AED units, replaced all the emergency door hardware and refinished the church doors, and had much-needed repairs done on two garages in Middleboro.

At St. Rose of Lima, we benefited from a lot of donated labor from parishioners, particularly the Friends in Faith group to update the Parish Hall. Generous parish tradesmen gave, for no or very little cost, a section of new roof, and new trim paint. New kitchen equipment was purchased. Another parishioner carpenter gave many hours in repairing and rebuilding kneelers on pews in the church. St. Rose also received a new AED device.

Projects currently being planned or priced out involve basement heat and better security for the Parish Hall at Sacred Heart (inspired by a recent robbery at the Food Pantry); repairs of the stained glass windows at both churches; and a covered entry for the boiler room at Sacred Heart. At St. Rose, we plan to replace carpeting in the sacristy and room off the main church entry used to prepare for Mass, and also for religious education. We would also like to reconfigure the Penance "Room" (aka confessional) at St. Rose.