Annual Report to Parishioners
for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2016

Star of the Sea Parish
LIVING WATER CATHOLIC // SALISBURY, MA
April 1, 2017

Dear Members and Friends of Star of the Sea Parish,

I am pleased to join with members of the Parish Finance Council and Christine McCarthy, our Business Manager, to present this annual report of parish life and finances for July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

As your pastor, my primary concern is the pastoral life and mission of the parish, including helping each of you to reach the next level of your discipleship by participating in the sacraments, standing firm on the rock of faith and learning more about it, and serving those in need, so that together we can reach out to others and invite them to the same. Here are some of the pastoral highlights of the time period covered by this report.

Our Pastoral Plan Writing Team completed our pastoral plan for 2016-2019 and Cardinal Seán O'Malley approved it. In anticipation of Cardinal Seán's approval, we prepared to begin the implementation as soon as possible by hosting a two-evening Forming Disciples in Mission workshop, that was attended by over seventy people, including several members of this parish. This led to establishing a team for each of the plan's priorities and ministries. Please see page four of this report for an update on the implementation of the pastoral plan. I need additional members of Star of the Sea Parish to become active in this important work.

The parish was able to charter a new Council, #16437 - Living Water Catholic, of the Knights of Columbus, the world’s largest Catholic benefit and fraternal society. In the last decade, the Knights of Columbus has contributed $1.5 billion and 690 million hours to charitable projects across the globe. Many of the Charter Members of the new Council are also members of Star of the Sea Parish. I encourage any Catholic man, age 18+, to consider joining this men’s ministry.

The Year of Mercy, called by Pope Francis, began on December 8, 2015. Many of our members embraced our "1,000,000 Works of Mercy" project and completed thousands of corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The children of our religious education program were especially active in this effort. Though we aimed high and fell short, I will take that all day, every day. In all that we do, we aim high and give it our all. Though the Year of Mercy has ended, we continue to strive to be "merciful like the Father" by focusing on God's mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Penance, and doing the works of mercy.

Finally, we said goodbye to one Parochial Vicar, Father Ixon Chateau, and hello to another, Father Chris Wallace. We are grateful for Father Ixon’s joyful, simple, holy priestly ministry among us and ask God's blessing upon him and his priesthood. We are glad to welcome Father Chris to our parish to live and serve as a priest here.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Scott
**Financial Highlights:**

For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2016, total income was $293,084. As evidenced by the income statement, the weekly offertory collection totals $182,243, and provides 62% of our Parish’s income. Additionally, income from the Monthly Offertory, Grand Annual, and the Catholic Appeal rebate are our Parish’s next largest sources of income. When combined, their total, $71,418, represents 24% of our Parish’s income. The total income for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2016 was 7.7% lower than the total income reported for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2015, which continues to follow the downward trend we have been seeing.

For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2016, total expenses were $312,559. Our biggest expenses continue to stem from Salaries & Benefits, Improvements to our Buildings, Utilities, and Property Insurance & Liability costs. These expenses total $241,676, or 77% of our Parish’s total expenses. Additionally, at the time the FY ’16 Budget was created, not all shared Parish expenses were taken into account, resulting in the under budgeting of several line items.

This past Fiscal Year we were able to add structural footings to the Beach Chapel as well as make repairs to the ceiling tiles above the Sanctuary and the beam and sill under the left entry door. Other enhancements to our Parish include the replacement of the emergency lights at the Beach Chapel, repair of the stairs at the Town Church, and a new statue of Mary donated in memory of the Carney and Webb families.
On Sunday, March 19, 2017, members from our Pastoral Plan teams gathered at Star of the Sea Parish’s Father Morgan Hall for a 6 month check-in. At least one member from each team gave a brief update on the progress they have made towards the implementation of the Pastoral Plan and their team’s goals for the upcoming year. Highlights from each team are presented below:

**Hospitality**
- Conducted a Christmas survey with 250+ respondents, 100 of whom provided contact information and expressed interest in being involved.
- Established serving breakfast on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Cor Unum Meal Center in Lawrence as a regular, ongoing ministry.
- Decided on 6 other service and justice projects: Habitat for Humanity (Salisbury build), establishing a sister parish relationship with Fr. Ixon’s parish in Haiti, outreach and support for military members, veterans, and their families, disaster relief and fair trade (through Catholic Relief Services), transportation for and services to the elderly, community garden (with produce going to local food banks).
- Recruited coordinators or co-coordinators for all projects except the community garden.

**Community Engagement Through Christian Service**
- Rallied a strong group of members of both parishes to serve as greeters at baptisms, funerals, Christmas, and other key sacramental moments.
- Promoted understanding of Christian hospitality.

**Faith Formation Leading to Sacraments**
- Provided formation for team members on catechesis, evangelization, and intergenerational faith formation/whole community catechesis.
- Visited and evaluated several parishes/collaboratives who offer intergenerational faith formation.

**Creating a Culture of Vocations**
- Established three prayer initiatives (daily prayer for Archdiocese of Boston seminarians (& Colin Powell), rosary for vocations, holy hours for vocations).
- Organized two invitational initiatives, one recently completed and one in the future (3/26/17 vocations breakfast for Confirmation II candidates and their families, and 6/26-30/17 “Vocations” Bible School - Maker Fun Factory for elementary school-aged children).
- Coordinated two awareness initiatives tied into more universal efforts (National Vocations Awareness Week, World Day of Prayer for Vocations).

**The Evangelical Catholic**
- Engaged with Evangelical Catholic to be part of their Reach More Pilot Program.
- Appointed Father Chris and Bev Fournier to serve as co-point people.
- Discerned and invited potential leader participants, resulting in 10 (7 women and 3 men; 5 from Star of the Sea Parish and 5 from Holy Family Parish).
- Provided formation and training for them over the course of almost 4 months.
- Invited parishioners and others to join a 6-week Lenten small group, resulting in 60 respondents, who were formed into 6 different small groups, that were launched the week of Ash Wednesday.