

Looking to the future

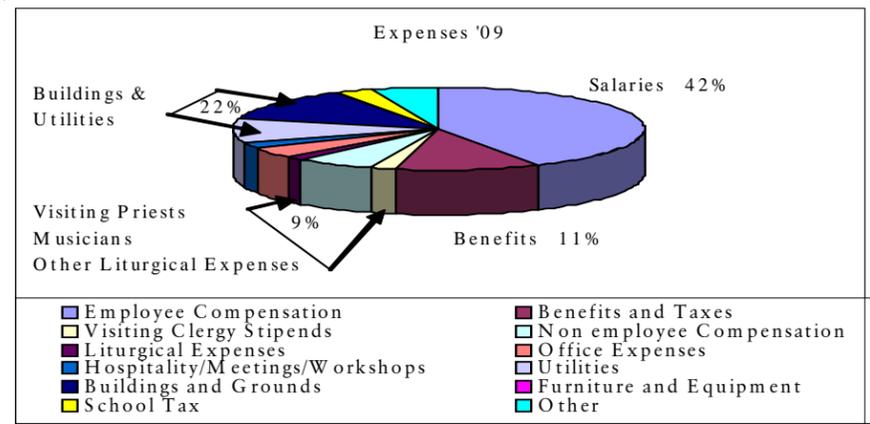
The not-so-good news is that during this past year we did not attempt any capital repairs. These were to be folded into the St. Julia Church renovation project. Although that is still the plan, certain repairs can no longer wait. The area behind the Parish Center near the statue of St Julia has been absorbing runoff water, which freezes in the winter and pushes out the wall. A large crack is plainly visible. The drainage behind the wall is currently being repaired at a cost of \$16,000. An even larger project is the repair of the St. Julia Church buttresses. If you look closely, you will see several cracks, and in one place stones are falling out. We have engaged an engineering company to define the scope of the work to safely tear down and rebuild the twelve buttresses, prepare contract documents for bidding and assist with the construction oversight. The estimated cost is \$160,000. To complete both projects at this moment, we will have to use our savings with replacement included in an upcoming campaign for capital repairs and renovations. This past summer unforeseen A.C. costs in the Parish Center hall totaled over \$10,000.

The FY 10 budget includes neither capital repairs nor a line item for funded depreciation which enables an organization to begin saving for the future replacement of capital items. For St. Julia Parish to begin funding depreciation for the maintenance of both properties, while maintaining the quality of pastoral programs that we now have, we cannot continue to assume a flat Offertory and Grand Annual each year. All suggestions for increasing revenues or identifying cost savings are most welcome.

We are in the process of acquiring the capability of electronic giving for both the weekly Offertory and the Grand Annual. Parishioners will have the option to have their Offertory

	2007	2008	2009
INCOME			
Offertory	429,989	414,266	419,871
Grand Annual	232,630	263,990	277,207
Sacramental Offerings	15,694	14,099	15,098
Gifts and Bequests	30,237	6,651	5,979
Religious Education	59,125	35,563	56,103
Interest/Dividends	17,182	16,436	14,402
Rental Income	9,655	9,925	15,690
Fundraising: Thrift Shop	18,559	16,205	17,800
Fundraising: Social (Net)	450	64,161	16,435
Other Income	6,876	36,480	57,525
TOTAL INCOME	820,397	877,775	896,110
EXPENSES			
Employee Compensation	336,569	357,390	356,838
Benefits and Taxes	83,056	97,745	95,896
Visiting Clergy Stipends	21,135	23,211	17,084
Non employee Compensation	56,051	47,684	54,765
Liturgical Expenses	7,147	14,247	10,086
Office Expenses	34,254	41,752	36,415
Hospitality/Meetings/Workshops	20,352	29,328	21,362
Utilities	76,052	89,184	80,951
Buildings and Grounds	84,571	90,406	105,643
Furniture and Equipment	10,397	12,542	1,163
School Tax	22,449	25,797	24,857
Other	56,637	70,611	44,587
TOTAL EXPENSES	808,669	899,896	849,647
TOTAL INCOME	820,397	877,775	896,110
NET INCOME	11,728	-22,121	46,463
Unrestricted Cash on June 30	206,202	317,896	262,172
Current Liabilities	10,785	22,854	37,111
Deferred Revenue	23,500	140,145	28,435
Net Unrestricted Cash	171,917	154,897	196,626

contributions automatically withdrawn from a savings or checking account. Withdrawals will be limited to once a month in order to reduce the fees. Such scheduled contributions will stabilize the budget. Parishioners get convenience and the elimination of envelopes, an additional cost reduction for the parish. Stay tuned for further developments.



St. Julia Parish – Weston and Lincoln

2008-2009 Annual Report – July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

“We know that all things work together for good, for those who love God and are called according to his purpose.”

— Letter of St. Paul to the Romans, 8:28

Dear Friends in Christ,

Ours is a wonderful parish. Let's take a look, in this report, at the ways our parish community has received and shared God's goodness during this past year. Together we have seen God's unfolding purpose work among us in many ways: prayer moments,



charitable outreach efforts, learning opportunities, enjoyable social interaction, buildings and grounds upkeep, and development of ministerial gifts of parishioners and staff. It's important for us to take note of the good accomplished, and then to aim higher as we go forward to cooperate with God's plan. I

thank you for your role in God's work of building our parish community.

Father George Evans

Our Ministries In The Past Year

Through Worship, God Has Strengthened and United Us.

Our sacramental life is active. Over the past year (7/08-6/09) we celebrated 32 Baptisms, 60 First Communions, 43 Confirmations, 13 Marriages, and 45 Funerals. The number of people receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly here needs bolstering.

A 4-night Lenten Retreat, a new cooperative endeavor among 5 parishes grouped into a “collaborative,” presented Sister Kathleen Short, whose reflections were succinct, personal, gentle and hope-filled. Though it was lightly attended, we hope to welcome more St. Julia participants this coming Lent.

Holy Week celebrations, enhanced by the careful planning and strong participation of many parishioners, featured the combined choirs from St. Joseph and St. Julia Churches, the participation of youth in our Good Friday procession with the cross, and much matter for reflection.

We have offered an exceptionally broad Mass schedule: six Masses between two churches for Sundays, including a Sunday evening Mass; and nine Masses during the week, six in one church and three in the other.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults has expanded its prayerful support for catechumen candidates. The Easter Vigil included one adult who received the 3 sacraments of initiation, and two already baptized Christians who were confirmed and given First Communion. One adult was accepted into the catechumenate, for future initiation.

Children's Liturgy of the Word, at the 9:00 AM Mass, prompted a study on enhancing Sunday Mass for families as they worship together weekly. Its findings are about to be implemented this fall.

The Outdoor Mass and Picnic, thanks to a masterful planning committee, welcomed over 450 people. That bodes well for our keeping this tradition going and growing.



The Boston Black Catholic Choir graced a 4:00 PM Mass in the spring, and then joined us for a delightful complimentary pasta dinner, to which all were welcome, thanks to the Liturgy Commission's good work.

In Faith Formation, We Have Come To Know and Love God.

- Our **Religious Education Program** involved more than 450 grade-level students, and also more than 80 adults and older teens in teaching and auxiliary roles.



- **Generations of Faith**, our t w i c e - y e a r l y intergenerational learning event, focused on themes of Encountering Jesus (autumn) and Social Justice (spring). Each event was offered twice and reached approximately 270 people of all ages.

- **ARISE**, the archdiocesan-wide *RENEW* program, saw over 100 parishioners attend one or both of its 2 6-week seasons in our parish. Over a dozen others trained to be group facilitators.

- Our **Confirmation Preparation** program features flexibly scheduled mini-courses, single sessions with speakers, retreat, and trips for service and learning. This new approach facilitates short-term commitments from volunteer teachers.

- **Lincoln Journal's "Soundings"** column tapped both our priests, along with other ministers of the town, for weekly reflections on religious themes.

- Our new **Coffee and Contemporary Catholicism** occasional series gave us the chance to hear fine speakers offering accessible Christian perspectives on suffering and evolution, with the hope that new themes will be treated each year.

- Our **two councils and seven commissions** continued to meet regularly to plan for deepened commitment of us all to Christ and Church, as did Sodality, Youth Group, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Bible Study, and more. Our Lenten Prayer Circle offered support to many.

- A new **Respect Life Committee** started to study and support efforts on behalf of vulnerable ones, unborn and born.

- Two separate **days of reflection**, planned by the Sodality and others, were held at the nearby Campion Center for men and women.

By Serving Others, We Have Followed in Christ's Path.

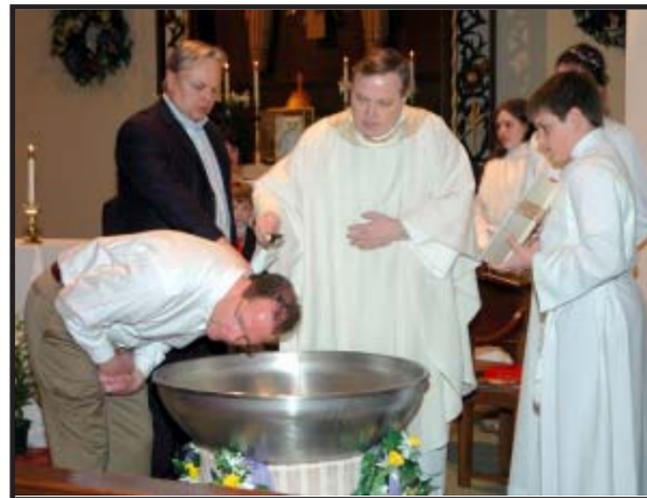
- Our liturgies are enhanced by the service of lectors, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, choir members, ushers, sacristans, and efficient coordinators of these ministries.

- Spring's coming saw **Rebuilding Boston Together**, as 90+ parishioners rehabilitated a house in Dorchester for a needy family.

- Our **Food Supplement Program**, led by the St. Vincent DePaul Society, served 20 families in its once-monthly distribution in St. Joseph Church.

- **Advent Gift Giving** provided parishioners of all ages a chance to share their generosity and love of neighbor at Christmas, with needy recipients in many inner-city locations.

- **St. Julia Thrift Shop's** volunteer staff worked hard to offer useful items at very reasonable cost, and they saved items all year long to share Christmas joy with the poor.



- **Collaborative initiatives among parishes** are increasing, owing to hopeful gatherings of staff members for prayer, discussion and planning.

- Many parishioners regularly visit and bring the Eucharist to the sick and homebound throughout our parish and in our parish's 3 elder-care sites. At Newton-Wellesley Hospital, our parish priests serve on 24-hour call for **emergency pastoral needs** a few days a month.

- Various parish groups have promoted **parish drives** for food, for supplies, for "baby shower" items, in support of different charities near and far. Our parish regularly collects food items for Lowell Catholic Charities' food pantry.

- **Four seminarians** from Blessed John Seminary assisted in our religious education program, and received supervision from our staff. Deacon Paul Murray learned and served in his final year before priestly ordination.

In Community Life and in our Facilities, We Gather.

- With **ministers from Weston and Lincoln**, our priests join for updating, reflection and friendly conversation on a regular basis.

- **Restoration of St. Joseph Church, Lincoln**, interior and exterior, was undertaken during the past year. A lot of unseen repairs, a new roof and insulation, as well as brighter lighting and painted surfaces, will help us to pray here for years to come.

- Our **Reverse Raffle** fund-raising social helped us have fun after winter's harshness was over, and it raised over \$15,000.

Financial Report

This section discusses our parish finances from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 with a comparison to the previous two years.

Primarily due to a few unexpected and serendipitous events, Fiscal Year 09 was a healthy one for St. Julia Parish. The largest contribution to the positive bottom line came from our share of the Archdiocesan Appeal. The archdiocese sets each parish's fair share of the annual goal and then a parish goal. In the past we have received 25% of anything over our parish goal, but this past year it was 25% of any amount over our fair share, an additional \$22,000! Rental income exceeded the budget by \$3,700 and both the Thrift Shop and our annual fundraiser exceeded goal by a total of \$9,200.

This stormy winter drove maintenance of grounds \$16,000 over budget, primarily due to snow-plowing costs. However, we recouped about \$5,000 in the special March collection. We did budget for much higher utilities than the actual, for a savings of \$14,000.

- **Planning for St. Julia Church's renovation**, needed both structurally and liturgically, has advanced. A set of boards, models and tiles on display in the Parish Center prompted parishioners to review and comment.

- Our ever-developing **parish communications system** made strides with a new PARISHSOFT database. E-mail notices can be sent out easily now, on a regular basis and for "breaking news." A new Parish Registration Form was developed. Our **webpage** continues to mirror the dynamic life of our parish.

- The **weekly Parish Bulletin** has seen the addition of 2 pages of theological / spiritual enrichment. The theme of the weekend's readings forms the basis for insights to take and read.

- Our St. Julia Choir's **Christmas Pops** attracted 100 people who came to appreciate its blend of fun and inspiration — despite a winter storm!



- Our **Parish Newsletter** provides informative outreach each spring and fall through a snapshot of parish life that is mailed to all registered parishioners.

Careful monitoring by all staff brought additional savings in other categories, so that total expenses for the year were \$13,000 under budget as compared with \$53,000 over budget the previous year.

Employee compensation was increased by 3% in FY '09 but remained flat as compared to '08 because Fr. Evans assisted with Pastoral Planning for the archdiocese and the parish was reimbursed for that service. The addition of Fr. Hennessey to the staff reduced the stipends for visiting clergy. Since Fr. Evans is no longer assigned to Pastoral Planning, these stipends will decrease even further this year but employee compensation will increase.

