



St. Jerome Church

23 Half Mile Road
Norwalk, CT 06851
203-847-5349

September 22, 2011

Dear Parishioner:

It is time for our annual financial report to the parish for the last fiscal year ending June 30th, 2011. I regret to tell you that we had a most difficult year. Despite the best raffle ever, which saw a profit of just over \$37,000, we still ran a deficit of \$34,047. In my seventeen years as your pastor that is by far the greatest loss we have had in a year. There are a number of reasons for the loss: both Offertory and rental income were down, we increased the youth minister position from half-time to three-quarters time, and costs for fuel oil, electricity, and repairs and maintenance were higher than anticipated.

Starting July 1st of this year we have taken a number of steps to reduce our costs. First, our hard working staff will not get a cost of living raise and both Fr. Joe and I have taken pay cuts. I have been the cantor at the 8:00 AM Mass on Sundays to save on the cost of a cantor. Those changes will save us about \$6,500 this coming year. Further expense budget cuts have been made in charitable gifts, retreats, food & beverage, catering, and landscaping. It is a start. If our financial situation improves by the first of next year, then the staff will get their cost of living raises.

The Parish Finance Council has been studying the situation and has recommended to me that we do three things. First, enclosed with the financial statement for this year is an envelope marked DEBT RELIEF. If you can make a one-time gift towards last year's deficit, we would be grateful. Next, on the weekend of October 15-16, a member of the Finance Council will be speaking at each of the Masses. They will be asking you, if you are able, to make a weekly increase in your offering of anywhere from \$1.00 to \$3.50. As the table on the following page shows, if 250 parish families each increased their offering just \$1.00 every week, that would mean an annual increase in Offertory of \$13,000. Finally, approximately 125 parish families use Faith Direct, our plan for electronic giving. On weekends such as the hurricane weekend or a blizzard weekend, that guaranteed income saves us. You can sign up for Faith Direct by calling 1-866-507-8757. Our parish code is CT46. Please, prayerfully do consider signing up.

This is a wonderful parish, full of faith-filled, generous people. Be assured of my prayers and as always, anyone in the parish is welcome to make an appointment if you would like more information about our financial situation.

Gratefully,

Fr. David Blanchfield

Fr. David Blanchfield
Pastor

\$34,047 Deficit Last Fiscal Year*
Additional Offertory This Fiscal Year:

Number of families	PER FAMILY EACH WEEK	Additional Offertory
250	\$1.00	\$13,000
250	\$2.00	\$26,000
250	\$3.50	\$45,500

**The fiscal year is July 1 through June 30 of the following year.*

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 St. Jerome Parish Financial Statement

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Offertory Collections:		Salaries and Wages:	
Sunday	\$513,439.15	Lay Employees	\$252,733.96
Holy Days	\$28,222.00	Clergy	\$67,489.72
Annual	\$11,420.00	Pastor Admin Allowance	\$2,400.00
Miscellaneous Offertory	\$4,632.00	Religious Allowance	\$17,740.37
Fundraisers:		Extra Priests	\$1,075.00
Raffle	\$77,000.00	Mass Stipend Expense	\$5,157.00
Other Fundraisers	\$31,972.42	Payroll Taxes (FICA, Medicare)	\$18,981.07
Bulletin Revenue	\$3,100.00	Employee Benefits	\$56,197.54
Interest	\$95.60	Contributions & Assessments:	
Religious Education Fees	\$32,139.00	Donations	\$18,849.66
Rental Income	\$48,248.06	Cathedraticum*	\$39,088.00
Votive Candles	\$5,892.00	School Contributions**	\$44,732.04
Mass Stipend Income	\$7,274.00	Professional Fees:	
Gifts and Bequests	\$56,399.00	Bookkeeping	\$2,095.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$819,833.23	Musicians	\$14,550.00
		Other (speakers, retreats, etc.)	\$8,313.00
		Insurance	\$17,040.24
		Supplies and Equipment:	
		Textbooks	\$13,507.79
		Food & Catering (all events)	\$30,170.85
		Liturgical (vestments, flowers)	\$23,453.03
		Janitorial & Office Supplies	\$11,641.16
		Appliances, Tools, Equipment	\$1,534.78
		Repairs & Maintenance	\$61,272.45
		Other Expenses:	
		Postage	\$1,982.90
		Raffle (prizes, costs)	\$37,147.30
		Other Services	\$25,960.46
		Other (printing, dues, rentals)	\$25,869.39
		Utilities:	
		Telephone, Cable TV, Internet	\$5,742.48
		Electric, Heating Oil, Water	\$49,157.14
		Reconciliation Discrepancies	-\$1.50
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$853,880.83
		NET INCOME	-\$34,047.60

* *Cathedraticum Expense: diocesan assessment on parishes to support the bishop's office.*

** *School Contributions: diocesan assessment on parishes in the diocese to support parochial schools.*