

2022
HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT



ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT 2022 HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”Romans (15:7)

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to offer you 2022 Parish Accountability Report. This is the 12th issue since 2011 that has been offered to you. I strongly encourage you to **read** and to **pray** that this report gives us a picture of Holy Spirit Parish and just some of the facets that help build and strengthen our faith. Within these pages, you will see up close, the amount of work that has gone into our parish since last year’s report. Each committee and or group has submitted their report for three reasons: 1. To introduce their particular ministry that continues to support our parish. 2. Both current and future goals and objectives that has been completed or will be completed. 3. An opportunity for you to join and support one of these active committees, offering your own God-given gifts and talents to enhance our faith community. From actual committee work and to those who pray with us each week, I speak with ‘gratitude’ when I see the amount of work and dedication that is offered by Holy Spirit Parish.

In 2022, we continued to ‘welcome back’ parishioners who had taken a ‘hiatus’ because of the pandemic. Slowly, we continue to grow in our ‘comfort level’ and where and what we feel comfortable with participating in. One of the biggest growth that I have experienced in 2022 has been the number of parishioners who have returned to worship with us. But as well, new parishioners who continue to join us from Ontario, Quebec and other parts of Canada and beyond. Thankfully, we have welcomed people from the Syro Malabar Rite (one of the many Catholic Rites) East Indian, Vietnamese, Filipino, South American peoples continue to bless us with their presence and gifts. These are growing communities within our parish and we are grateful they have chosen Holy Spirit Parish as their spiritual home.

As Christians we have a huge responsibility to welcome, nurture, teach, and disciple new believers *as well as newcomers to our church*. I speak from experience when I say finding a new church family when relocating is a daunting task. Don’t ever let it be said of us that we did not make an effort to make someone

feel welcome in our parish family. And let it never be said of us that we did not make an effort to help someone take their relationship with Christ to the next level. With this as our backdrop, our Revitalization Committee continued to meet via zoom on a regular basis. Under the wonderful leadership of Patti Blake, we are grateful to her and the rest of the team who are ‘visionaries’. Using Vatican II as our springboard, we continue to look forward at different opportunities to build on our faith while at the same time meeting the current needs in our parish. We are planning this coming September a formal ‘Welcome Back Weekend’ – more to follow. We continue to embrace the gifts of our community, which brings life to our parish. Without the input and support of the various ministries that serve us, we would not be able to do this.

You will see that we have come up with three distinct areas of concentration. After much discussion and prayer, we came up with three adjectives that best describe us as a parish and how we want to grow as a faith community: **WELCOME**, **WORSHIP** and **WITNESS**. You will learn more about this from our Revitalization Report. These three components are vital to any parish community. Thankfully we have chosen them to be our parish logo: **HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**: “Inspired by our faith in Jesus Christ, and rooted in the seven gifts of the Spirit, we actively **WELCOME** all people. We **WORSHIP** God through prayerful and inspiring liturgies, the celebration of the Sacraments, and the devotional life of the Church. We **WITNESS** to our faith by ministering to everyone, especially the poor, alienated and the oppressed.” Three little words that are easy to remember to best describe our faith community: **WELCOME, WORSHIP, WITNESS**.

One notable change from last year was moving the parish offices from the former St. Rose Rectory to the (Atlantic Education International) new refurbished offices at St. Rose Worship Site. As well, a meeting room is still under construction. These changes have allowed the parish to enter into a one year contract with AEI. They pay for heating this building, plus share in the lawn care and plowing expenses. With no ‘hall’ or ‘gathering space,’ we will look at this in the coming year.

Our Finance Committee continue to serve us with their financial gifts. As you will see in their attached report, we have moved monies from our Inter Parish Loan Fund at the Diocese, paying 2% interest, to other avenues that are paying a higher return. This committee continues to look at our financial gifts, while safely maximizing a better rate of return. I am grateful to Bob Gaudet and the other members of this committee who continue to share their financial abilities,

recommendations and counsel. Although we continue to watch our expenses, our average collection each week is less than \$10.00 per person. I fully understand that we are living in brutally expensive times with rising costs of everything. If everyone increased their contributions, we would not have to draw on our investments. We will be looking at various 'fundraising' activities that will aid in our daily expenses while at the same time building community.

Last year the Council 9176 dissolved their council at St. Matthew's Worship Site. Some active members went on to join the west side council. This was a brave move that shows great foresight, courage and faith, while at the same time offering support to neighbouring council. Since its inception, council 9176 has supported our parish in countless ways. I speak on your behalf when I offer words of thanks and gratitude for all the hard work that these men have done! Although some may see this as 'sad,' we should see it as a 'transition' a way of paving the way for something new.

Religious Education continues to struggle to strengthen itself in this post-pandemic time. As your priest, I am concerned about the lack of interest in faith-formation, except for the Sacrament Years. Linda Spinney as Religious Education Coordinator and Angie MacDonald are the only people who are trying to support this program. We need help in this area. Or perhaps this program needs a complete renewal? I have been reading different articles that speak about how we need to make Faith Formation exciting so that our youth will want to come. The quickest way for a parish to die is not to have a Faith Formation Program for our younger companions. We have so much to offer and have worked too hard for this to happen! My summer project is to investigate what other parishes are doing for Faith Formation within and beyond our diocese.

Finally, on a personal note, I am thankful for all the help from the various committees and individuals who continue to make our parish what it is and to have the 'vision' to see what it can become. Remember, 'we're all in this together...' Some may not realize that Preaching takes up a great deal of my time, especially preparation for the weekends and numerous funerals. As well, I currently sit on the Priest Council; Chair the Priestly Wellness Committee, and Personnel Committee. Therefore I am sharing my time, commitment and energies in other areas of church life. I am so thankful for Fr. Tom Fowler who is always there for me and our parish. And I am thankful for our Liturgical team who can do 'Lay-lead Services' when no priest is available. I never worry when we have such gifts to take the helm in my absence. I would be amiss not to mention the ongoing and dedicated service

of Bernice Martin to our parish community. Most of the time, she is the first one who greets parishioners via phone or in person and sometime not in the easiest situations. Along with her input, her sense of humour keeps me sane especially when times get stressful. We owe so much to Bernice! Keep up your great ministry Bernice!

I realize that I have only mentioned a couple of ministries and committees but so much more will be found in the attached pages. On another note, so many people do so many things without acknowledgement. We are indebted to them for their ‘quiet offering.’ However, without the ongoing participation of the whole community, we would fail to exist. You are the ones who support our endeavours, who contribute to parish coffers and above all, the ones who pray with us on a regular basis. Without your presence we are incomplete. As we continue to navigate our way through this post pandemic era, and embrace the many opportunities that the Holy Spirit sends us, may we continue to embrace our vision statement: **Welcome, Witness and Worship.**

In gratitude,

Fr. David

Up and Coming Opportunities:

- Revamp of current Religious Education Program
- Establishing a parish garden club
- Implementing Communication & Technology Committee
- Welcome Back Sunday – Fall 2023
- Photo contest and church calendar

Holy Spirit Parish Statistics:

	2022	2021	2020
Number of Active Parishioners	500	600	800
Number of Baptisms	22	10	12
Number of Deaths	32	35	32
1st Communion	6	9	17
First Reconciliation	11	11	0
Confirmation	11	0	17
Marriages	0	0	2

Revitalization Accountability Report

Committee Members:

Father David Martin, Stephen Parker, Matthew Tingley, Patti Blake

Special thanks to members who have served over the past several months/years who stepped aside at various times in 2022. Your contributions have been a blessing. : Mark Palmer, Johanne Tingley, Louise Wilson, Barb Tracey-Larocque, Susan Nicol, Bernice Martin

A warm welcome to members who joined at various points in 2022: Linda Spinney, Tom Paisley, Caroline, and John Doubt. We have an opening for 3-4 new members.

What is the Purpose of our Revitalization Committee?

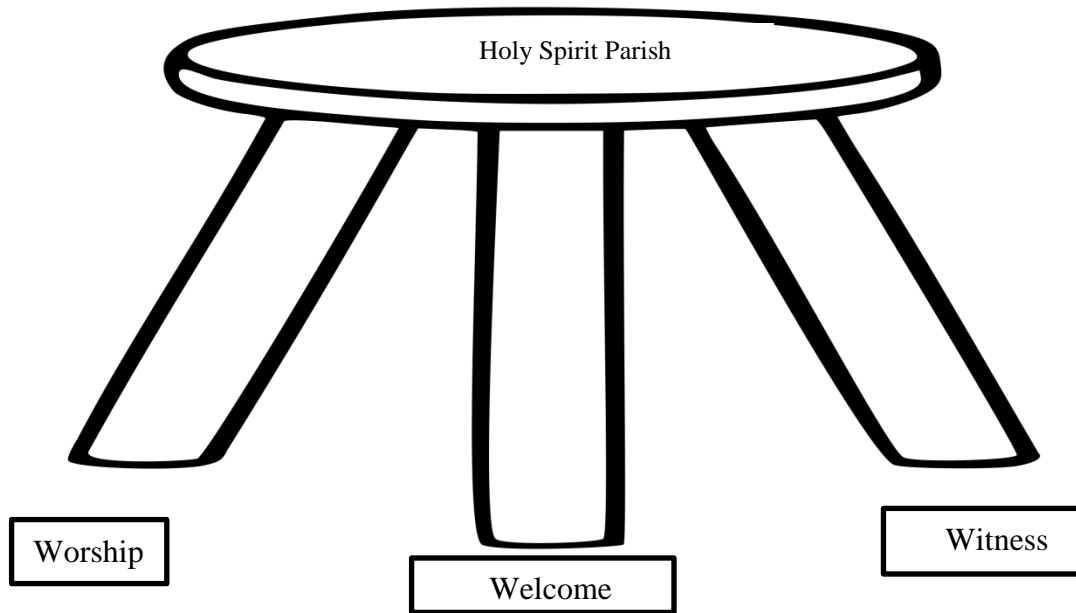
Our committee meets monthly to discuss ideas, actions, and initiatives to breathe new life into our Parish. It is not a Parish council. As such, we have an average 2–3-year tenure for each member (in order to keep ideas fresh and dynamic) and are looking to broaden the committee in 2023. We are looking for people who are not afraid to challenge the status quo, who have fresh ideas and have a passion for revitalizing our community.

We have been struggling to try to simplify the Diocese 5-Part vision of Revitalization. As a result of a workshop in the fall, Betty Poley helped us with an analogy to simplify who we are as members of the Holy Spirit Parish Community. She likened it to a 3 legged stool where each leg needs to be equally strong to support the weight of our community. The 3 legs that we will continue to build programs and initiatives around are:

Spiritual: We are people moved by the desire to follow Jesus. We are grounded in the word of God and the teachings of the church.

Communal: We join with others to share life and faith. We are building an Apostolic Community.

Outreach: We respond to God's calls to reach out to people and groups within our world- especially within our local communities- to provide appropriate support and assistance as possible with our resources



We aspire to be a welcoming community of growing disciples who share our faith, support one another, and lead others to Jesus.

Activities from 2022:

- We were still very much hindered by Covid in what projects we could undertake. We did however continue to meet regularly via virtual Zoom calls.
- We supported a cross functional team including the Knights of Columbus and the Women’s Society in running a St Patrick’s Day take out supper.
- There was a virtual 11-week Alpha pilot run together with St Croix Parish. Alpha is a Christian tool of video presentation and discussion for evangelization through hospitality, sharing and open conversation. It was deemed a success and a face to face program will be held in the spring.
- On Nov. 12, we held a workshop that included approximately 20 people. The intent was to brainstorm ideas on what else we can do to better support the 3 legs of our community stool. A second workshop was held to discuss the 72 ideas that came out and to vote on priorities. The top 5 areas for improvement were:
 - Establish an Alpha planning team and run 1, possibly 2, Alpha programs in 2023.
 - Set a strategic plan for youth and hire a youth coordinator.
 - Introduce ourselves to fellow parishioners when extending peace during mass.
 - Build a communication and technology Committee.
 - Find an outreach program that many parishioners can rally around and support through volunteerism. Rather than re-invent the wheel, we are hoping to partner with a faith or community group that are already established but need more volunteers.

Priorities for 2023:

- The first 11 week Alpha program is set to begin on April 13th. It will be face to face and held At the St Matthew's site start time is 6:30 pm.
- We are working through a process to find some 'quick wins' from the 72+ list of ideas. This involves rating each initiative according to the impact against the level of effort to pull things off.
- Build a dual subcommittee of Communication and Technology. The Communication team will determine the messages while the Technology Team will support the dissemination of the messaging.
- Select an outreach program for our community to rally around.
- The St Patrick's Day Dinner showed the value of a cross functional (male/female, various ages etc.) social committee. We feel that to build community, we need a social committee. There are many ideas from the workshop that they could take upon themselves.
- Building a youth program will take time and a lot of energy but if anyone would like to step up to be part of a group to get this moving, this would be of tremendous help.

Prayer

*Heavenly Father, thank-you for answering our prayers with new voices coming forward to help us set an action plan for Revitalization. It is our hope that the 3 legged-stool analogy helps build a stronger and more engaged faith community. We ask that people open their hearts and ears to your voice to step forward and support the many initiatives we would love to see to fruition.
Amen*

Report prepared by Patti Blake: Committee Chair

Finance Committee Accountability Report

Dear Parishioners,

We are pleased to present to you our 2022 Financial Report for Holy Spirit Parish. This committee meets every 3 months via tele-conferencing to monitor cash flow and expenses. Our mandate, in cooperation with our Pastor Fr. David Martin, to be stewards of our parish financials and expenses. Our cash flow stabilized this year as the restrictions due to Covid 19 were eased. Both our income and expenses were up this year but the income from our investments and government grants & rebates resulted in a reduction to net surplus by \$10,380.00.

JK Whittaker continues to monitor and review our Financial Statements. Our SEI investment portfolio continued to generate income in these unsettling market conditions. Under government grants and rebates for 2022 we received \$10,140.00 from the CEWS (Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy). As well, we again hired 1 summer student to help with the care and maintenance of St. Augustine's Cemetery and other small parish maintenance projects.

Once again we had a substantial increase in heating and snow removal costs. A special appeal was made to the parishioners for funds to cover these costs. We are thankful for your continued generosity to this cause.

This year we leased St. Rose Place to AEI on a 1 year contract basis to help with costs of operating this building. We consequently moved St. Rose Worship Site offices from St. Rose Place to St. Rose Worship Site. Also, we extended the Saint Rose School fencing in back of the school to prevent the dumping of snow for the safety of the children.

In closing, we thank you for your ongoing financial contributions made to our parish. As stated before, it is a testament to the strong faith and love that we have for Holy Spirit Parish.

Yours in faith,

Bob Gaudet

Finance Committee Chair – Holy Spirit Parish

Finance Committee Members:

Bob Gaudet – Finance Committee Chair
Anita LeBlanc – Finance Committee Secretary
Bernice Martin – Parish Secretary

Chris Thompson
Roxanne Fairweather
Rev. David Martin - Pastor

In August 2022, Phil Butler, stepped down from this committee. We thank Phil very much for his time & expertise he brought to our committee.

Holy Spirit Parish Profit and Loss

Year Ending December 31, 2022

Income	2022	2021
Offertory Collection	223,243	220,634
School Rent	128,820	128,820
Bequests and donations	31,081	9,001
Special collections	6,904	3,679
Building fund	24,676	20,846
Other	27,483	31,628
Total Income	442,207	414,608
Expenses		
Church	94,919 *	111,824
Salaries and benefits	137,518	130,945
Rectory	18,192	19,615
Diocesan assessment	33,247	33,860
Office	18,860	17,389
Hall	5,564	559
Special collections remitted	6,431	3,176
Other	59,343 **	43,728
Total Expenses	374,075	361,095
Net surplus before other items	68,132	53,513
Other Income		
IPLF interest	23,277	30,225
SEI Investments	45,522	59,518
Bank Interest	228	-
Government Grants & Rebates	10,140	14,423
Total Other Income	79,167	104,166
Net surplus (loss) for the year	147,299	157,679

***This includes expenses such as heat/lights, snow removal, lawn care, insurance, repairs/maintenance, altar/sanctuary supplies, water/sewage**

****This includes Bursaries, Religious Education Supplies, Ministries/Committee supplies, Charity donations (Food Bank), Bank Service Charges, Publications (New Freeman, Lent/Advent Booklets), Retreat Fees, Property Tax, and Cemetery Expenses**

Holy Spirit Parish

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalent		
Bank of Montreal	12,380	18,840
Holy Spirit Building Fund	18,202	9,270
St Augustine Cemetery Account	3,432	16,380
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	34,013	44,490
Taxes Recoverable	2,591	2,197
IPLF - Deposits		
St. Rose School Rent Fund	775,672	636,852
Holy Spirit Parish Building Fund	252,898	283,101
St. Brennen Cemetery	14,115	13,836
St. Rose Community Housing	28,707	28,141
St. Augustine Cemetery	75,890	74,385
In Trust - Riley Manor	45,139	44,246
SEI Investments	1,233,902	1,188,381
Total IPLF - Deposits	2,426,324	2,268,941
Land & Building	89,779	89,779
Total Assets	2,552,707	2,405,408
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Total Liabilities		
Equity		
IPLF - (Loan)/Deposit Activity	71,000	71,000
Opening Bal Equity	2,334,408	2,176,729
Retained Earnings	-	-
Profit for the year	147,299	157,679
Total Equity	2,552,707	2,405,408
Total Liabilities and Equity	2,552,707	2,405,408
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Holy Spirit Women's Society Annual Report

The mission of the Holy Spirit Women's Society is to undertake projects that support our parish, its outreach, and enrich our community, while developing fellowship and friendship.

The Women's Society is based in Grand Bay-Westfield, but all the women of Holy Spirit Parish from both worship sites are welcome. We generally meet monthly, September to November and again January to May, the last Tuesday of the month, in the Holy Spirit Rectory Hall.

- **Avenue B Soup Ministry:**

This ministry continues to be strong with large batches of soup being made every month.

- This past year produced 468 containers of soup, each container being 500ml. We also baked 105 dozen biscuits to go along with the homemade hearty soup.

- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:**

This ministry meets in the Rectory Hall every Wednesday, 10am to 1200pm, with everyone welcome, regardless of skill level. Prayer shawls, mittens, hats, and scarves are hand knit or crocheted. Each item is made with love and prayers.

- 36 prayer shawls were knit or crocheted this past year, which were blessed in April and October. Quilt racks are in the entryway of both worship sites, making the shawls available for anyone in need of spiritual comfort. Many blessed prayer shawls have been distributed.
- Hands and fingers have also been busy knitting and crocheting 156 pairs of mittens, 111 hats, 18 scarves, 14 headbands, and 22 pairs of slippers. Generous bags of these hand crafted items were donated to our local schools (Grand Bay Primary, Harbour View High School, Inglewood Elementary, River Valley Middle School, Westfield Elementary), as well as Avenue B and Horizon Recovery Centre.
- 40 cotton washcloths were donated to Coverdale Centre for Women.

- **RCMP:**

- This past year we reached out to the RCMP to see if there was a need for small teddy bears to give to children involved in any calls to homes or accident scenes. The RCMP were receptive to the idea, and have been given 5 comfort bears to keep in their cruisers, with more to come as needed.

- **Harbour View High School:**

- A food donation drive for the Sunshine Café at Harbour View High School was held in January. The Sunshine Café helps to teach students some basic cooking skills as well as feed students in need that would otherwise go hungry.
- In September, donations of school supplies were collected for the Sunshine Room at HVHS, to help provide items for students in need. As always, the parishioners of Holy Spirit parish were very generous; the staff and volunteers at HVHS were extremely grateful.

- **Horizon Recovery Centre:**
 - In November and December, the Women's Society organized a donation drive to provide support to the men at Horizon Recovery Centre, a long-term residential program (up to 3 months) for men who have an addiction to alcohol, drugs, and/or gambling. The donations received were extremely generous, helping to make Christmas less lonely for the clients as well as provide items that are used throughout the year.
- **Christmas Donations:**
 - A monetary donation was made to the Joshua Group, a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization serving at risk children in the Greater Saint John area
 - A monetary donation was made to the River Valley Food Bank
 - A monetary donation was made to the Ukraine Association of Saint John
- **St. Patrick's Day:**
 - March found us partnering with the Knights of Columbus as well as members from the Revitalization committee to put on a St. Patrick's Day dinner. The event was very successful.
- **Knights of Columbus:**
 - The Women's Society was truly blessed with year by a very large donation of \$5829.94 from the Knights of Columbus. The Knights have disbanded after many, many years of supporting our parish, and will be greatly missed. We feel honoured that they have presented us with such a large amount of money, which will allow us to carry on our many ministries.
- **St. Matthew's Hall:**
 - The Women's Society has taken over the management of St. Matthew's Hall rental. This will provide us with a small income that is realized from rentals for funerals, showers, craft shows, etc.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - Two bake sales were held this past year at St. Matthew's worship site, in May and November, with excellent results. Parishioners generously supported these events through both baking and buying. Thank you!
 - A successful raffle of 2 donated quilts was held in the fall. Ticket sales occurred at both worship sites as well as out in the community. A parishioner was the lucky winner of the large quilt, with someone from outside the parish winning the smaller quilt.

It's not all work and no play! We were able to host 2 pot luck lunches, open to all the women of the parish. One was held in early June and the second was in December. An enjoyable time indeed!

The Women's Society relies on the kindness and generosity of our parishioners to support our outreach activities through donations of required items or financial assistance, as well as assistance and support behind the scenes. What we do could not be done without the support we receive from both worship sites. It is all greatly appreciated. Thank you. If you are interested in being part of our fellowship, please reach out to the parish office for contact information, or find us on Facebook: Holy Spirit Women's Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Robillard

Chair, Holy Spirit Women's Society

Holy Spirit Parish Religious Education 2022

Religious Education classes have resumed in person, with weekly classes in two groups. Sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion comprise one group, while all other students, grades one to seven, comprise the second group, following a program of familiarization of the rites, traditions, prayers and traditions of the Liturgy, and the basic precepts of our Faith. Our Reconciliation class completed their preparation and received the Sacrament in December, and the First Communion class is working very hard now to complete their preparation and receive the Sacrament in May.

All of these lessons are prepared in such a way as to be easily presented on line in the case of interruptions of scheduled class time.

The two year program for Confirmation continues, with ten of our Candidates having completed the program and received the Sacrament in December. This leaves one first year candidate who is completing the program, with Decision Point in the fall with the new grade eight students, and we will celebrate her Confirmation in December, with the rest of the class continuing through the program with a goal of completing and being confirmed in December 2024. In collaboration with the Diocesan Religious Education program, our video presentations for ALPHA Youth were joined by a student from another Parish who hasn't been able to provide a program yet, and this may become standard practice, allowing us to access programs in other Parishes as well when required. This will become very important when the time arrives for the Confirmation Retreat next year, an event that hasn't happened for the three pandemic years, but will be very strongly encouraged next year. Our single candidate this year was able to access a private retreat, and has therefore met that requirement already.

A generous donation from the Woman's Society made possible some small gifts for the First reconciliation and Confirmation candidates, and for Christmas last year, and combined with assistance from Holy Spirit parish, helped with clerical and material expenses.

Angela MacDonald continues to ably provide the First Communion and Reconciliation preparation classes, and Patricia Lee is my invaluable guide in all things on the Diocesan level. And of course, Bernice Martin is a constant source of help in all things!. **We are in serious need of volunteers, and they will be welcomed with open arms!** The role of Catechist is very rewarding, and I've found that, while sharing my Faith with the children, I've learned much more about it, and grown in it!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Spinney,
Coordinator, Holy Spirit Religious Education

Holy Spirit Liturgical Committee

The Liturgy Committee brings attention to the liturgies, while trying to enrich our spiritual journey. With COVID-19 restrictions mostly gone for the year, we were willing to return to most of our regular services and Masses.

Our Triduum and Easter services and Masses were back to near normal traditions. Palms were plentiful this year; washing of the feet was omitted this year and the veneration was done from our seats in keeping with social distancing purposes and other health concerns. Once again we handed out small bottles of holy water after the Easter Mass.

On November 3rd we started up our 'Remembering the Dead' service which was held at St. Matthews worship site. Reflection booklets were again used and Evening Prayer service was held at St. Rose worship site on November 30th. We had a reconciliation service at St. Matthew's on December 11th and we held three Christmas Masses, two at St. Matthew's and one at St. Rose's.

Arts and Environment is a role within the Liturgical Committee. In this role creative talents are used to plan and create symbolic designs to show visually the themes of our feast days and to enhance our worship spaces throughout the various seasons of the year.

Last year we were able to complete six of our seven goals for 2022. Our future goals are as follows:

1. Having railings installed leading to the sanctuary at both worship sites.
2. Plan and put on a retreat.
3. To recruit new choir members and those who play instruments.

Enhancing our liturgical celebrations Mary Rose continues to write and share new music that comes from her prayer. She continues to solicit new members for our 11am choir. Trish Gallagher and her students from Saint John High School continue to share their gifts to both Masses and concerts. As always these events were very prayerful and enjoyed by all.

Members of our committee:

Fr. David Martin, Pastor
Anita Le Blanc, Secretary
Mary Rose Daigle
Cindy Doyle

Francine Doiron
Helen Le Blanc
Bernice Martin
Teresa Mittelholtz

Sue Ogden
Stephen Parker
Cathy Thornton

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is a worldwide association of the lay Catholics under the leadership of Mary the Blessed Mother, with the guidance of the Parish Priest – Father David Martin, to do works that are useful for the welfare of the church.

Our presidium (group) consists of 3 active members, and 11 auxiliaries (praying members) from Holy Spirit Parish.

The members are Francine Doiron (president), Amanda Muise (secretary), Susan Smith (treasurer).

Our Parish Priest is Father David Martin, and our Spiritual Director is Father Darren Bryk.

The goal of our presidium continues to be the visitation of the sick and shut ins. This is to bring them Holy Communion. We also do many other works as needed by the Parish. We hope to resume our visits are care-homes with the continual resurgence of Covid-19 and other infections it has been difficult to go on a regular basis.

We do these works for the love of Jesus in the Spirit and in union with Mary His Mother, and always with the permission of our parish priest. We are truly blessed to have Father Martin as our Parish Priest, and Father Bryk who was appointed the Spiritual Director of Legion of Mary for our Diocese. We appreciate their interest and his support in our mission.

Our goal for the coming year is to welcome new active members and auxiliaries. Should you have an interest in either one of these memberships, please contact any of our active members.

We meet every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm, after mass. Our meeting begins with the recitation of the Rosary to which members of our communities are more than welcome to attend. We are blessed to have members of our communities that are faithful in joining us for the Rosary.

“...and so it is that we proclaim the most Holy Mary to be the mother of the Church, that is so to say, of all the people of God, of the faithful and their pastors.” – Excerpt from the Pope Paul VI: Discourse during Vatican council II

**Respectfully submitted on behalf of the “Our Lady of Apostle” presidium
Secretary – Amanda Muise**

Francine Doiron (506) 738-3143

Amanda Muise (506) 738-3108

Susan Smith (506) 657-1236

Building and Maintenance Committee Report

St. Matthews Worship Site in 2022.

1. Replaced the overhead projector at the front of the church between Christmas and New Year's. Another replaced in Jan 2023.

St. Rose Worship Site saw a number of upgrades.

- 1) In an effort to save on the light bill and brighten the interior of the church, LED bulbs and fixtures were installed
- 2) With the moving of the office from the rectory to the Church, called for renovations to the front entrance area. Two offices were created requiring, phone and internet lines, new lights, painting and electrical plugs installed.
- 3) Roof over front entrance temporarily repaired due to leak. Roof to be repaired spring 2023
- 4) Front entrance painted.
- 5) A new meeting room and storage area for St. Rose Worship Site.
- 6) New doors and glass wall installed in entrance way to create a vestibule.
- 7) New electrical panel installed.

The committee reviews annually the lawn care & the snow removal contracts to insure it meets our needs for a competitive price.

The committee's Thanks to Mike Murphy who addresses the majority of the cleaning and general repairs of the SMWS as need arise.

To help the Building and Maintenance Committee move forward, we had an Engineer Consultant (John Adams) do a building evaluation of both Worship sites. We are grateful to John who donated his time and services. The evaluation has provided the committee a working document that allows the committee to draw up a list of requirements to be completed over the next 5 years.

Our committee continues to meet on a regular basis to keep abreast of ongoing repairs and other building and property needs. Committee members are: Wayne Connell, Leo Maloney, Stephen Parker, Keith Doiron and Fr. David Martin. **We are always open to new members.**

Holy Spirit Parish Catholic Women's League (CWL) - 2022

The Catholic Women's League was not very active in the last year since Covid-19.

Our meetings are very few and far between. We contact each other via phone conversations.

The president is Yvonne Theriault and the Secretary is Cecile Deschamps.

We support the parish when needed. Some of our members are Lectors and Eucharistic ministers.

We help the Knights of Columbus with their monthly breakfast.

We have no fund raising events on the calendar for the moment.

Members will be notified of any meeting or events in the future.

We continue to support the families of deceased members.

Submitted by:

Cecile Deschamps
Secretary – Holy Spirit Parish CWL

Knights of Columbus Council

Council 9176

Fellow Parishioners,

After 25 years of dedicated service the Knights of Columbus council 9176 dissolved at the end of 2022.

They would like to thank the parishioners for their very generous support over these years with the several functions they organized from bingos, dinners, Sunday brunches and many other activities.

Knights of Columbus – Council 9176
Keith Doiron – Grand Knight

Council 8094

In the summer of 2022, the two Saint John Westside councils (8094 & 6770) merged and are now registered as Council 17894. This new council is opened to any and all new members.