

2023

Life in our Parish

ST. PATRICK'S MAPLE RIDGE



St. Patrick's Parish

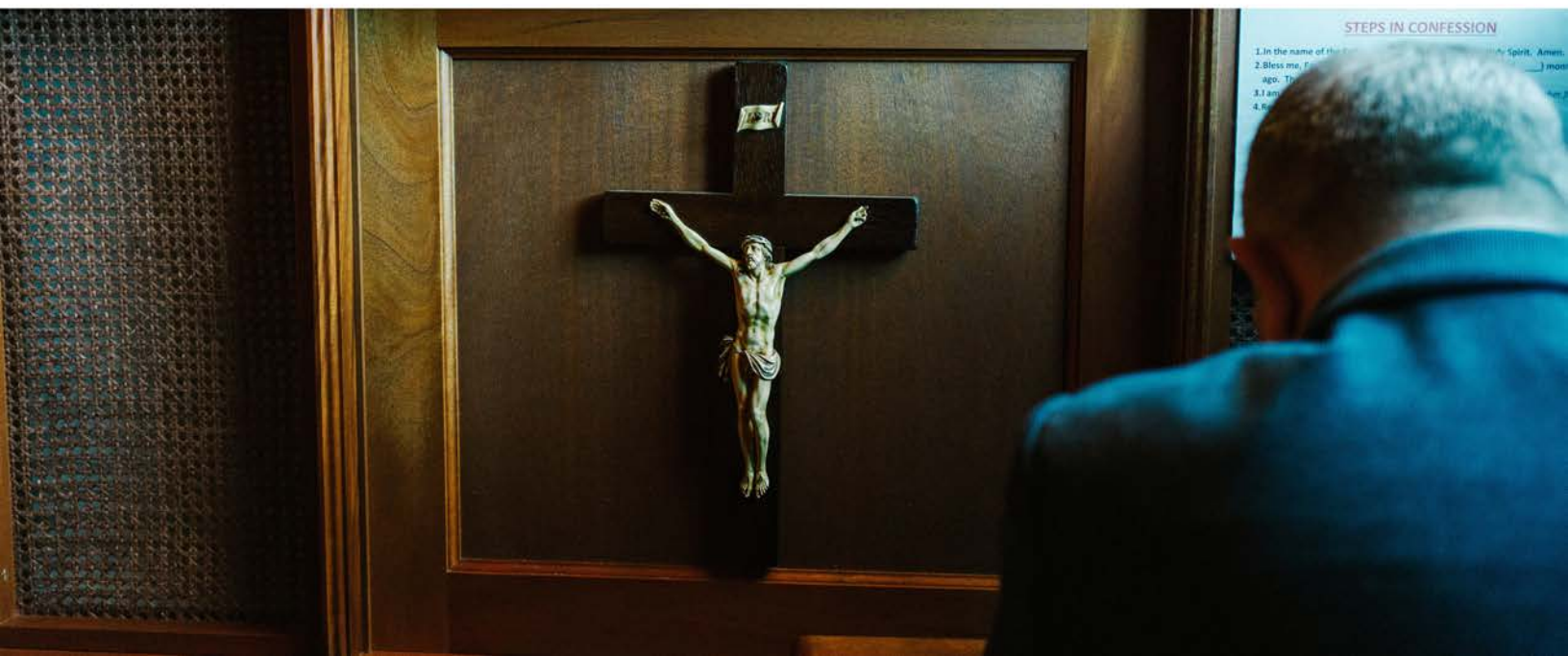
WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

We exist to call and form missionary disciples. (Matthew 28:16-20)

WHAT IS A MISSIONARY DISCIPLE?

The Gospel, radiant with the glory of Christ's cross, constantly invites us to rejoice. Wherever the disciples went, "there was great joy"; even amid persecution they continued to be "filled with joy". Why should we not also enter into this great stream of joy? Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are "disciples" and "missionaries", but rather that we are always "missionary disciples". In virtue of [our] baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples. All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization. The new evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized. Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love. If we are not convinced, let us look at those first missionary disciples, who, immediately after encountering the gaze of Jesus, went forth to proclaim him joyfully: "We have found the Messiah!". – Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium



OUR TEAM



FATHER MATTHEW TO
Pastor



VANESSA CHOW
Parish Office
Coordinator



MARGARET JAKUS
Community
Engagement



ERIC CHOW
Director of Discipleship
Formation



HANNAH POWELL
Discipleship Formation
Coordinator



MICHAEL GOLDBERG
IT



MARGARET ZOCHOWSKI
Catechesis of the Good
Shepherd



MARIA FONSECA
Elementary School
Principal



JEN BOYER
Music Ministry



BRIAN MCGUCKIN
Sacristan &
Groundskeeper

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

1 CORINTHIANS 12: 4 - 6

MESSAGE FROM FATHER MATTHEW TO

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This past year I have witnessed in our community moments of joy, generosity, and peace. I have also journeyed with those who have experienced pain and suffering, endured loss, and have felt sorrow.

In all this I am thankful. I am thankful because, while our experiences have varied, you have been witnesses to God's love. A love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

And love never fails.

Our parish mission is to call and form missionary disciples.

Above all else a missionary disciple is one who has experienced God's love and shares it with others. Be witnesses to love in the parish, in your homes, and in your communities. Through your witness to love you offer to the world a "hope that does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (Romans 5:5)

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generosity to our parish family. We have been blessed by your gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Please join me in offering prayers of thanksgiving to our Father, who first loved us.

In Christ,



Father Matthew To
Pastor



Who We Are

OUR FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS



NUMBER OF FAMILIES REGISTERED

965

NEW FAMILIES IN 2022

87

NEW SCHOOL FAMILIES IN 2022/2023

19

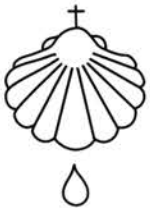
"As a new parishioner at St. Patrick's Church I did not have a community of people that I knew. Within one visit this changed. The church community, including staff, have been extremely welcoming and have helped whenever needed. I am grateful to be part of the community and my family is excited to embrace our new church."

FROM ROBERT

"A profound thanks to the members I encountered at St. Patrick's Parish, including Fr. Matthew, who often puts a smile on my face. You all demonstrate a fine example of the Catholic Church. I can assure you my faith remains unshaken, even bolstered by my experiences at St. Patrick's Parish. Your prayers are cherished and much appreciated. Peace be with you!"

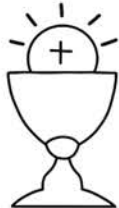
FROM MARIAH

SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS FOR 2022



BAPTISM

41



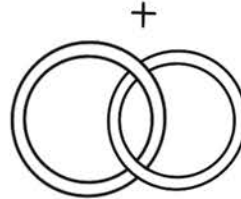
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

47



CONFIRMATION

48



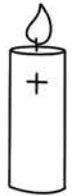
HOLY MATRIMONY

5



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

259

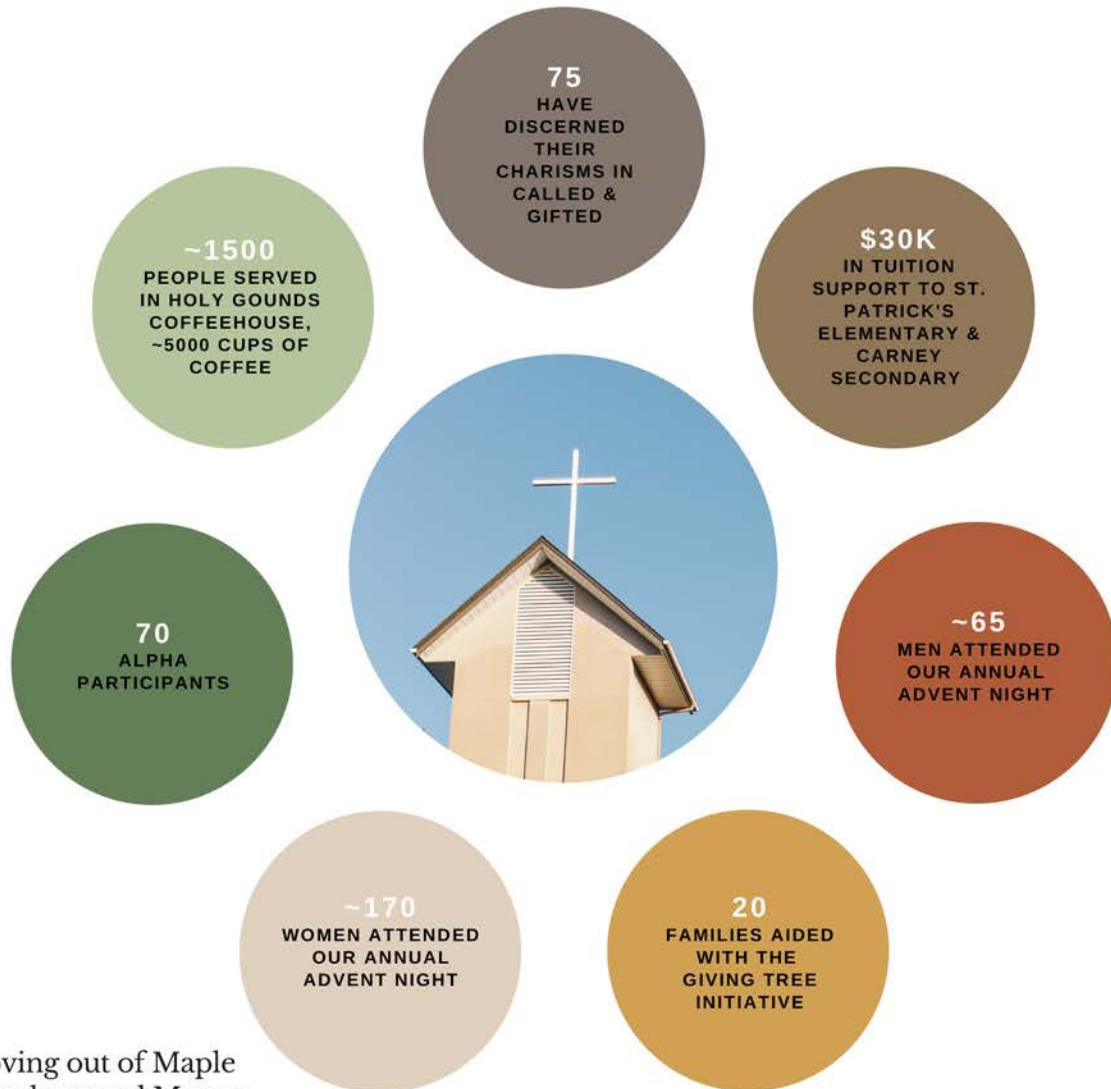


FUNERALS

21

Who We Are

OUR FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS



"Since moving out of Maple Ridge, I rarely attend Mass at St. Patrick's anymore. Upon coming to visit family and friends, I attended St. Pat's for Sunday Mass at 9 AM a few weeks ago. I noticed right away that something had changed since the last time I was here years ago. The Church was full with young and old as if it was Christmas, the lineup for Holy Communion seemed never ending, the music was beautiful and reflective. The atmosphere was alive and vibrant and I was moved!"

FROM GABBY

"We love St. Patricks! We are new to the parish and to Maple Ridge, but our very first day at St. Pats I was invited to the Mom and Tots group and we met several parishioners. Everyone is so welcoming! We could not be more thrilled to be part of such a thriving and dedicated church community."

FROM TRAVIS & ANNEJOLIE

"When I was visiting from Ireland for three weeks I had been attending your weekend Masses. I would like to say how much I have enjoyed Father Matthew's homilies and your team were so welcoming. I did not want to leave without saying a big Thank You for your lovely services and your very welcoming team."

FROM MARIA

LINDA PHILLIP'S TESTIMONY



I was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Cape Town, South Africa, and my maternal grandfather was a deacon there; so Christianity was always a part of my life, But my immediate family and I

were not active members of our Church. I found my need to surround myself with people of Christian faith was growing stronger as I aged.

We would go to Church once in a while and on special days, like Easter and Christmas, and I went to Sunday School. I have always *felt* Christian, and I am so grateful to my parents for giving me a foundation in Christianity. But I didn't really *know* anything in depth about Christianity. I had never read the Bible. I always thought it was just too hard for me to understand! So I continued on with the "easy way"; doing nothing about it, and continuing to live my life without Christ being a big part of it.

I began to feel that God deserved so much more from me than what I was giving. Going along the easy path was not enough for Our Father, who I was expecting to give me so much more than the already good life that he had given me here on earth. I realized I was expecting Him to give me everlasting life while I was meandering down this easy road. Thankfully, God is patient, He is forgiving; and The Holy Spirit kept knocking at my door.

A couple of years ago, my friend Loan-Anh and I were talking about Christianity and she mentioned Fr. Mike Schmitz' *Bible in a Year* podcast. That was a lightbulb moment for me. Through the Bible in a Year Podcast, I came to finally, fully opening the door to Christ!

I vowed to read the Bible cover to cover (I did it in less than a year), and once I had done that, my plan was to find a church where I could belong.

I checked out a few local churches and St. Patrick's was the one that just pulled me in! I felt such peace and warmth everywhere I looked at St. Patrick's. So this time, I went knocking at their door, and they did not disappoint. First, I met with Margaret and Lorraine, and they were so warm and welcoming! I am now enjoying being a part of Carmen's small group, where we meet regularly in Holy Grounds Coffeehouse. I love our group of ladies and spending time with them.

Each of us is intentional about growing closer to God. I've also recently started Mystagogia which has been amazing, and now I gather with another group to take care of the candles and polishing the brass candlesticks for the sanctuary.

It's so wonderful learning more about God through these different groups of people: sisters and brothers, all united in growing closer to God.

This is what I want. I want to continue to grow closer to God. I no longer desire the easy way, I want to be allowed to enter at the narrow gate; I want to be the kind of person Christ wants me to be.

It feels wonderful to finally be an active member of a church such as St. Patrick's, spending time together with people from our community, as we form and grow more and more as His disciples, journeying together, with the sure hope of everlasting life with our Lord God: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.

God gives us all free will. My hope is to be a witness for those who have not yet encountered Our Lord. To give a Spirit-inspired invite to read the Bible, like my friend Loan-Anh did for me. Or, a welcoming gesture like someone at St. Patrick's Parish gave me. Their gesture encouraged me to search deeper and to take on a more active role in my faith. These people sowed seeds that led to encountering Him. I pray the same happens for my family and friends, that they too may come to encounter Our Father.

What We Do

THE MISSION LIVED OUT

Our parish is growing. The Holy Spirit has sent such great inspiration to meet the needs of our community. In response, we have developed some new ministries. Here are a few ministries to look forward to at St. Patrick's in the next coming years as we grow in holiness & mission.

SMALL GROUPS

Small groups are an opportunity for those exploring spirituality and relationship with Christ. These groups are for those who have been Catholic their whole lives, and those new to the faith.

13 NEW SMALL GROUPS WITH 2-5 PARTICIPANTS EACH HAVE BEEN FORMED SINCE SEPTEMBER 2022.

CALLED & GIFTED

C&G helps individuals discover God's personal call for their lives. God is calling each of us to grow in personal holiness and to have an active role in sharing the Gospel.

SINCE INTRODUCING THIS DISCERNMENT PROCESS TO ST. PATRICK'S PARISH IN OCT 2021 WE HAVE HAD 75 PEOPLE ATTEND ON-LINE AND IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS.

ALPHA

Share life, faith, hope and Jesus through Alpha. Alpha is an 11 week course that creates space for people to have conversations about some of life's biggest questions over food and drink.

IN THE FALL OF 2022 WE HAD 53 PARTICIPANTS TAKE ALPHA.

MYSTAGOGIA

Mystagogia is a blend of community building, Catechesis and shared story of a Life in Christ. It is an opportunity for those who have chosen to receive sacraments at Easter Vigil to grow in knowledge and love of God.

AS OF FALL 2022, WE HAVE 21 PARTICIPANTS.

HOLY GROUNDS

Holy Grounds is open 8-8pm on Tuesdays with full service speciality coffees and teas, space for conversations and fellowship.

MOMS N TOTS

Mamas, you are invited to come enjoy a latte, find friendship and comfort in this community and find rest. Crying babies, energetic toddlers and tired mamas are all welcome here!

THEY MEET IN HOLY GROUNDS ON MONDAYS FROM 9:30 -11:30 AM.

SUNDAY SOCIALS

We have been blessed that since the Fall of 2022, we have been able to open Holy Grounds after Mass on Sunday Mornings. We invite the community in for coffee and treats. It is always a good time of fellowship, a great place to introduce yourself to others and have a good laugh.

INTERESTED?

Check out the *Grow & Serve* page on our website to learn more and see how you can get involved!

stpatricksmpleridge.ca/grow-and-serve/

A NOTE FROM OUR CGS COORDINATOR

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) started to sprout and grow at St. Patrick's in the past three years with the support of our pastor, Father Matthew, and the whole Parish staff and community. We are one of the first parishes in the Archdiocese to have two Atria, one that serves our Level I children (age 3-6) and one that serves our Level II children (age 6-9). Our dedicated team of 7 Catechists are trained in Levels I & II and are excited to soon begin more training in Level II and Level III, which is for ages 9-12.

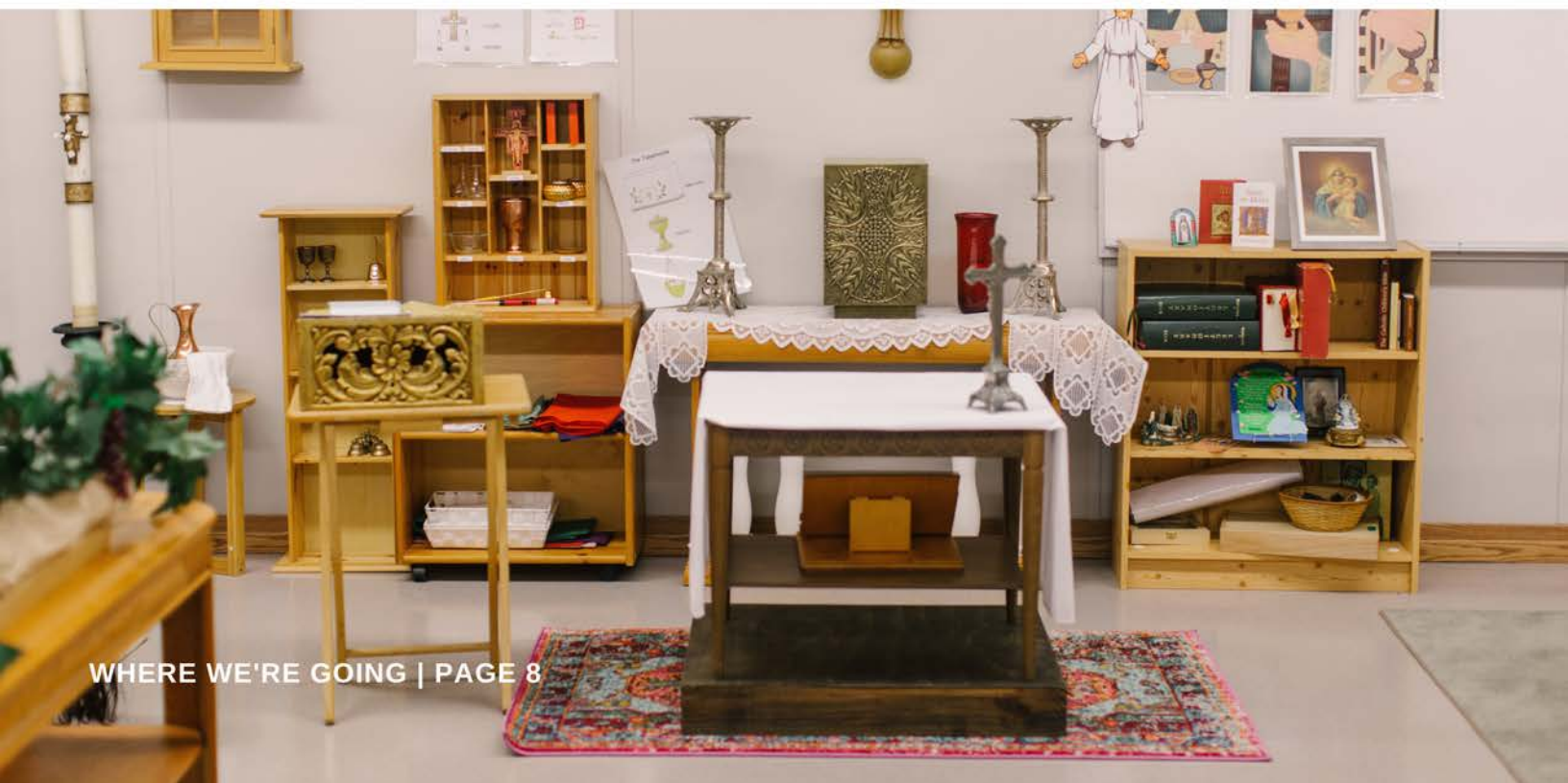


CGS IN OUR PARISH

- In September 2022 we launched for Pre-Schoolers with 7 children attending
- 70 children; grades K-7
- 19 children received First Holy Communion
- 16 children received Confirmation
- Coaching for other parishes

CGS IN THE SCHOOL

- 125 children; grades 1-4
- 28 children received First Holy Communion
- 30 children received Confirmation



FROM THE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The finance committee is pleased to report that we ended the year in the black despite the economic stressors of 2022. We are grateful to the Parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish for their continued support during more challenging times.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Total Revenue is down by \$115 thousand. Key factors include:
 - Declining envelope donations (ordinary collection and Building Fund)
 - No COVID related subsidies – we had (CEWS) in 2021
 - A significant decrease in bequests/special donations
- Total Expenses were higher than last year by \$70 thousand. The expense highlights include:
 - Increase in ministry activities as we focus on our Mission and our doors are fully open – Alpha, Holy Grounds, RCIA, Prep, CGS costs increased.
 - Increase in salaries – overlap with training of new staff, office open on weekends, second priest for a few months.
 - Increased cost of maintenance and repair. (Including installing gates, fencing and cameras for security; repair of major water main leak; snow removal)
 - Increased cost of Altar and Sanctuary supplies
 - With increased activity in the parish and increased cost of living – there were noted increases in janitorial, office supplies, and utilities.
 - Diocesan Assessment Tax (paid to the Archdiocese) increased by over 7 thousand.

The parish staff and Father are to be commended on their fiscal accountability with focus on funding of priority programs and reducing costs where able. We are blessed as a parish to be able to report that despite the added expenses we finished in the positive.



Parish Financials

WHAT WE DO & HOW WE SPEND

2022 FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE

TOTAL REVENUE

\$804,607

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$705,657

LARGEST INVESTMENTS OF 2022

MINISTRY & MISSION: \$326,676

ADMINISTRATION: \$136,861

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:
\$89,075

DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT &
PROJECT ADVANCE: \$70,436

NET INCOME

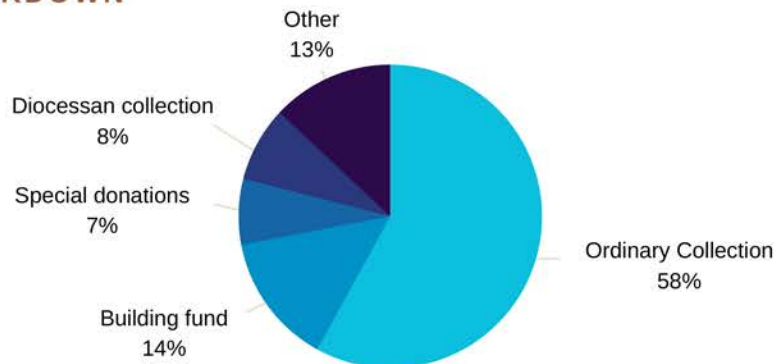
\$98,950

In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

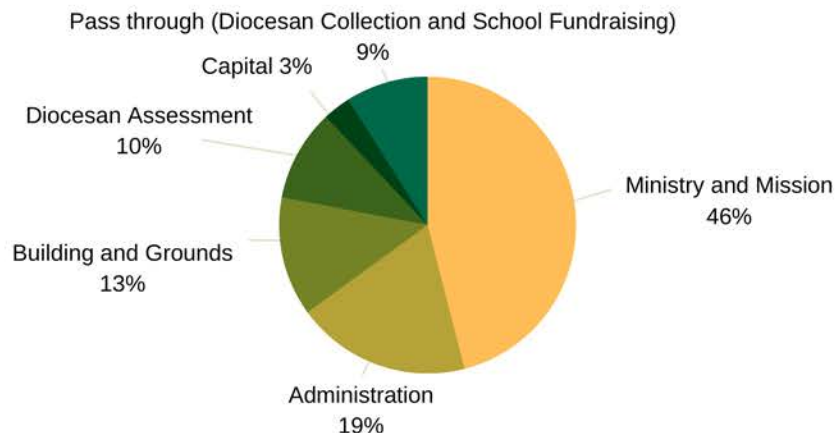
ACTS 20:35

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



WHERE THE MONEY GOES



MESSAGE FROM MARIA FONSECA

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the school, I wish to thank you for your continued support of our Parish school. The important work that our educators do can only be possible with your financial support and prayers.

St. Patrick's School is dedicated to providing each student with an education rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit and Catholic teaching in partnership with home and parish, our schools foster the growth of responsible citizens who will live, celebrate and proclaim their faith (CISVA, 2022).

Our staff aims to support families in raising the children to be the saints they are called to be and strives to develop Christian leaders, responsible citizens and life-long learners. Our students are offered many opportunities to grow together through liturgical celebrations, acts of service, and co-curricular activities. Under the leadership of our pastor, Father Matthew To, we continue to strive to put God in the heart of all we do and share in the mission of the Church to proclaim the Gospel and build the Kingdom of God.

We encourage families to help us build our Christian community by active participation through the school and the parishes, St. Patrick's and also our neighbouring parish, St. Luke's Parish. Parents make a positive difference in the life of our school.

Through hard work and dedication, we can help our students become the best they can be. We are CELTICS!

Yours In Christ,
Mrs. Maria Fonseca
Principal



Elementary School Financials

WHAT WE DO & HOW WE SPEND

AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2023

TOTAL REVENUE TOTAL EXPENSES
\$1,493,089 **\$1,450,316**

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN FOR 2022-2023

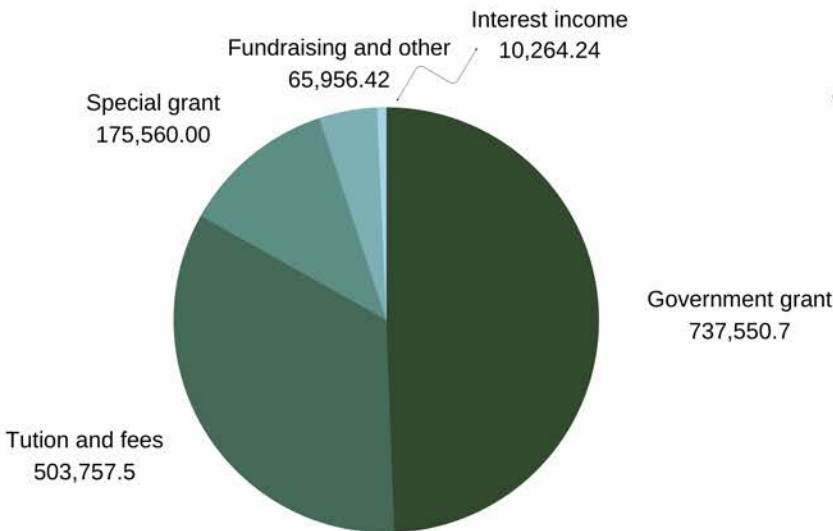
- 81%** INSTRUCTIONAL
- 8%** OPERATION & MAINTENANCE
- 7%** ADMINISTRATION
- 2%** CENTRAL OFFICE LEVY
- 1%** INSURANCE
- 1%** BEFORE & AFTER ACTIVITY CLUB

NET INCOME AS OF FEBRUARY 2023

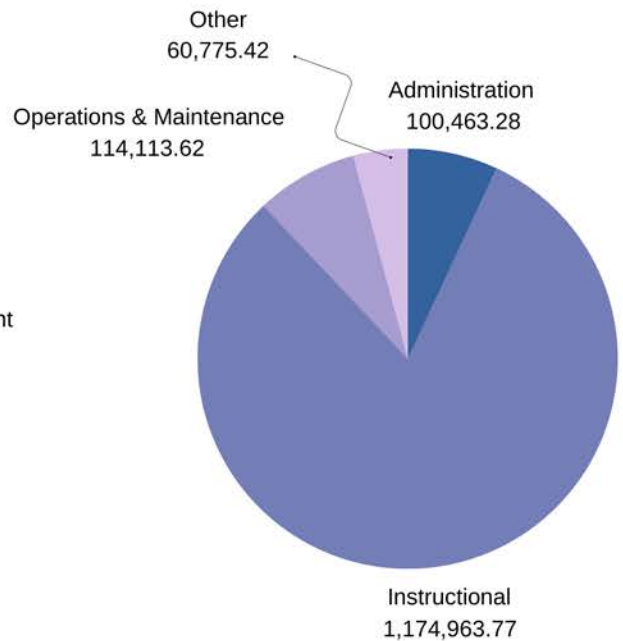
\$42,773



SCHOOL REVENUE



SCHOOL EXPENSES



Where we're Going

THE MISSION AHEAD



JUMP IN

If you've yet to get involved at St. Patrick's but have seen the work of the Lord here and been inspired by our mission, we wholeheartedly invite you to join us! There are never too many players on the field. We all have such unique gifts and a unique call in this mission. To get involved, let's get to know each other.

COME FOR COFFEE!

Have a coffee with Margaret Jakus to discuss where you feel called and ways to get involved.

Call 604-463-7148 during office hours.



PRAY

Did you know St. Therese of Lisieux, doctor of the Church, is the co-patron of the mission of the Church? She was a cloistered nun! It was because of her heart and endless prayers to see souls saved and the Gospel proclaimed to people who did not know Jesus. We're asking that everyone please pray that all people would come to know and love the Lord.

VISIT THE CHAPEL!

For security of the Most Holy Eucharist, the entrance to our chapel is locked with a keypad.

Call 604-463-7148 during office hours for the code.



DONATE

Not all of us have time, but we all have talents! If you have been encouraged by the work done here at St. Patrick's and want to see our parish vision, we need your financial support. Giving is necessary for our parish to live out this mission of evangelization and we're greatly appreciative of any support you can give.

DONATE ONLINE!

We have a platform through our website so that you can conveniently and regularly support St. Patrick's.

Visit:
stpatricksmpleridge.ca/donations/



FROM THE HOLY FATHER, POPE FRANCIS

In a culture paradoxically suffering from anonymity and at the same time obsessed with the details of other people's lives, shamelessly given over to morbid curiosity, the Church must look more closely and sympathetically at others whenever necessary. In our world, ordained ministers and other pastoral workers can make present the fragrance of Christ's closeness and his personal gaze. The Church will have to initiate everyone – priests, religious and laity – into this “art of accompaniment” which teaches us *to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other* (cf. Ex 3:5).

WORSHIP

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Saturday

// Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

// Confession 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm

// No Daily Mass

Sunday

// 9 am, 11:15 am, 4:30 pm

Weekly Schedule & Confessions

See our parish website for updated

Daily Mass times

stpatricksmapleridge.ca/mass

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Thursday // Exposition 5:30 pm

// Benediction 6:20 pm

Adoration Chapel

Our Adoration Chapel is located in the parish office, with an outdoor entrance.

For passcode to the chapel, please call
604 - 463 - 7148

WHAT ARE YOU SEEKING?

Ever wondered, *is there more to life than this?* Do you have questions about Christianity or who Jesus is? Try Alpha.

stpatricksmapleridge.ca/grow-and-serve/alpha

TEXT TO GIVE



CONNECT

stpatricksmapleridge.ca

Our Office

22561 121 Ave, Maple Ridge

604 - 463 - 7148

See our parish website for
updated office hours



Holy Grounds Coffeehouse
in the parish office building

Tuesdays

// 8 am - 8 pm

Come have a coffee with us!



Join our private group to connect
with people in our community!
facebook.com/groups/stpatsfamily



@stpatsmapleridge

@holygroundscfhs

SIGN UP FOR OUR BULLETIN

