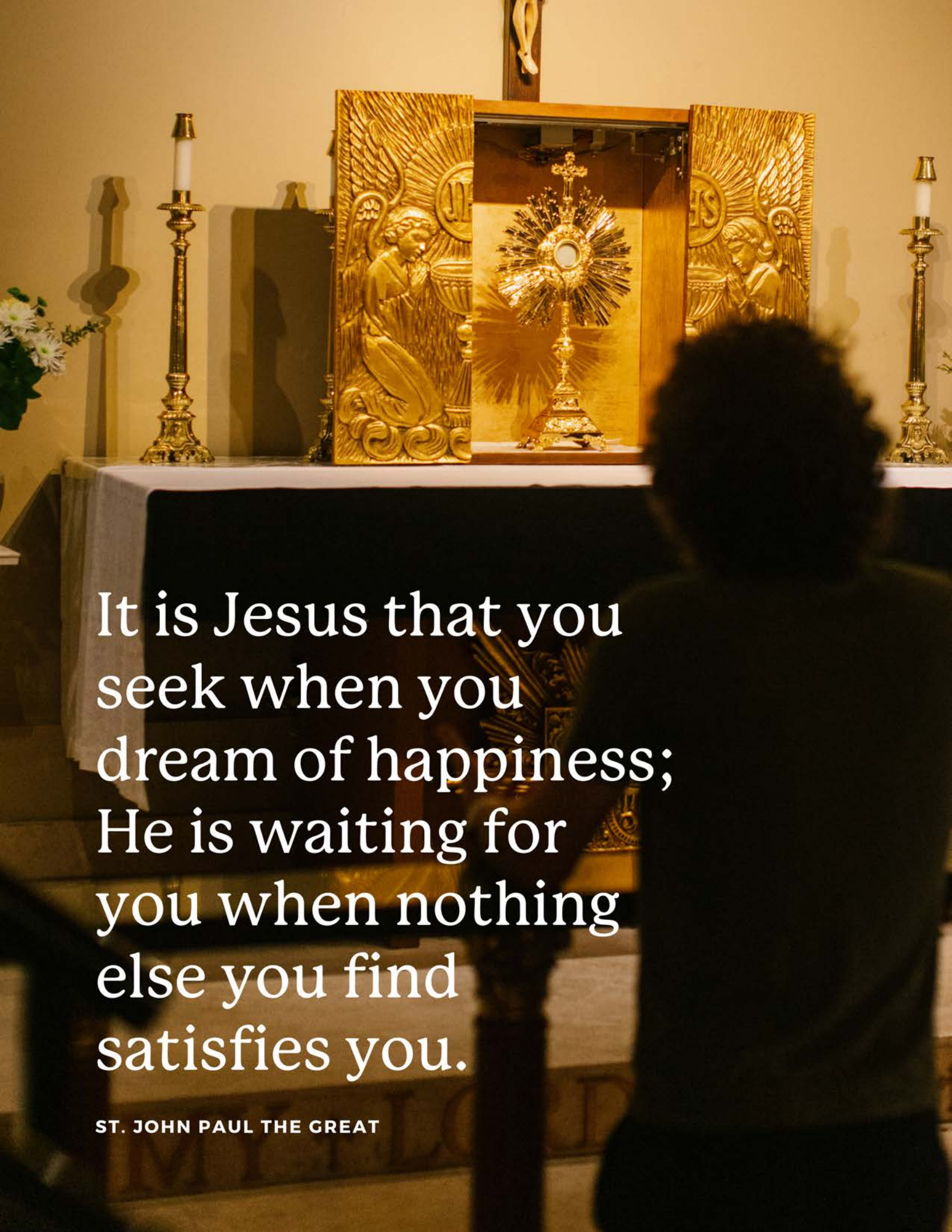


2024

Life in our Parish

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



A photograph of a church altar. In the center, a golden monstrance is displayed on the altar, containing the Eucharist. The monstrance is flanked by two golden candles. The altar is covered with a white cloth. In the foreground, the silhouette of a person is visible, looking towards the altar. The background is a plain wall.

It is Jesus that you
seek when you
dream of happiness;
He is waiting for
you when nothing
else you find
satisfies you.

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT

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 Manager &
Pastoral Assistant



VAL SPURRELL
Finance



MARIA FONSECA
Elementary School
Principal



ERIC CHOW
Discipleship Formation



HANNAH POWELL
Faith Formation



MARGARET JAKUS
Community
Engagement



MARGARET ZOCHOWSKI
Catechesis of the Good
Shepherd



JEN BOYER
Music & Office Admin



EMMA STEELE
Events



BRIAN MCGUCKIN
Sacristan



JOSHUA VALOUCHE
IT



Does God Heal Today?

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear St Patrick's Family

Does God heal today?

This is the title of one of Alpha's videos and a question that we might be asking ourselves. Does he heal today, here in Maple Ridge? Can he heal me? My family member or friend?

Over the past year I have witnessed healing. Physical, mental, relational, and spiritual healing. God does in fact heal today! He has healed through our healing Masses, prayer ministry, and initiatives like Alpha and Encounter nights. He continues to heal through many of you - intentionally accompanying others in their journey.

I am seeing our parish become more like those early Christian communities described in the book of Acts; where they broke bread together, joyfully shared meals, prayed together, and were in awe of the signs and wonders performed in the name of Jesus.

Our mission, to call and form missionary disciples, moves forward with "signs and wonders" and I am grateful to all of you for your gifts of time, talent and treasure.

Please join me in joyfully giving thanks to God for our parish family that continues to share Jesus, the One that heals, with the world.

Fr Matthew To
Pastor, St Patrick's Parish

Fr. Matthew To

Our Mission Lived Out

2023 PARISH LIFE HIGHLIGHTS



I was first introduced to a small group, faith studies via Zoom. I learned a lot and it was quite a powerful experience for me. I was asked to lead a group and I was definitely nervous. However, four men accepted and we met in person a few times a month in Holy Grounds. I love the interaction between the men. It is a powerful experience to sit together with a focus on faith and chat with men in our parish.

WAYNE FINGZIES

St Patrick's fosters an incredibly warm and nurturing community. Engaging in parish events has not only given me a profound sense of purpose, but also connected me with individuals who now feel like family.

SHAUNA IRANI

We are amazed at how welcoming St. Patrick's is. Both staff and parishioners make us feel right at home. From the smiles at the door, to the coffee and conversations in Holy Grounds, we feel a part of a family. Alpha also has given me the opportunity to meet people that I can truly call friends. The parish's openness to us helped our transition across the country and eased the pain of losing our old parish. We really do feel loved here at St. Pat's.

SHELLY HEAD



SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS FOR 2023



BAPTISM

37



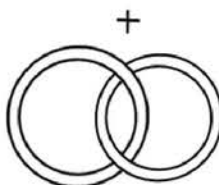
**FIRST HOLY
COMMUNION**

47



CONFIRMATION

43



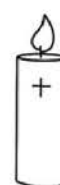
**HOLY
MATRIMONY**

4



**ANOINTING
OF THE SICK**

421



FUNERALS

21

As a newcomer to Christianity and the Catholic Church, in general, St. Patrick's parish felt like home before I even stepped inside. I wandered up the front door and saw 2 people talking outside. They ushered me in and introduced me to others. I was offered coffee or tea and... a community.

The best part about this, is that the smiles are genuine.

EMILY STEWART

The first time I entered St. Patrick's, I immediately felt welcome. It was the warm smiles of those around me and their open arms as they guided me in the community. It felt like being welcomed home after some time away at church. Since then, I have attended two different Alphas and been invited to help in a number of ways through Holy Grounds. St. Patrick's is a place where people make an effort to learn your name and your story. The people truly show that they care about you as a child of God.

KAROLINA LAVRIKOVA

St Patrick's welcomed me with open arms and open hearts. This community did not hesitate to take me in and treat me like I was apart of a family. Both the Alpha course and the Discovery program have been integral in the faith journey, expanding my understanding of the Word and bringing the Lord closer to my heart. A huge thank you to my group leader, John, my confirmation sponsor and Fr. Matthew for guiding me on this journey.

DIONTE HURTADO



Embracing Him for who He truly is

MONICA TABADA'S TESTIMONY

Being in a faith study for me has honestly been life changing. It has provided me a place to genuinely discover more about God alongside girls my age who are also searching. Within faith study, I have found a community that I feel safe and accepted in. I am allowed to come with questions, doubts and often have moments of triumphant understanding. It has taught me so much about God, and my own heart.

I am learning how to be aware of my flaws and shortcomings, and how, with His grace, I can overcome them. I have begun to deconstruct my misconceptions and fears about God.

I feel like I am embracing Him for who He truly is, in all His glory and mercy. Being a participant in my faith study has also given me the opportunity to talk about my relationship with God on a deep level with my friends. It can sometimes be awkward to bring up God when in conversation with friends. But, through this time together, I am gaining the confidence to open up more, and share His love with others.

If you have a desire to seek out who God really is, and feel called by the Holy Spirit to enter further into the St. Patrick's community, I would highly recommend the faith studies here at St. Patricks!

Being a part of a small group is a great way to establish a foundation for your faith, and find community! Contact the office if you're interested.

Ministry & Mission Highlights

We consider ourselves deeply blessed with a vibrant and active parish community. Here are a few highlights of ministry and mission efforts from 2023 that we saw bear fresh fruit. Thank you to the many people who actively lead and participate in these ministries!



DRINKING WITH THE SAINTS

Drinking with the Saints is a community program catered to the men of St. Patrick's parish and beyond. It is a place for men of all ages to gather together to eat and drink. Every month, the men learn about a particular saint and drink a special cocktail to toast to the saint.

RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE A COMMITTED 30 MEN WHO COME OUT TO CELEBRATE.

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!

WE REGULARLY VISIT WITH 24 MOMS, 5 OF WHICH ARE NEW SINCE THE START OF 2024.

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 2023, WE HAD 180 PARTICIPANTS TRY ALPHA.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES REGISTERED

1,069

NEW FAMILIES IN 2023

104

NEW SCHOOL FAMILIES IN 2023/2024

21

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.

IN 2023, WE SERVED APPROXIMATELY 2,000 CUPS OF COFFEE.

HOLY GROUNDS COFFEEHOUSE

Holy Grounds is open 8:30 am - 4 pm on Tuesdays with full service speciality coffees and teas, space for conversations and fellowship.

IN 2023, WE SERVED 4,000 LATTES.

Help us to uphold the
Church at Home,
where love and life is
expressed,
and saints are made.

ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER FOR FAMILIES





How my encounter with Christ began with encountering real community

MIKE ALBRECHT'S TESTIMONY

Before I found God personally, I felt lost and alone. I was suffering from depression and anxiety. I was surviving, not loving life, and definitely not happy. Since I was 12, I had been suffering from an eating disorder. I had past problems with drinking and thoughts of not wanting to live anymore. I often pushed my family away and never gave God much thought. I had always relied on doctors and medication to make me feel better. I always had this thought that I was never enough.

In times when I wanted to feel better, I would talk to my mom; she was safe. When I was visiting my mom one day, we went together to drop off food at her local church, St. Patrick's.

It was completely awkward and uncomfortable to even be at the church. However, I noticed how nice all the people were; greeting and welcoming me. It seemed like a real community; someplace where one could belong. I must admit, that seemed intriguing to me. One interaction prompted a desire to set up a meeting with this same person.

In that meeting, I felt loved and cared for. They agreed to accompany me to Alpha for the first night. I was hooked on Alpha from the first night and I wanted to learn more. The videos reintroduced me to a faith that I had thought I had lost. At the Alpha Retreat, I gave my life over to God. I felt like I was praying for the first time with the Holy Spirit... it was amazing. I have started going to Church again after decades away. I pray everyday. I believe prayer is healing. In times of struggle, I feel the Holy Spirit comforts me. I still suffer. I pray often while simultaneously feeling anxiety. I still have doubts. I still have problems that impede my faith in Jesus. I am still tested on a regular basis. But Jesus is healing. I feel I am stronger because of His love for me.

Jesus loves me for who I am. Perhaps, I am beginning to finally feel like I am enough.



From the Finance Council

Thank you, fellow St Patrick's parishioners, for your financial support of our Parish in 2023. Your generous donations help bring to fruition the Mission of Our Parish: "To call and form Missionary Disciples."

We can see the growth this past year – in our Parish, in the programs and services we offer, in those receiving Sacraments – all as fruits of our labour. All our programs and services, including the Alpha Course, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS), Mom & Tots, Drinking with the Saints, Holy Grounds Coffeehouse, Faith Studies, Men's and Women's Retreats, Called and Gifted, Sacraments, Rite to Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), and Masses, have associated costs. We have incredible volunteers and dedicated staff who support these programs and make our Parish an amazing place to grow in faith, fellowship, and love of God.

Ultimately, it is all made possible by your generous support and sacrifice.

We have included in this report, for your information, some charts summarizing the financial year and some key highlights. Thank you again for your generosity and sharing of your treasures – God Bless you.

Valerie Spurrell, Chair
On Behalf of the Finance Council

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

1 Chronicles 29:14

How we Steward

OUR 2023 FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE

AS OF JANAUARY 31ST, 2024

TOTAL REVENUE

\$980,696

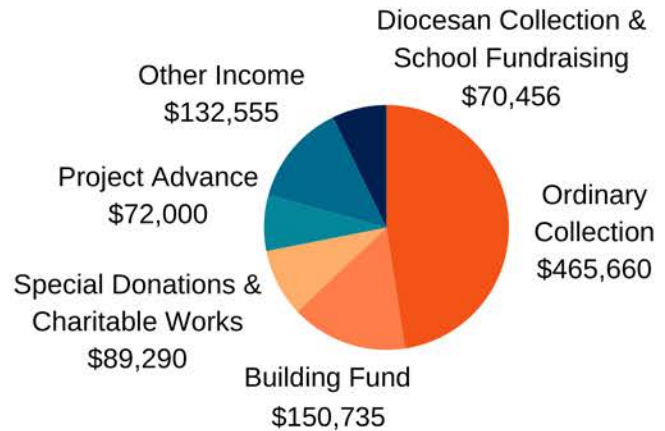
TOTAL EXPENSES

\$756,476

NET INCOME

\$224,220

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



KEY EXPENSES IN 2023

\$35,000

RELIEF FOR EDGE 2 CONDO FIRE VICTIMS

\$7,000

RECTORY ROOF REPAIRS

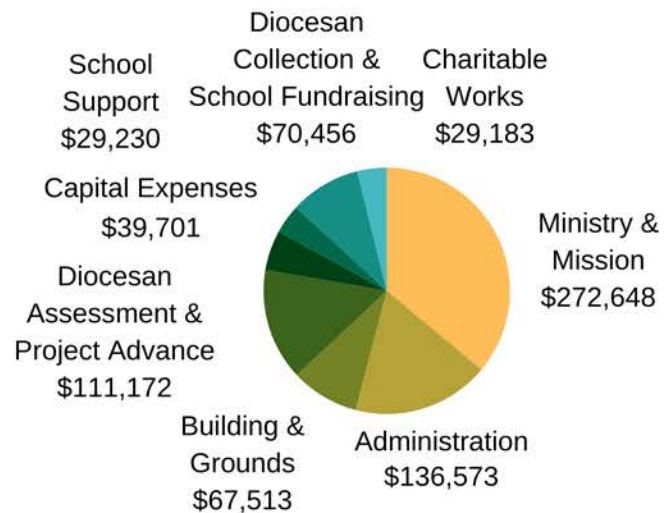
\$5,000

NEW PEW HYMNALS

\$4,500

GIVING TREE INITIATIVE

WHERE THE MONEY GOES



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

REVENUE

Total revenue for 2023 was \$980,000 with the collections accounting for nearly half at \$465,000. Building funds donations were \$150,000 and Project Advance was \$72,000. Special donations were \$89,000 which included Fire Relief for \$35,000, roof donation of \$7,000, as well as funds received from Catholic Women's League, the Knights of Columbus and a generous donor for for the Hymn books of \$5,000, and the Giving Tree Initiative of \$4,500. Other income included facility rentals.



EXPENSES

The largest expenses are primarily in support of the programs and services offered.

Our parish spent \$272,000 on mission and ministry (36% of total expenses) and \$136,000 on Administration (18%). Capital expenses included: 2 new furnaces (\$13,000), System Network costs for server, cameras, sound equipment (\$13,000), a new roof for the rectory (\$10,000), electrician costs (\$7,000), and a new espresso machine for Holy Grounds (\$10,000).

Our parish has both an elementary school and a high school we support. Our financial commitment to these schools was \$30,000 in 2023.

NET INCOME


In summary, the net income for 2023 was just under \$224,000. Being able to grow our rainy-day fund is very important for future projects and/or unforeseen costs.

Without the support of parishioners and the staff's efforts we would not be where we are today. Thank you to everyone for the hard work and support!

We foresee some added expenses in the coming year with continued upkeep of facilities, staffing costs, growing our programs, and services.

Thank you in advance for your continued support!

St. Patrick's Finance Council



The Gospel joy which
enlivens the
community of disciples
is a missionary joy.

An evangelizing
community is filled
with joy; it knows how
to rejoice always.

Elementary School Financial Highlights

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2024

TOTAL REVENUE

\$1,426,050

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$1,300,628

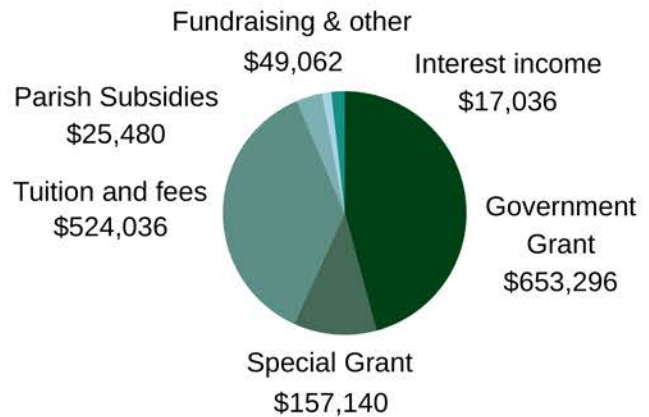
NET INCOME

\$125,422

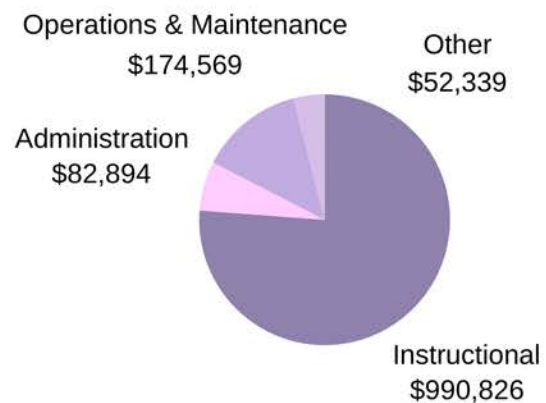
EXPENSE BREAKDOWN

76%	INSTRUCTIONAL
14%	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE
6%	ADMINISTRATION
4%	OTHERS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REVENUE



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXPENSES



Investing in Our Youth

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

I really loved to pray in the Atrium. I loved the silence... It helped me to know God better.

SOPHIE, GRADE 4

I really loved going to the Atrium and learning about Jesus. I felt very peaceful and more connected to God during CGS. I wish I could stay until the end of the year. I will miss that time very much.

JULIE, GRADE 6

The CGS program is a blessing for our family. As our kids attend public school, CGS is a way to ground our kids in the church and with God outside of mass. It is important to us that our children go through and also fully understand the sacraments. The CGS program at St.Pat's is how we are driving this very important learning that they enjoy very much.

JOSHUA, PREP PARENT



CGS IN OUR PARISH

- 7 new preschool children enrolled
- 81 children; grades K-7
- 12 children received First Holy Communion
- 13 children received Confirmation

CGS IN THE SCHOOL

- 149 children; grades 1-5
- 28 children received First Holy Communion
- 25 children received Confirmation



Life in Our Parish

THE MISSION AHEAD



PRAY

Did you know St. Therese of Lisieux, doctor of the Church, is the co-patron of the mission of the Church? It was because of her heart for lost souls and endless prayers. She proclaimed the Gospel out of a deep desire for people who did not know Jesus to encounter him.

We're asking that everyone please pray that all people would come to know and love the Lord.



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.



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.

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.

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 ONLINE!



For your sake God has
become man. Awake,
you who sleep, rise up
from the dead, and
Christ will enlighten
you. I tell you again:
for your sake, God
became man.

ST. AUGUSTINE



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

St. Thomas 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! See:

stpatricksmapleridge.ca/alpha



CONNECT

stpatricksmapleridge.ca

Our Office

22561 121 Ave, Maple Ridge

604 - 463 - 7148

See our parish website for
updated office hours



Holy Grounds Coffeehouse
is in the parish office building

Tuesdays

// 8:30 am - 4 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 THE BULLETIN

