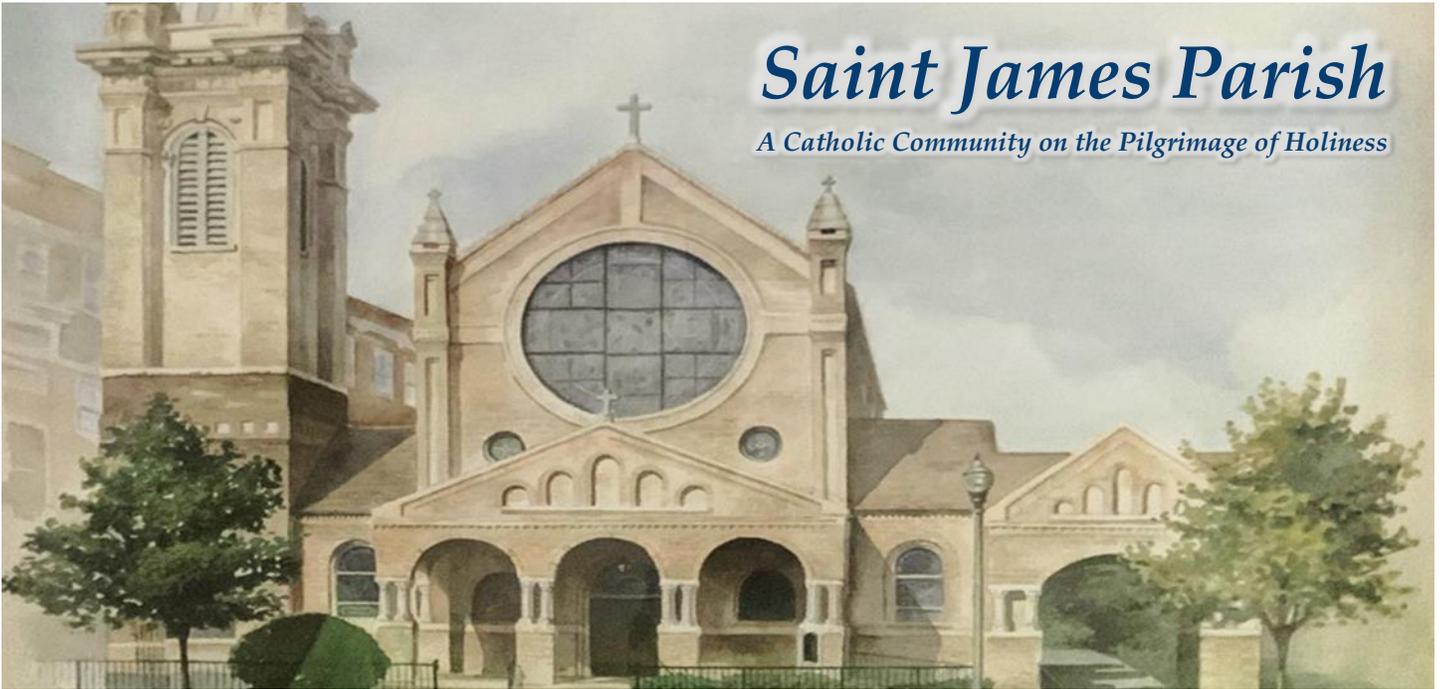


Saint James Parish

A Catholic Community on the Pilgrimage of Holiness



Stewardship Report 2020-2021

A Message from Msgr. Joe

Thanks to your commitment to stewardship—the generous sharing of your time, talent and treasure—St. James Parish has continued our illustrious tradition of providing the Catholic Community of the Red Bank area, the opportunity of worshipping the God of Jesus Christ, growing in knowledge of our faith throughout the lifespan and to be of service to the gospel of life. I hope that the information provided over these pages confirms the faithful living out of the mission of our parish community and honestly confronts the challenges that we face in supporting this mission.

Our Parish Mission

We are here to walk with you in your relationship with God wherever you are on life's journey.

We invite you to join with us in the celebration of the sacraments, prayer, learning and serving so that each person can grow in discipleship and together we can witness the Kingdom of God.

Our parish outreach to the local community with our annual Food Drives supported Our Daily Bread, St Anthony's Food Pantry, Lunch Break, The Barn for the Poorest of the Poor, Our Lady of Fatima Keyport, 180 Turning Lives Around, The Center, Phillips House and Epiphany House; while our Jesse Tree project brought Christmas joy to those helped by Birthright, The Center, Majestic Rehab, Christ The King Parish, Emmanuel Cancer, Lunch Break, Madonna House and Our Daily Bread.

Our volunteer Eucharistic Ministers resumed visits the homebound with necessary precautions. Unfortunately, regular visits to the Riverview Medical and surrounding skilled nursing care facilities have not been able to resume. The celebration of the sacraments increase with the reopening of the Church in June 2020.

Once again, thank you for all you do in

the way of supporting your parish. Our stewardship of the resources and gifts that God entrusted to us is still our mission, as many in our parish family took seriously throughout the year. I ask you as you read this report to prayerfully consider what you can do to increase your support of our community. Each individual gift of time, talent and treasure is evident every day in our liturgies, many ministries and vibrancy of our community continuing particularly in ministries limitations of the pandemic. It is my hope that as a family you may reflect on your commitment for the next year. With over 3,000 registered families even a modest increase in contributions and volunteering from each family will have a significant impact. It takes many hands and hearts to carry on Christ's mission. Your sacrifices are greatly appreciated. God Bless!

- ◆ Registered Households: 3,482
- ◆ Identifiable Donors: 926
- ◆ Infant Baptisms: 88
- ◆ First Communions: 124

- ◆ Confirmations: 101
- ◆ Marriages: 16
- ◆ Anointing of the Sick: 335
- ◆ Funeral Services: 111

Our Finances

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Finance Council
Don Faistl
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The Parish ended the fiscal year of 2020-2021 with an operating deficit of \$567,526, as we continued to be negatively impacted by the pandemic. Offertory collections were down 15% from the prior year, but on a positive note - we are on target so far with 2021-2022's budgeted revenue increase of 11%. Expenses showed a slight reduction year over year due primarily to savings in salaries and benefits.

We have now installed heat and water sensors throughout the Parish to keep our utility bills in check. We have also continued to increase our campus security installing new cameras and installing an electronic locking system for the church building. The conversion of the convent to its own electric system has been completed. Finally, we have planned to reduce reduced our subsidies to our two schools. Nevertheless, we are faced with ever increasing costs in liability insurance and repairs due to our aging facilities and though we are narrowing the gap,

Statement of Operating Income and Expense			
	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 20-21	Actual FY 19-20
Income			
Offertory	\$766,000	\$629,506	\$744,905
Non diocesan collections	\$12,000	\$12,753	\$20,422
Religious Education revenue	\$44,800	\$41,100	\$42,990
Other revenue	\$190,050	\$211,308	\$218,302
Donations	\$70,000	\$73,757	\$85,567
Faith to move mountains rebates	\$15,000	\$23,202	\$25,181
Total Parish Operating Revenue	\$1,097,850	\$991,626	\$1,137,367
Parish Operating Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	\$647,024	\$649,346	\$689,072
Bldgs & Grounds/Vehicles	\$215,188	\$210,901	\$166,625
Professional fees	\$33,650	\$15,310	\$14,617
Utilities	\$83,500	\$74,067	\$112,520
Church supplies	\$197,854	\$170,283	\$165,073
Diocese assessment	\$103,411	\$121,351	\$125,742
St. James Elem / RBC H.S. subsidies	\$52,000	\$207,720	\$244,185
Property and liability insurance	\$97,000	\$81,777	\$51,415
All other	\$13,000	\$28,396	\$21,148
Total Parish Operating Expenses	\$1,442,627	\$1,559,151	\$1,590,396
Operating surplus (deficit)	(\$344,777)	(\$567,526)	(\$453,029)
Non-operating revenue			
Investment income	\$175,200	\$158,923	\$187,995
PPP loan forgiveness	\$0	\$117,163	\$0
Bequests	\$0	\$789,834	\$0
Total non-operating revenue	\$175,200	\$1,065,920	\$187,995
Net surplus (deficit)	(\$169,577)	\$498,394	(\$265,034)

we are still projecting an operating loss of \$344,777 for the current fiscal year.

During fiscal 2020-2021, we received the benefit of a very generous bequest, as well as the forgiveness of PPP loans by the federal government, which assured that we did not need to furlough any of our parish or school

employees. These non-recurring items fortunately put us in the black for the year.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support in hopefully reducing our operating deficits moving forward.

Our Religious Education Program

The St. James Religious Education Program is a weekly in person program serving the children of St. James parish in grades Kindergarten thru 8. Our sacramental preparation includes the 2nd grade and 8th grade students of the St. James Elementary School. Our current enrollment is 240 students ministered to by 20 dedicated catechists. We are also blessed to have 2 teen classroom aids and 1 adult

monitoring our entrance. We are pleased to report that we have had experienced an increase in enrollment to the program in 2020 and 2021. Despite the great challenges of the past year we were able to provide the children with some in person learning as we welcomed one grade per week in our RBC high school Chapel. This was especially valuable for the 2nd graders preparing for Sacraments of Reconcili-

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ation and First Eucharist. We were

Spotlight: Our Daily Bread

able to continue weekly classes for our 8th grade Confirmandi. The celebration of the Sacraments were warm and faithful experiences.

As we journey forward in this new year we look forward to celebrating Sacramental moments of preparation for both our First Communicants and our Confirmandi.

Our First Communicants will participate in a delightful gathering in January filled with prayer and activities focused on the last Supper. The children will reflect on the Passover and the institution of the Eucharist. We will continue to offer a special parent prayer meditation with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the final weeks before First Communion

Our Confirmandi will celebrate a Welcoming Rite and a Rite of Enrollment marking the progress of their faith journey. And finally, they will culminate their journey in the participation of a memorable retreat.

This year we have incorporated Lectionary based catechesis as part of the weekly curriculum with a focus on the

The mission of Our Daily Bread, as the Poor Box Ministry of Saint James, is to help with temporary financial need, using the freely given donations of Saint James parishioners, as we further the spiritual growth of our members through the camaraderie, prayer, and discussions at two monthly meetings. Initially, we listen to clients contacting us by phone who are going through hardships, then via visits of two members if follow up is needed. If need is established, the caseworkers need two others to approve, then we ask our treasurer for a check to be sent directly to the gas or electric company, landlord, etc. We obtain documentation such as bills or a lease, and calls to the landlord, utility, etc. We do not give out cash. We are also in contact with other local parishes to coordinate our efforts. Due to increase subsidies provided by the government during the pandemic, our requests have declined slightly. However, for approximately the first 7 months of 2021, we helped 38 people with \$8,132.81 for mostly rent and utilities. We gave out \$2,000 in food cards. Other churches, social services, and Community Affairs helped us to help these clients with \$6,465. Contributions to Our Daily Bread are made through the poor boxes located in the church. Thank you for your continuing support!

individual student's personal gospel reflection and faith sharing.

This year we also look forward to initiating a weekly Children's Liturgy. We will bring our students together by grade for a tutorial on the Mass conducted by clergy. We hope to give our students a greater understanding and appreciation of the celebration of the Lords Supper.

Our program is dedicated to helping our children grow strong in faith and

knowledge of our loving of God. We are committed to guiding our families in the development of a deeply personal and lasting relationship with the Lord.

As we prepare the children for the completion of their Christian Initiation we strive to create a loving and united family of faith. The familial bonds we form remain and continue to strengthen the St. James community.

Red Bank Catholic High School

*Mr. Robert Abatemarco
President,*

*Mrs. Karen Falco
Principal,*

www.redbankcatholic.org

Red Bank Catholic is a part of the history of this community. In 1867 Rev. Salaun established a school in the basement of the church. This was just the beginning and eventually the cornerstone of the building, now known as the BSA or Broad Street Auditorium, was placed on July 3, 1927. We exist because people believed and were willing to sacrifice to provide a Catholic education

Red Bank Catholic still exists to provide families the opportunity to earn a challenging academics diploma in a

Catholic setting filled with opportunities in curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular endeavors. This school has stood the test of time through World Wars and two pandemics.

In the past year and a half, partnering with amazing educators, students, parents and/or caregivers; to be sure students received the RBC education they have come to expect. Technology was upgraded and teachers learned how to use new tools for teaching our students. Live stream, Owls and Yetis became mainstream in classrooms so students in the building or confined to home received the same education.

Teachers preformed utilizing in-person and remote instruction simultaneously. We've seen the power of community and how technology can help to break down the walls between classrooms and our homes. We are proud of the work done and look forward to

continuing our traditions this coming school year.

Last year's graduating class was accepted at over 245 schools in 33 states and seventy percent of the class was offered \$ \$31,115,587.00 in scholarships for academic, athletic and the arts.

This year we continue with new and exciting changes with a new leadership team which includes a new president-principal model, with Mr. Robert Abatemarco and Mrs. Karen M Falco teaming with Monsignor Rosie and learning consultant, Dr. Margaret Boland to keep moving our school into the future. We have exciting additions to the curriculum with the birth of "New Pathways" and the opportunity to open our doors to students on an all in-person basis. A Pathway provides students with a professional framework that will prepare them for

Red Bank Catholic High School

college and careers. Red Bank Catholic will be continuing its highly successful senior experience Internship Program, in partnership with the RBC Thomas G. Labrecque Leadership Institute. This program allows participating students

the opportunity to work in a non-paid role with an organization that parallels their career goals providing them with valuable real life experiences. A strong faith based institution continues to call people into relationship

with God and putting their faith into service of others. RBC is an authentic Catholic school and will continue to call Caseys to worship and practice.

St. James Elementary School

Where Great Things Happen!

Celebrating 142 years of Faith, Honor, and Excellence

Saint James is proud to open its school doors in September to 438 preschool - eighth grade students. Last year, we proudly made it through a very challenging year amid a global pandemic. Much of our success was due to our ability to keep our school open for five full day in-person instruction.

Our students did an amazing job adjusting to new protocols. Our faculty and staff worked tirelessly to serve our students remotely and in-person. We truly have outstanding students, teachers, and staff at SJS!



Great things continued to happen at SJS including improvements to our facilities, adding additional classes to our preschool, and updating curriculum to enabling students to achieve their full intellectual and spiritual potential.

Academic Excellence

Last year's 8th grade class was once again an outstanding group of young men and women. Our graduates were recognized for their outstanding work by receiving acceptances and scholarships to prestigious high schools of their choice.



Saint James is proud to announce that seven students were accepted into the prestigious Monmouth County Vocational Career Academies. Allied Health, Communications, Bio Tech, and MAST.



This year 7th and 8th grade students will have the opportunity to broaden their leadership and citizenship skills by participating in Model UN and the National Junior Honor Society.

Our Parents Are the Best!

The PTA is an integral part of the success of Saint James. Our parents raised funds to purchase a new Social Studies program for students in grades K-5, a new Integrated Language Arts and Spanish program in grades 6-8. Fundraising also subsidized the remodeling of our playground, art room and nurses office.



Most importantly, the PTA organized activities where parents, students, and teachers came together safely as a Saint James Family!

Giving Thanks

Saint James students learn the importance of helping others through monthly charitable giving activities.

Through generous donations, our school raised over \$14,000.00 for numerous charitable organizations throughout Monmouth County.

