



OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE PARISH

Stewardship Report

2018-2019

“
How can I make a
return to the Lord for
all the good things he
has given me?
”

PSALM 116

Welcome.

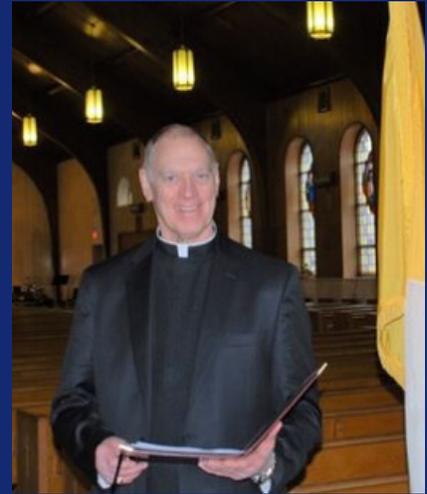
Just looking outside at the world today, it is a most exciting time to be Catholic. And even more exciting to be a parishioner at Our Lady of the Wayside. We refurbished our Church and that renewal corresponds as well to our community, we continue to maintain our school, forming the future Catholic leaders. We continue to grow our ministries. Looking to our future we are pleased to share our first annual stewardship report.

At Our Lady of the Wayside, our mission statement is to build a nurturing Catholic community through prayer, service and celebration. This report includes an overview of each part of that mission. From parish and school financials to a review of school attendance, sacraments and of course, our wonderful ministries.

We thank the Lord who has blessed our community, our priests and our incoming pastor. He has blessed us with the ability to provide Him body, blood, soul and divinity in Holy Eucharist at every mass. And as a community, we correspond that blessing in prayer - because how we pray is how we live. And how we live - with faith, hope and charity - is how we serve Him.

This report reviews our Parish community and is an opportunity to share with you what God has given to us. Let us pray that we can all discern God's will for each of us and answer the call to stewardship today.

May God bless you and keep you,
Our Lady of the Wayside Parish





Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, our mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer us! Amen.

THE MEMORARE

The Eucharist, Word and Ritual.

BY FATHER ED FIALKOWSKI
FORMER PASTOR

Father Ronald Rolheiser O.F.M., a member of the same Order of Priests as our late Francis Cardinal George, reminds us that it has been almost 40 years since Vatican II released its document on liturgy. Many of you do not remember the Latin Mass yet some of us still do. He points out that during those years, we've seen many changes in the Eucharist and he asks: "Is the Eucharist more meaningful to people now than it was before all those changes?" His own hunch is that, while we have done a pretty good job in the area of renewing the liturgy of the word, we have perhaps regressed in our understanding of the liturgy of the Eucharist.

We employ a simple algebra: good homily and good singing equals good liturgy.

Why does he say that? Because if you stood at the door of a church on an average Sunday and asked people leaving the church: "Was this a good liturgy?" they would answer yes or no almost exclusively on the basis of the homily and the singing. We employ a simple algebra: good homily and good singing equals good liturgy.

Conversely, poor homily with little or bad music and we go away with the sense that nothing very meaningful has happened. Father Ron says that if this is the answer or response then this betrays a certain weakness in our understanding of the Eucharist. He says that thirty-five plus years ago, had someone stood at a church door and asked his parents' generation the same question ("Was this a good mass?") they wouldn't even have understood the question.

They would have mumbled something to the effect: "Well, aren't all masses the same, isn't the mass Christ's sacrifice?" He continues by saying that their answer too would have betrayed a weakness, namely, for them, the mass tended to be only a re-enactment of Christ's sacrifice. It was not as important for them that this coming together should also be a time to break open the word of God and to be together as a faith community. However, where they were stronger was in their understanding of ritual.

Today, like the rest of our culture, we in the church, are going ritually tone-deaf. We no longer understand what it means to be in a ritual container within which the sacred and profane, God and ourselves, can meet and we can be empowered in a way beyond and deeper than words.

From the Enlightenment onward, down until today, our sense of ritual has progressively atrophied and now it has basically died. In many respects, the Roman Catholic and High Anglican mass is the last true deep sacred ritual left in our culture ... and now, he says this is his fear; we are losing our understanding of precisely that part of it (the memorial, sacrifice, and communion) which lies at the core of the ritual.





More and more, we identify the Eucharist mainly with what happens in and through the liturgy of the word. We use the words meaningful or not meaningful, which once were applied only to our subjective reaction to what happened at a Eucharist, to apply to the objective event. Past generations were unable to do that and this, he submits, suggests that, at one level, they understood the Eucharist a whole lot more deeply than we give them credit for – and perhaps more deeply than we do ourselves.

To this end Father Rolheiser asks these questions, What is ritual? What is a ritual container? What is re-enactment? What is a sacrifice? And he answers for us by saying, Anthropologists, mythologists, and scripture scholars can, and do, give good explanations of these. Lately, those explanations seem to have got lost somewhere between our best theologies of liturgy and the actual expectations and assessments of those attending those liturgies.

In the end, too few people today go to Eucharist any more looking for the magic of God's real presence in the consecration and the communion. The only magic we expect (and it itself is rarely delivered) is such as can be produced by a good homily, good singing, and the experience generated by people worshiping and being together. What is generated by these elements, word and community, should not be underrated, as his parents' generation sometimes did.



However, the magic that they looked for, and most always found at “mass” (as they called it) should not be underrated by our generation. Theirs' was a magic not dependent upon the right priest, like-minded community, a good homily, good singing, or a psychological sense of being bonded and supported.

Theirs' was a magic ultimately not dependent upon human effort at all, but one generated by sacred ritual which promised and delivered the presence of Christ and his saving actions beyond our words, efforts, and community and personal shortcomings. Such ritual was mysterious and mystical because it involved something beyond words, touching and being touched by the source of all life.

So our Liturgy is to be spiritual for us. The Living Word of God spoken to us in the Liturgy of the Word and an encounter with the Jesus, by receiving Our Lord in the Real Presence in the Eucharist. We deepen our relationship with Jesus, who should be the focus and center of our lives. Our Liturgy is not meant to be entertainment but deep community prayer.

Our Ministries.

Some might say that joining a ministry is living a stewardship way of life. By becoming part of what the Church does, you are participating in the direction it is heading. This cannot be more true than at our church.

At OLW, we have many ministries (around 80 in fact), and they are wonderful ways to connect with others and intersect with you in your spiritual life. Because every action we take is a prayer which brings us closer to God and hopefully impacts our salvation. There are four groups of ministries at Our Lady of the Wayside: Family, Adult, Youth and Children.

One of the largest ministries is CFM or Christian Family Movement - in fact it's the largest in the nation. CFM is a great way to connect with other families within the Parish to talk about faith, family and living in our modern world as a Catholic. Or, if you want to pray the rosary or learn more about your faith, join the Rosary or Bible Study Ministry.

Other Adult ministry opportunities include Women at the Well, CHRP, Respect Life, Bereavement, to name only a few. Over 175 parishioners have experienced the renewal through CHRP/Welcome retreats over the years. These ministries help connect us daily to our Faith and encourage us to live our faith within our everyday life.

Our Youth Ministry keeps teens connected to their faith. Around 30 high school students participate in a week-long mission trip to serve under-privileged Midwest communities. Camp Wow is a four day outdoor retreat for middle school students. It is universally loved - so much so that former participants often return as camp counselors! Children's Ministries include scouting programs, 9:30am Children's Liturgy, Little Saints and the extremely popular Vacation Bible School.

All of our ministries can be found on our website and if you have any questions at all contact the Parish office or check the bulletin.





RCIA UPDATE.

The Rite of Christian initiation is a humbling process taking them through the tenets of the Faith.

Our doors at Our Lady of the Wayside Parish are open to anyone interested in pursuing Catholicism or returning home to the Catholic faith. In past years, more than 25 converted to Catholicism in our Parish.

RCIA consists of:

- Non-Catholic adults (and children) interested in finding out more about the Roman Catholic faith tradition
- Non-Catholic adults (and children) wishing to join the Catholic Church and receive its sacraments
- Cradle-Catholics who may never have received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation
- Cradle-Catholics who have been away from practice of their faith for an extended period
- Married couples of mixed religious faith, one Catholic and one non-Catholic, who wish to unite in our religious tradition for the sake of their children's religious training and upbringing

Mike (Candidate) & Abygail (Witness)

The first RCIA meeting is always informal, it includes an introduction of the team and prospective candidates as well as a basic structure of the RCIA program. Abygail brought her fiancé Mike as he was interested in being baptized and receiving the sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church.

After the first meeting, Abygail attended every other meeting with good questions for team members to ponder. Her commitment to Mike and his process of becoming a Catholic was unwavering. Abygail appreciates sharing her faith with her husband, Michael who has said: "I have a much better understanding of her beliefs and values, and we have begun to pray together." Let us pray that future witnesses like Abygail come forward with candidates.

The Sacraments.

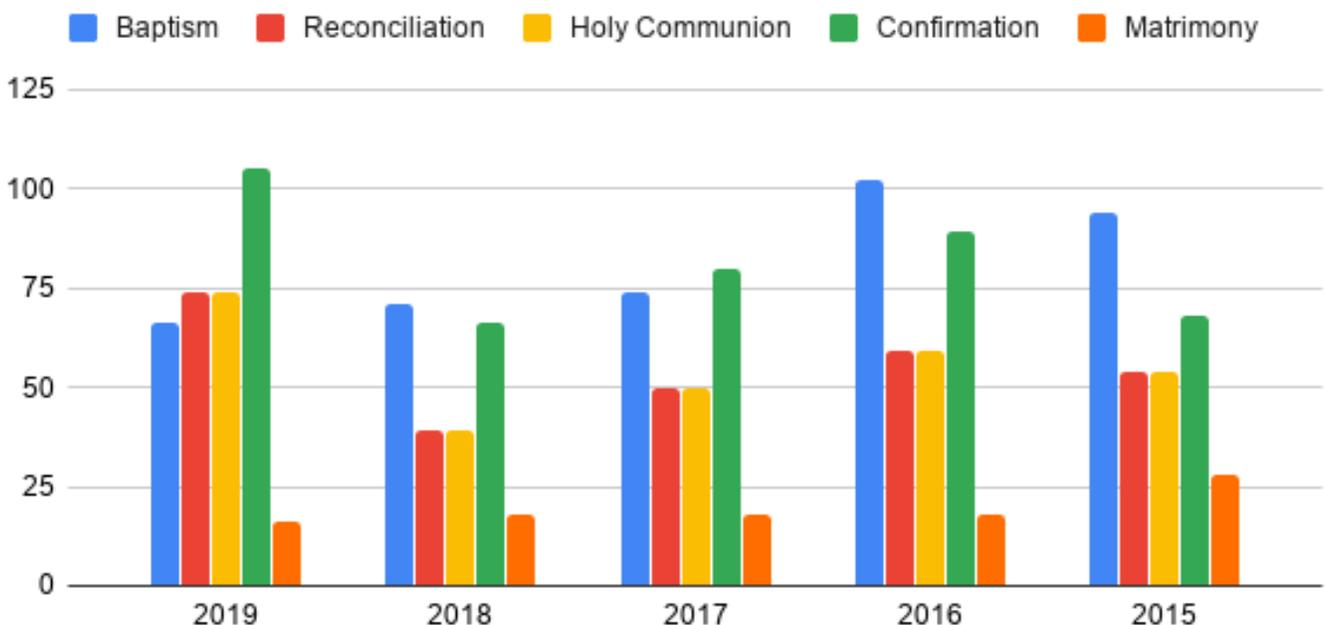
Each of the seven sacraments has its own divinely intended purpose and are the principle way that we can obtain the supernatural life, without which no one can be saved. The Sacraments allow us to grow in this life of grace and provide us with a means of restoring the life of God's friendship that we may have lost through sin. Christ instituted seven sacraments to give us the grace we need to reach heaven, to grow in His grace and regain His friendship if we have lost it through our disobedience to His will. They literally put us in touch with God.

In Baptism we profess our commitment to the Church and Christ and are cleansed of original sin. In Holy Communion, we receive Our Lord's body, blood, divinity and soul. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink" (Jn 6:54-55). We receive His endless mercy in Reconciliation. At Confirmation, we truly become the Church Militant. The Holy Spirit moves us to become soldiers of Christ and continue his work.

And finally Marriage, where "a committed, permanent, faithful relationship of husband and wife is the root of a family. It strengthens all the members, provides best for the needs of children, and causes the church of the home to be an effective sign of Christ in the world" (U.S. Catholic Bishops, Follow the Way of Love: A Pastoral Message to Families, 1994).



Sacraments by Year



Our Religious Education Program.

The purpose of the religious education program is to assist parents in the religious education of their children, develop their faith, and help them develop a personal relationship with Jesus. These programs are for those children not attending OLW school.

Our Tuesday programs continue to offer our families child-centered, religious education for their children. Grades 1-4 meet every Tuesday afternoon from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m. in Our Lady of the Wayside Elementary School. Grades 5-6 and First/Second Year Confirmation Prep classes (grades 7-8) alternate Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Classes begin in September and continue through April. Classes weave together Catholic doctrine, Scripture, Christian living and prayer in an integrated approach.

In addition to the textbook, volunteer catechists use a variety of age appropriate methods (such as discussion, role playing, audio visuals, group projects) to enhance their teaching of religious truths. Service opportunities are given to the children to encourage their care of others. Various forms of prayer experiences are incorporated into the curriculum to help children develop their relationship with God. Parent involvement consists of assistance with homework, volunteerism and helping with special events. Classes are held in the classrooms of the elementary and middle school buildings. Children come together with a peer community in which to learn and grow in their faith.



From David Wood OLW School Principal

Our Lady of the Wayside School educates about 400 students academically but most importantly in their faith. Our dedicated staff of 32 teachers and 14 support staff makes it possible to fulfill our mission of enriching minds, fostering faith, and expanding talents. We are also blessed with strong parent volunteers that support our mission through involvement in the School Advisory Board, Family School Association, and Athletic Board. As a National Blue Ribbon School twice award winner in 2015 and 2008, OLW knows what it takes to provide a quality education.

Each year our standardized test scores meet the National Blue Ribbon qualifications, and we plan to apply for this recognition again when we are eligible. As part of our annual Catholic School Improvement Process, we meet to identify ways to help our students grow and provide small group instruction optimizing such growth. Our 1:1 technology program in 5th-8th grade is just one way that teachers leverage resources to achieve such growth. We have an expanded learning resource department to provide additional reading support to over 40 students and our teachers collaborate to develop a curriculum designed to achieve our goals.

Our Lady of the Wayside's Catholic mission is dedicated to helping students foster their individual faith. In recent years, we focused on additional Virtues education. This year's program is based on Virtues in Practice created by the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia in Nashville. This three year program focuses on a Year of Faith, a Year of Hope, and a Year of Charity where students will be exposed to the practice of 27 Virtues and learn about a variety of Saints. We believe in fostering a strong Catholic tradition including a devotion to the rosary and recitation in October and May.

A hidden benefit of a small school environment is the opportunity for students to express their talents. Our student athletes participate in team sports across a variety of skill levels. We have a complete band program, a special middle school choir and annual Spring musical. Academically our Robotics or Scholastic Bowl programs are very competitive in addition to student government and our special Leadership Group that works with our school counselor.

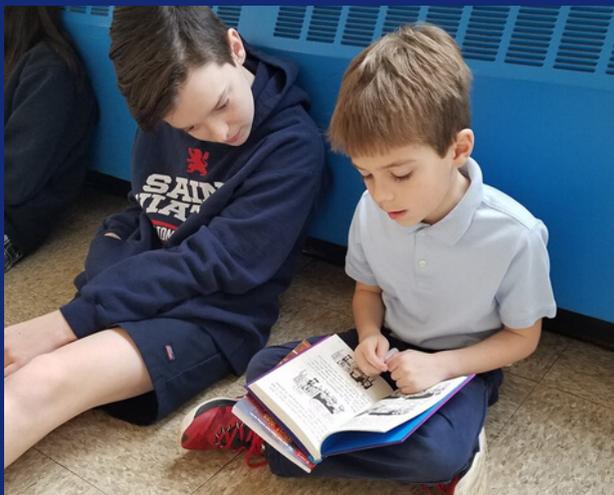
The goal of all of these programs is to teach the entire student. To not only ensure they have the academic skills but also the virtues and faith to accompany them throughout their career. As a ministry of Our Lady of the Wayside Parish, we are dedicated to motivate our young people to use their minds, faith, and talents in a way that inspires them to become the future of our parish.

Our School.

ENRICHING MINDS.
FOSTERING FAITH.
EXPANDING TALENTS.

"The mission of the Catholic school is the integral formation of students, so that they may be true to their condition as Christ's disciples and as such work effectively for the evangelization of culture and for the common good of society." (St. John Paul II)

Our Lady of the Wayside school is the largest ministry for the Parish. It has over 400 students across 200 families from pre-k through to 8th grade.



Our **OLW Athletics Board** and their coaches are comprised of volunteers. This board works hard to maintain and move forward all of our athletics programs. OLW has over 30 different teams for both boys and girls from 5th through 8th grade. Many of the sports have multiple team and skill levels. OLW offers this benefit as many local public schools only have 7th and 8th grade sports - most with only one team each. The board also runs the Wildcat Prowl fundraising event which has updated the outdoor basketball hoops, middle school water fountains, gym scoreboards, school banners as well as general sports program improvements.

2019 ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2nd Place Basketball Boys:
8th Grade & 7th Grade
- 2nd Place Basketball Girls:
7th Grade
- 3 teams attended IL State
Robotics Competition
- 9 Gold awards at IL State
Science Fair



From a school parent.

No doubt about it, Arlington Heights schools, private or public are good schools. They're in a good district and have programs any child will need. Some have even more programs than I would ever imagine being available -- especially than those offered at our school.

At Our Lady of the Wayside, we believe life is more than academics and sports. It's more than functions and programs, and it's more than great teachers and the pledge of allegiance. Life is about being virtuous and loving, serving and knowing God with our whole heart, mind and soul not just on Sunday but every day. It's about a community rich with traditions from the marriage of Q & U to the cotillions and May crowning. Life is about being **Catholic**.

And life in a Catholic school is hard to describe - sure, you will be asked to volunteer, sure it costs money. Will your children receive a quality education at a public school? Again, the answer is sure. But we believe a Catholic education is important not just because of the high graduation rates, academic rigor or community-service minded students it produces. Or that we do a lot at our school with less. We see firsthand the benefits of what it means to be part of this community. Generous hearts formed by teachers and staff who can openly worship God and teach about Him in the classroom. Learning the prayers of the rosary, the holy days and offering prayers for a friend because that is just what you do! Understanding how to care for a younger student or tend to their needs as their chosen Buddy.

At a Catholic school there is no line between our homes and the school's front door, and there is no better community than OLW. The bottom line? Our Lady of the Wayside is teaching our children virtues that will transcend this life and carry them into the next. We'd say that's money well spent.

Our Lady of the Wayside School Funds.

Over the past years, tuition, fees and the parish investment support but do not fully cover the cost of educating a student at OLW. Our school has three funds to support the various activities, events and programs students and families rely upon.

The Annual Fund is an unrestricted fund which supports the school in its immediate needs. This includes the school counselor, curriculum coordinator, elementary Spanish, updating technology yearly, teacher stipends & reimbursements for classroom supplies and student activities and club fees. Fundraising by our Family School Association contributes to this fund and the school relies on an annual contribution of over \$120,000 to ensure the above programs are always present. Other fundraising for the Annual Fund comes from our Annual Alumni appeal, #GivingTuesday, matching donations, as well as any directed donations throughout the year.

Established in 1999, our **Endowment Fund** perpetuates, partially supports and upholds the educational work of the School. Many alumni parents support the Endowment Fund because they understand the long-term benefits to secure OLW's future. This is a restricted fund and only interest income can be used. At the end of the fiscal year (June 2019), the Fund's balance was \$575,217. Our goal is to grow the fund to \$2 million in 5 years, this way an automatic investment can be made directly to the school.

Finally, the **Gloria Rebek Scholarship Fund** assists families who require immediate or ongoing tuition assistance. Parishioners are asked to support this specific fund twice yearly. Contributions are accepted at any time as long as it is dictated in the memo on your check.

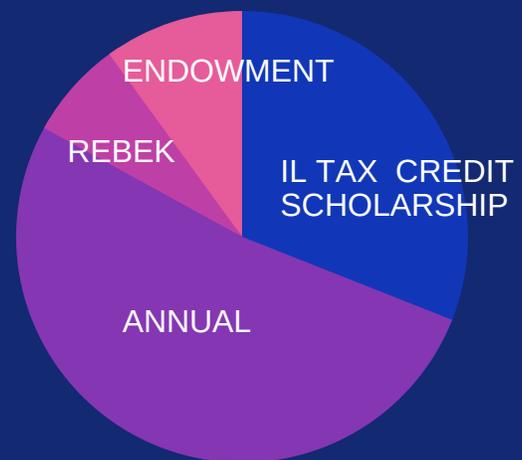
How can the Parish help support the OLW School?

1. Check the School's Facebook page for Supper Club announcements!
2. Use the Gift Card Rebate Program to pay for groceries or other purchases.
3. Order books online via book fairs
4. Attend an FSA fundraiser like the Gala or the Men's or Ladies Night Out
5. Donate on #GivingTuesday

Find out more at olwschool.org.

For the past 2 years, the IL Tax Credit Scholarship (TCS) program has made it possible for many students to attend OLW. The TCS Program provides a 75% Illinois state income tax credit – not just a deduction – to individuals who contribute money to a non-profit Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO). This means that a \$5,000 donation to an SGO is a net cost of only \$1,250 to the donor. Please designate your donation for Our Lady of the Wayside School so that our students may benefit from this financial assistance.

Please visit olwschool.org, Support OLW to see all the ways you can help keep our school going. For any questions, please contact our school principal David Wood at dwood@olwschool.org or Danielle Kenney, dkenney@olwschool.org.



2019 Fund Activity

Giving at Our Lady of the Wayside Parish.

GIVING WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY GOES BEYOND JUST DOLLARS.

Though two of the largest events at Our Lady of the Wayside provide large donations to the Parish and School (Raffle and Annual Gala), OLW parishioners give a lot of themselves as well.

For example, CFM sponsors a drive to St Mark's Parish on the west side of Chicago. Last year over 5 full SUVs headed to their parish to deliver goods from canned food to household items and more. Our annual picnic brings school and parish families together for a day of food, music and activities. Most of the perishable items for the picnic are donated by parishioners in order to meet the goal of a day of prayer and fun for the whole family.

Beyond providing items, parishioners also provide their time - volunteering for all events in order to make them happen timely and on budget. Some parishioners can be found on Wednesday evening at our P.A.D.S. sponsored by JOURNEYS | The Road Home. Shifts run overnight for more than 20 beds at this location. Please contact pads@olwParish.org if you are interested.





TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

To Teach Who Christ Is (TTWCI) is a capital and endowment campaign that raised more than \$400 million in gifts and pledges across the Diocese.

TTWCI was started in July 2015 with a five-year pledge period for each parish to reach its goal. To date, Our Lady of the Wayside's 548 pledges have raised over \$2.5 million towards the \$3 million goal. This money has been critical in refurbishing our church, the results which you can see as you attend church today. In addition, the school will receive new windows with money earmarked for that cause - barring any issue with asbestos.

"As a life-long resident of the Archdiocese of Chicago, and a product of Archdiocesan schools, To Teach Who Christ Is offers a chance to give back to the Archdiocese while helping my own parish at the same time." Ed Murnane said.

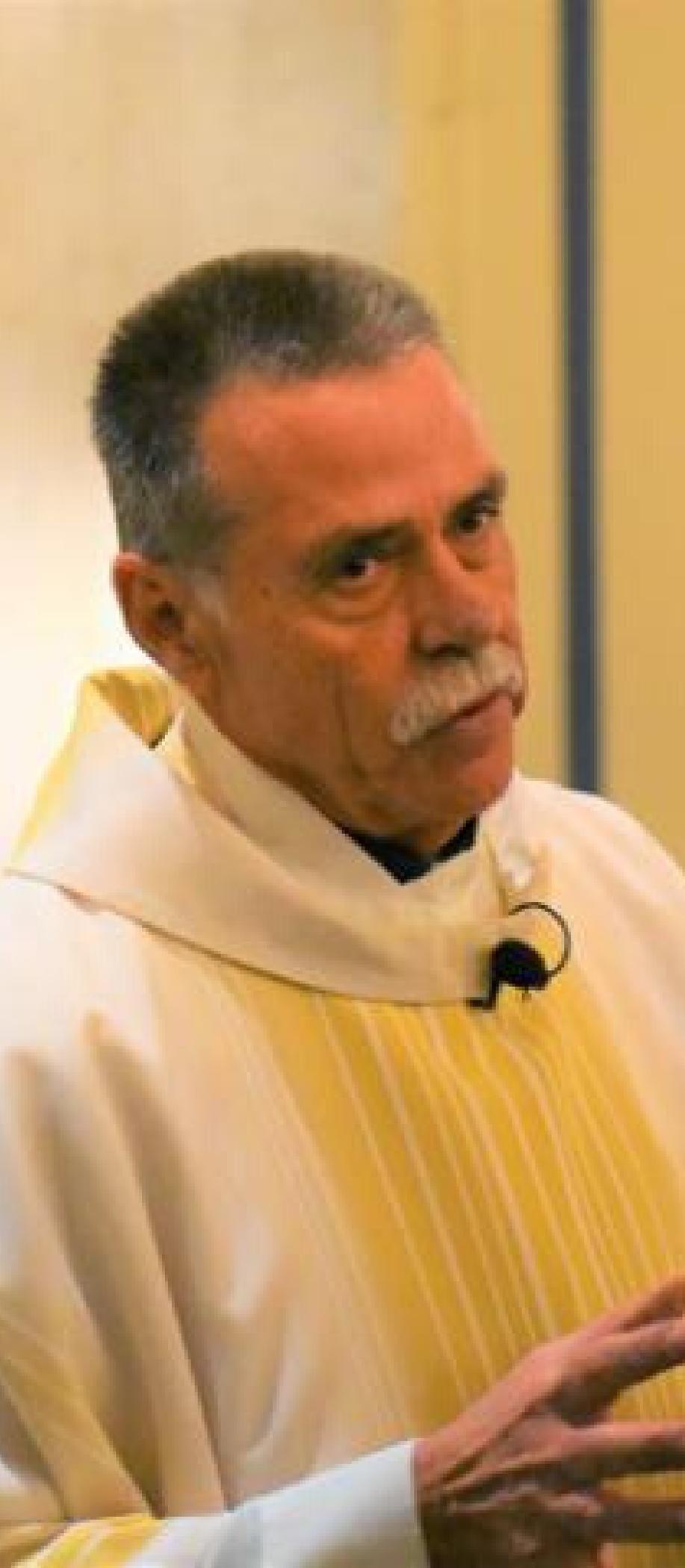
Pledges: \$2,579,794 of a
Goal: \$3,000,000
Paid: \$1,781,036
Parish: \$1,068,622 (60% of goal stays at Parish)

Completed projects:

- Cleaned and polished walls
- Replaced ceiling
- Installed new pews, kneelers and pads
- Asbestos abatement
- Installed new carpet & flooring
- Replaced damaged doors
- Updated electrical work
- Installed loop sound system
- Installed new light fixtures
- Refurbished the Organ
- Total cost \$706,000

To be completed projects:

- Replace Church furniture, \$50,000
- Repair Stain Glass Windows, \$75,000
- Replace middle school windows, \$150,000
- Replace elementary school windows, \$650,000



Multi-parish mission.

Together at the Cross: Connecting your faith to real life.

On January 14, 15, 16 and 17 of 2019, Our Lady of the Wayside Church hosted the annual multi-parish mission.

Attendance was full for the first night and the response and enthusiasm at the beginning of the week continued and grew as the week progressed.

Each of the four parishes had large contingents of faithful and clergy in attendance to hear **Redemptorist Father Peter Schavitz** deliver his powerful message.

In addition to Our Lady of the Wayside, other parishes participating in the mission were St. James and St. Edna of Arlington Heights, and St. Mary of Buffalo Grove. Besides the Mission, Father Schavitz spent time during the week visiting the other parishes and speaking at Masses. The mission concluded on Thursday, January 17, with a full church for a Mass co-celebrated by the Pastors from the other sponsoring churches. While the four parishes have conducted annual missions yearly, this multi-parish mission was considered to be the best attended in recent years.

Our Lady of the Wayside Financials.

Our Lady of the Wayside Parish

7-1-2018 through 6-30-2019

	ACTUAL 2019	ACTUAL 2018	BUDGET 2019	Actual 2019 vs 2018	Actual 2019 vs Budget
INCOME					
Sunday & Holy Day Collections	1,518,854	1,511,017	\$1,523,900	\$7,837	-\$5,046
Christmas & Easter	266,734	296,954	315,000	-\$30,220	-\$48,266
School Tuition & Fees & Misc. Income	2,413,444	2,391,636	2,368,772	\$21,808	\$44,672
All Other Church Income	174,821	230,176	238,500	-\$55,355	-\$63,679
(A) Total Parish Income	4,373,853	4,429,783	\$4,446,172	-\$55,930	-\$72,319
EXPENSES					
Church & Other Salaries/Benefits	1,024,507	1,117,323	\$1,211,134	-\$92,816	-\$186,627
Church & Other-All Remaining Expense	543,238	606,403	620,245	-\$63,165	-\$77,007
(B) Total Church & Other Expense	1,567,745	1,723,726	\$1,831,379	-\$155,981	-\$263,634
School Salaries/Benefits	2,141,486	2,197,631	\$2,183,792	-\$56,145	-\$42,306
School-All Remaining Expense	541,807	489,047	457,697	\$52,760	\$84,110
(C) Total School Expense	2,683,293	2,686,678	\$2,641,489	-\$3,385	\$41,804
(D) Total Parish Expense (B+C)	4,251,038	4,410,404	\$4,472,868	-\$159,366	-\$221,830
(E) NET OPERATING INCOME (A-D)**	122,815	19,379	-\$26,696	\$103,436	\$149,511
(F) Plus-Non-Operating Income from School Endowment Donations/Earnings	-15,848	47,270			
(G) LESS-Net Non-Operating (Loss) from Capital Activities	128,020	-365,574	180,000		
(H) Plus-Non-Operating Income from Bequests	33,973	208,575			
TOTAL NET (INCOME) (E+F-G+H)**	\$268,960	-\$90,350	\$153,304		

**Excludes Rebek Scholarship donations & Ministry Activity (Eg. Boosters, FSA, etc.)



Financial highlights.

- OLW recorded a **healthy year of financial results in fiscal year 2019**, and with continued growth in parishioner generosity, sound cost control and administration the trend is expected in the current fiscal year 2020.
- Our parish generated a positive \$122,815 of Net Operating Income in 2019 with healthy cash reserves of \$404,250. This is a result of the combined efforts of **our parish staff, school administrators, volunteers and the wonderful generosity of our parishioners and school families.**
- Through **E- Giving through GiveCentral** we have reached a robust level of 35% of total weekly church donations with almost 500 families contributing. School tuition and fees exceeded projected levels. As a parish, we attribute this to the strong reputation of our teachers and administration staff as well as the tremendous fundraising support by school parents and families. Being able to control salaries and expenses helped school operations remain nominally over budget.
- Teach Who Christ Is Capital Campaign was very successful and we now enjoy a beautiful upgrade and repair of our church. After the campaign draws to an end our parish will have been able to **invest approximately \$1.5 million in our church and school structures.**
- Our parish believes in a strong, viable Catholic School and Religious Education Program which **teaches several hundred children year over year** providing a foundation of Catholic values and beliefs. We continue to strongly support the school with capital improvements, financial investment and administration by working closely with the various boards and associations.
- Thanks to the 2019 FSA Gala Fund a Need, a new security system has been installed in our school **increasing the safety of our children, teachers and staff.** The Church and parish buildings also received security cameras because of funds raised in the Wayside Loves Winners cash raffle at the Parish Picnic.
- It is due to our loving, passionate, giving parishioners and the prudent management efforts of so many individuals over many decades that the **OLW community continues to achieve financial stability** and a strong base to thrive in years to come.

Online Giving.

Many parishioners have signed up for automatic giving using GiveCentral. This chance to make regularly scheduled payments is similar to the way many people set up automatic payments for household bills. When you sign up for GiveCentral, you can use a credit card or a debit card. You can choose to give weekly or monthly for your Sunday contributions. You can choose to also give to the Endowment Fund, the Rebek Fund, capital improvements, or to balance the budget.

Memorial Donations.

The most powerful means to relieve or release a soul from purgatory is through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. You'll find that in the Catechism. It says it in 1032: "From the beginning, the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God."

And you can also offer masses for the living. First, it's an infinite gift. A living person is still capable of growing in sanctifying grace, so the effect of this incredible grace is they may willingly receive it to be more Christ-like. Second, if it's offered as intercession for a person in the state of actual mortal sin, it may supply the grace necessary for conversion. Third, it also fits in the sanctity of healing people.

Parishioners may offer a Christmas poinsettia or an Easter lily to remember or honor a loved one and those donations are listed in the corresponding bulletin.

You can also use GiveCentral to set up contributions for the various second collections that our parish supports. Basically, you choose. The benefit to you is that you know you are consistently supporting the parish even on the weeks that you can't make it to Mass at OLW. You can change your contribution as needed. The benefit to the parish is the ease of receiving your contribution and the predictability of cash flow.

To sign up for GiveCentral, visit olwparish.org and click on Give Online. You can link to GiveCentral from there! Once you do, set a reminder to reconsider your contributions yearly to see if you are in a position to increase annually.



Additionally, all parishioners who passed away between November 1 - October 31 of the previous year are remembered on All Souls day.

Some of our Parishioners are very dedicated to the school and would like to offer a memorial donation dedicated for incoming students. Our Gloria Rebek Scholarship Fund accepts donations for this purpose. Please note, this is different than a mass intention.

**“We should consider
those moments spent
before the Blessed
Sacrament as the
happiest of our lives.”**

ST. JOHN VIANNEY

Holy Days of Obligation

SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD
January 1, 2020

ALL SAINT'S DAY
November 1, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF THE
ASCENSION OF JESUS
May 21, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
December 8, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
August 15, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
December 25, 2020



**OUR LADY OF THE
WAYSIDE PARISH**

434 W Park St
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
(847) 253-5353
olwparish.org