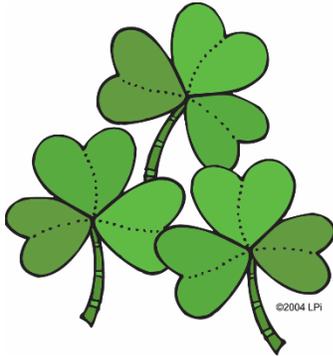


ST. PATRICK'S - ERIN Year End Financials 2015-2016



If you are reading this, chances are you have already seen the Annual Parish Report for 2015-2016. Was your eye drawn to the \$5,013 surplus? St. Patrick's can be very proud of this accomplishment! So how did we get there? What did we accomplish? What are we going to do with the surplus?

First of all, let's breakdown the parish by its programs to get each of their year-end results.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Church	\$ 5,073	\$ 598
Rectory	(40)	Balanced
Catholic Formation	(72)	Balanced
Cemetery	52	Balanced
St. Mary School	4,519	\$(107,083)

Let's talk about the Church first. If you were watching the bulletin during the course of the year, you probably noticed that we had a surplus showing for the Adult and Youth Giving plus the Loose collections. At year end this amounted to \$7,539. Although we had a surplus in giving, we covered the two small deficits for the rectory and the Catholic Formation program, and some additional expenses, most in the wage and benefit area.

Most of you know that the Rectory has a Maintenance Checkbook. Each month St. Patrick's contributes \$125 and Immaculate Conception contributes \$375 to this checkbook to pay for expenses which help in the maintenance of the rectory. Typically, the two churches pay for the Utilities and the Property Insurance. The checkbook pays for the Equipment Maintenance, Mowing, Contracted Services (which include the service agreements for the Heating and Air Conditioning). This leaves the balance which can be used by the pastor and parish for upkeep of the house and grounds. This being Fr. John's first year, he purchased blinds to replace the old curtains, got a good deal on some estate furniture, a new mattress, and lots of little odds and ends, replacing things that were worn out, or were just needed to be able to live day to day. That still left a balance of about \$8,225 at year's end. This money is kept for upcoming big projects or remodeling that needs to be done. The plan is to replace the carpeting with wood floors. Since it has been about 15 years since the carpeting was replaced, this is much needed!

Catholic Formation had a very busy year, as you are well aware of, if you have children in the program, and have been following the articles in the bulletin. As was mentioned in the Parish Annual Report, we had teens going to the National Catholic Youth Conference for the first time ever! And once again we had several teens and adults from St. Patrick's that participated in the

Workcamp Mission Trip. What a great experience for all! This investment of time and money in our young adults is an investment in the future of the Church!

Sundays saw our youth Grades K-8 at Sunday School before Mass. Each little group is so active and excited about learning their faith. Many thanks to Jody Lenz, the volunteer who directs our Catholic Formation program for this group, with help from the staff at IC. AND MANY THANKS to the volunteers that take the time to be catechists and leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Plans for the future? The biggest exciting thing is the development of a Youth Ministry program to be shared between the two parishes. We have a great new Youth Minister hired in our own Kendra Mitchell. This program can really take our parishes to the next level, taking what has been learned by the head in the classroom, to the heart in practice for the rest of the student's lives. In order to support this program and all that we hope to accomplish, volunteers are needed to help, and donations for the various trips and materials are requested. You can make a BIG DIFFERENCE with a small amount of time and a donation of one sort or another.

The Cemetery – One of the goals for every parish is to get the cemetery to being self-sufficient financially. That is why the state requires every cemetery (not just Catholic cemeteries) to have a Perpetual Care Fund. We are required to put at least \$25 or 15% of every sale of a lot in the Perpetual Care Fund, to be considered as principal which can never be spent. The earnings may be used to pay cemetery expenses, but never the principal. Here at St. Patrick's, we have made a practice of putting ½ of the sale of each lot into the Perpetual Care, along with the \$50 fee received when a person is buried. At present, we have been pulling some earnings from our Perpetual Care Investments to pay cemetery expenses. Though we can use half of the sale of a lot to pay current expenses, this along with the earnings we have pulled have not been sufficient to pay all the cemetery expenses. The largest expenses for the cemetery are the mowing and care of the grounds. The Church subsidized the Cemetery \$8,800 this past year.

St. Mary School - Above you will have noticed that the St. Mary School year end financials are shown. Although St. Mary School budget is not a part of St. Patrick's budget, St. Patrick's continues to gift the school \$1,000 per year for each St. Patrick's student that attends there. In 2015-2016 we had 16 students attending St. Mary School (Grades K-8), and in 2016-2017 we have 18 students in attendance. St. Mary School had really good news for this past year! The school had budgeted for a \$107,083 Deficit for 2015-2016. This deficit was planned to be covered by restricted and unrestricted gifts that had been set aside from past years. As mentioned last year, these funds were seen as seed money to invest in the future of the School. Many things played into the financial (and educational and faith filled) success of the 2015-2016 school year. Having a re-invigorated vision and support from a new pastor and a new principal certainly helped all to get excited in a new way for the school. Enrollment increased in the K-8 program, in the NR4YK (PreK) program, and our Child Care programs. Wages were reduced by job sharing. All of these things played together to give St. Mary School a bottom line surplus of \$4,519. Some Restricted Gifts that were given for specific purposes were used for the intention they were given and budgeted for, but overall, no additional money was used up. This leaves the school with a cushion should they have a lean year in the future.

All of the schools across the diocese are participating in a “Strategic Management and Development Process” which was funded for all schools by a grant. This is a four year process, whereby all aspects of a Catholic School are examined in the light of the current environment in which today’s families live, what their expectations are for education in a Catholic school, and how to meet those expectations, while being financially sound. Hours and hours of time were given to complete analysis of history, and present practices. The first year focused on reviewing foundational documents while reviewing and/or initiating strategic planning processes and goals which include comprehensive enrollment management programs. The second year continues what is started in the first year, and really takes a look at a comprehensive communication program which includes how we market our school through all of the pieces of information that leave our building. This is to be the year that the school will begin to publish quarterly newsletters to its stakeholders. Year three continues to work at what has been established in the first two years, while designing and implementing a comprehensive annual fund drive, which will contribute to the stability of the school financially, as well as enable the school to initiate programming for the most current educational practices. Year four draws the previous three years altogether, and finally allows the school to design and customize a planned gift program to fund (or in St. Mary School case, to grow) the school endowment fund. This extensive planning process is meant to help our school grow into a successful future!

The above is what we did in 2015-2016 financially and what we have accomplished with those dollars. The last question to answer is: “What are we going to do with the surplus?”

Two major projects have been discussed this past year. The first is the renovation of the Cemetery. Many headstones are falling over and need either straightening up or a foundation applied underneath and straightening up. In either case, big equipment needs to be brought into the cemetery to complete the work. Quotes are being solicited with the decision to be made to renovate the cemetery in pieces, or to tackle the whole project at once. Cost will steer this decision.

The second project, which you have already seen completed, is the paving of the parking lot. St. Patrick’s had received \$18,680 in refunds from the Diocesan Faith in Our Future Campaign to date, which began in 2013. Some of this money had been used for Capital Improvements in the past three years (Ex: some of the cost of the sidewalk repairs this spring), but most of it will be applied to the cost of the parking lot (est total cost - \$41,145). We have been lucky enough to have received (2) \$10,000 gifts in the past two years. So part of the surplus from this year will help cover the balance of what is owed on the parking lot. More information will be presented to the parish when the final bills are received.

St. Patrick’s Statue – Many of you have asked about our St. Patrick’s Statue that seems to be shedding its outer layer of paint. Because the statue is more or less permanently fastened to the concrete, matching paint has been sent by the company to repair the damage. We are going to let the statue make it another winter to see if more paint comes off and then take care of re-painting next spring.

In the Annual Parish Report, I had mentioned that there is much to the financial detail in what it takes to run our church and its programs from year to year. We not only use your generous dollars to function today, but we plan for a successful and faith-filled future. Please continue in your financial support of St. Patrick's, and I pledge that we will do the best we can to accomplish all that you hope for in bringing Christ's message to all people.

If you have any questions regarding the finances, please feel free to call me at 715-246-4652 Ext. 224, or email me at jo.germain@frontiernet.net.

Jo Germain
Business Manager
10/25/16