

"One of the great challenges facing the Church in this generation is to foster in all the faithful a sense of personal responsibility for the Church's mission." Pope Francis

CHURCH OF SAINT ROSE

603 Seventh Avenue

Belmar, New Jersey 07719

Phone: (732) 681-0512 Fax: (732) 280-3107

Web: www.strosebelmar.com



November 22, 2016

Dear Parishioners of St. Rose,

Praise be Jesus Christ now and forever!

As parishioners of St. Rose Church we all bear a responsibility for our mission. Our parish mission statement reads: *"Gathered in the Holy Spirit and empowered by the Holy Eucharist, the Catholic Community of St. Rose embraces our mission to know and to teach our faith, to proclaim and witness the Gospel through Word, Sacrament, and Prayer and to serve others with hope and love as disciples of Jesus Christ."*

As we reflect on both our mission and the call from our Pope, we must remain dedicated to providing the resources to our Church so that we can accomplish our mission with mercy, love and hope.

This insert is a summary of our Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. During this past year we participated in two extraordinary Diocesan programs, Faith to Move Mountains and Faith in our Future. Initiated by our own Bishop David O'Connell, these programs were started to provide a foundation for the future of the Diocese going forward and in turn to chart a plan for our own parish over the next 5-10 years.

The ***Faith to Move Mountains*** campaign is an endowment campaign to raise critical funds to provide the long-term, sustainable endowments needed to strengthen our parishes and Catholic schools; support our seminarians, deacons, and retired priests; grow our educational offerings; and enhance our social services. Our parish was extraordinarily generous and we raised \$926,468 which was 112% of our goal toward the campaign, approximately 30% of which will be returned to our parish. We have already received \$65,000 and have completely renovated the church front steps including the lighting. We still have some projects left, namely an increase in evangelization programs, renovations in the convent and support of our grammar and high school. We sincerely thank all of you who pledged your financial support.

Faith in Our Future is a process through which the Diocese of Trenton, its parishes and ministries, will plan to meet challenges and respond to new opportunities for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ for years to come. Our cohort includes St. Catherine & St. Margaret, St. Mark's, St. Elizabeth's and Ascension Parish. The cohort submitted their report to the Diocesan Planning Commission and the Commission's recommendations have been submitted to the Bishop. He will take those recommendations and consult with the priests of the Diocese and make his decision over the Christmas Season. We thank all those parishioners who wrote in, attended meetings and otherwise participated in this crucial process. We pray that the Bishop will receive guidance from the Holy Spirit during his deliberations.

This past year was a very good year due to two separate reasons. Our grammar school enrollment gained more than 80 new students, due to our own marketing efforts and the closing of St. Denis School in Manasquan. While we certainly lament the closing of any Catholic School, we made a special effort to welcome their students and make them feel at home. With the increase in enrollment, the parish did not have to subsidize the school to the extent it did in 2014-2015.

We are also very grateful for an anonymous donor contributing \$250,000 to our parish. We have set this donation aside in a separate account and hope to be able to add to that account over the coming years. We are indeed blessed. You will not see this donation on the attached financials since it is not ordinary income.

Our St. Joseph the Worker account continues to grow due to your generous donations as well. This account was established to provide funds for capital expenditures. We have used this money to replace windows in the convent, repair our church's slate roof, paint the interior of the church and replace an air conditioning unit at the grammar school. This fund is an integral part of the overall foundation of financial stability for the parish.

Going forward, some questions for you to consider: Just as your household expenses have increased over this past year, so have the church's expenses. When was the last time you evaluated your offertory giving? Are you still writing the same check every week over the last several years? Could you manage a small increase, 10% perhaps, in your weekly giving?

Have you considered our automatic debit program through Parish Pay? It debits your account weekly or monthly for whatever amount you choose and no looking for envelopes on Sunday morning! **Parish Pay** helps conserve resources, and also provides a steady monthly income to sustain church ministries. Parish Pay is great stewardship! And it uses the strictest safe and secure protocols available. Visit our website for the link. www.strosebelmar.com

The Finance Council continues to safeguard your donations and spend them as judiciously as possible. They strive in all of their deliberations to put the less fortunate at the forefront of everything they do. With pastoral guidance and continuous prayers they are honored with the responsibility and take it very seriously.

In summary, the good news is last year we had revenues exceeding expenditures and improved our financial standing over the previous year. We're in stable financial condition due to your generosity and commitment to your church. I am grateful for your loyalty and stewardship to St. Rose Parish, and with an assurance of my continued prayers for you and your family, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ,

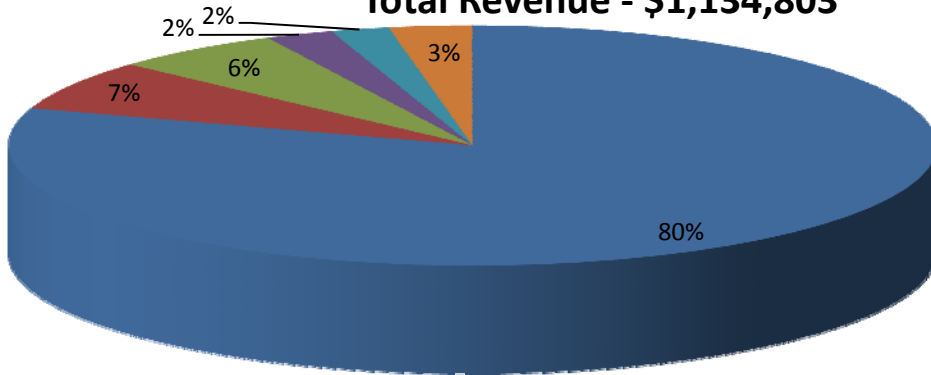
Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Arnister, Pastor

Finance Council Members:

Dennis Buchanan, Chair, Bill Pasko, Trustee, Bob Jenkins, Trustee, Marygrace Pesce, Tom Mullooly, Fred Curry, Claire Deicke, Karen Shelton and Bill Harkins

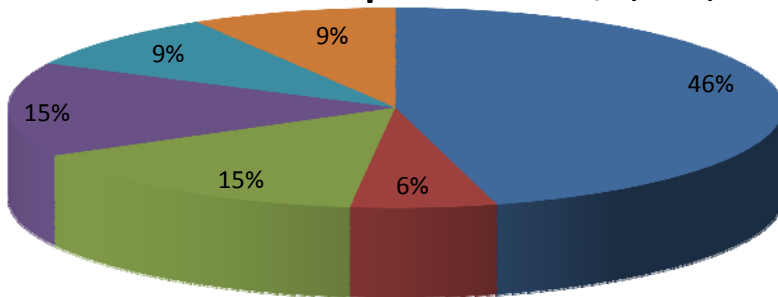
This financial report will be posted on our website www.strosebelmar.com and will be emailed to our parishioners through Flocknote. If you would like to receive it by email, go to flocknote.com and sign up.

**Church of Saint Rose
Revenues
July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016
Total Revenue - \$1,134,803**



- Weekly and Other Special Collections 80%
- Grammar School Support 7%
- Parish Programs 6%
- Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals 2%
- Catholic Appeal Rebate 2%
- Donations and Bequests 3%

**Church of Saint Rose
Expenditures
July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016
Total Expenditures - \$1,067,633**



- Salaries and Benefits for Clergy and Staff 46%
- Grammar School Support 6%
- Operating Exp. And Utilities 15%
- Building and Grounds 15%
- Diocesan Assessment 9%
- Parish Programs and Other Support 9%

