

ANNUAL REPORT



2025-2026



You hold in your hands a snapshot of this past year at St. John Paul II and in the Pastorate as a whole. While numbers can tell a story, the real story is told by each of you, as you make your journey of faith alongside the other members of our parish. For some of you, this has been a year of blessings and celebrations. For others, it has been a year of struggle and sacrifices. Either way, it is always my hope that you have found Christ in the midst of your circumstances and that we as a parish and a Pastorate have accompanied you along the way.

As you all know, this year we were given permission by Bishop DeGrood to move forward with the building of a church dedicated to St. John Paul II. This has been long in the works, and while we still have work to do, it is an exciting time not only for our parish and Pastorate, but for the Diocese as a whole. As with all things, prayer must be our foundation, and so I ask all of you to continue to pray for God's Will in this great endeavor.

I am grateful for so many of you who have been on this journey since day one and are still ready to see this project through. Your tenacity and dedication are an inspiration to all of us on staff. For those of you who may be new to our parish, we welcome you and look forward to seeing how God uses your gifts and talents to continue the mission of making disciples of Christ.

Thanks to our amazing Faith Formation Team, we have been able to offer so many more opportunities for individual and family formation throughout our parishes.

It has been exciting to visit with parishioners who are coming to appreciate all our Catholic faith has to offer. Even without our permanent home, we still have a sense of community that transcends our buildings.

Thank you for all you do to make St. John Paul II and the Pastorate a vibrant place of faith where people of all ages and walks of life can come together to worship the Lord, celebrate the Sacraments, and build friendships that will last into eternity.

Your Pastor in Christ,



We are grateful for the many years of service Fr. Mark Lichter provided to our Pastorate as he retired after more than 3 decades of service for the church.

SET ABLAZE

2025-2026 INITIATIVES

As per Set Ablaze and Bishop DeGrood, the Pastorate creates initiatives to achieve each year. While the Pastorate accomplished many initiatives over the year, here are a few highlights from 2025-2026.

WORSHIP INITIATIVE

Barbara Workman was hired as a part-time Liturgy Coordinator, and she has been in the position for about 5 months now. She works to assist in coordinating volunteers and special liturgy events.

DISCIPLESHP & EVANGELIZATION INITIATIVE

The Religious Education program was consolidated into a single program on Wednesday evenings throughout the Pastorate. Family nights and large group events are at Christ the King, and traditional Religious Education classes are at St. Mary. A Family Formation experience is now offered once a month after Sunday Mass at St. John Paul II, and the curriculum was modified to offer an at-home faith formation opportunity.

SCHOOL INITIATIVE

The school system was given a full page in the bulletin, and parish events are actively promoted to school families. The clergy regularly spend time at O'Gorman High School and Junior High events to help our students understand their connection to their parish, not just O'Gorman.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Parishioners hosted Guess Who's Coming to Dinner events at Christ the King and St. Mary. The Pastorate hosted a Trivia Night at Christ the King, which brought many different members of the community together. Parishioners were encouraged to meet their neighbors in the pews, and this has been going well so far.

SERVICE INITIATIVE

Parishioners were recruited from across the Pastorate to help the homebound and nursing home ministries in close collaboration with Lora Pelzer. Many parishioners will be invited to volunteer as assistants at Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, beginning this year at St. Mary.





FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

	Actual 2025-2026	Budget 2025-2026	Budget 2026-2027
Regular Offerings	\$313,561.14	\$353,196.59	\$321,800.00
Stipends and Stole Fees	\$2,008.54	\$1,416.00	\$2,020.00
Faith Formation	\$19,206.37	\$16,883.70	\$17,580.00
Parish Facilities Income	-	-	-
Interest and Investments Income	\$6,622.98	\$5,049.48	\$66.00
Bequests, Memorials, & other Donations	\$2,499.19	-	\$800.00
Other Income:			
Interest Income on Building Accounts	\$37,835.66	\$35,000.00	\$36,093.00
Total Income:	\$381,733.88	\$411,545.77	\$378,359.00

EXPENSES

	Actual 2025-2026	Budget 2025-2026	Budget 2026-2027
Salaries and Wages	\$162,621.84	\$165,306.99	\$190,230.67
Taxes and Benefits	\$40,678.23	\$45,977.67	\$44,830.47
Professional Expenses	\$34,032.48	\$34,889.40	\$2,343.31
Liturgical Expenses	\$12,254.35	\$13,082.91	\$11,811.22
Office Expenses	\$11,110.30	\$10,782.15	\$9,862.66
Faith Formation (Does Not Include Wages)	\$12,196.25	\$20,846.90	\$16,737.26
Parish Facilities Expenses	\$66,881.58	\$56,150.69	\$70,545.08
Other Expenses	\$11,740.03	\$10,050.00	\$2,433.21
CFSA Expense to meet goal	\$25,215.89	\$28,750.00	\$26,900.00
Total Expenses:	\$376,730.95	\$385,836.71	\$375,693.88
Net Income/(Expense)	\$5,002.93	\$25,709.06	\$2,665.12

Empty Nesters

Sara Holt

We enjoyed meeting everyone at the Empty Nester event who were going through the same thing that we were. It was nice to hear everyone's stories and journeys. We found that after our kids had all gone off to college, we didn't have to buy as much food, and we had more flexibility. We also realized that we actually still really liked hanging out just the 2 of us. Also, the kids seem to be more appreciative when they are home. Especially with the food in the fridge that they didn't have to buy! When we run into other couples who were at the Empty Nester event, it is nice to catch up and ask how life is going and how their kids are doing. It was a great way to meet new people in our Pastorate as well. We are very appreciative that Divine Mercy Pastorate saw this need and supported us during this time. Empty nesting isn't so bad!



Culture of Life Committee



Lori Skinner and the Culture of Life Committee

Originally formed to pray for the end of abortion, St. Mary's Culture of Life Committee (CLC) has evolved to promote respect for all aspects of human life. The committee's mission is to pray, educate, and serve the Pastorate and the community by promoting a culture of life from conception to life's natural end.

Pray: In 2026, the committee joined the Knights of Columbus's monthly rosary. This Rosary for Life includes prayers for the unborn, mystery meditations for various aspects of human life, and concludes with a litany for life. Prayer is also part of every CLC educational program.

Educate: Through its Speaker Series, CLC has presented topics like human trafficking (Fall 2025) and the rosary (Spring 2026). Its most successful event, "Beads of Grace: Reflecting on the Power of the Rosary," featuring Fr. Mark Lichter, drew 100 attendees, including some from the Pastorate's OCIA continuing formation. In October, CLC will be presenting an Internet Safety program to help keep tweens and teens safe online.

Serve: The committee organizes activities such as Spiritual Adoption (parishioners pray for an unborn baby in danger of abortion), Baby Bottle Fundraiser (Mother Teresa Endowment Fund supporting low-income mothers), and providing blankets for newly baptized babies. In 2026, \$12,443.87 was raised from the Baby Bottle Fundraiser.

Thanks to the Pastorate model, CLC gains support for its mission from the communications staff, religious education, and three priests. Programs receive more exposure with announcements in three bulletins. Additionally, Pastorate-wide events have made parishioners from all three parishes feel comfortable attending other events at any location.

To join the planning committee or volunteer for events, please contact Jeanne at cultureoflife@divinemicysf.org. All are also welcome to join the Knights and CLC in praying the Rosary for Life on the second Monday of each month at 5:30 PM at St. Mary.



**"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER
IN MY NAME, THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM."**

Matthew 18:20



THE NUMBERS

Here at St. John Paul II, God has graced us with a parish community that is alive and growing. See a snapshot of the parish's sacramental life in the numbers below.

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

313 Registered Families

193 Families
Contributed Financially

120 Families
Did Not Contribute
Financially

BAPTISMS



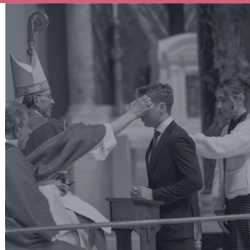
10

19



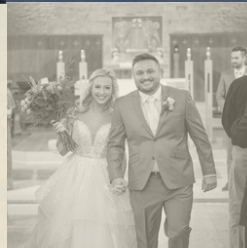
FIRST
COMMUNIONS

CONFIRMATIONS



10

1



WEDDING

† INTO ETERNAL LIFE 4



YOUTH STATISTICS

ADULT
CATECHISTS



6

130



RELIGIOUS ED
STUDENTS
PRE-K - 12TH GRADE

CATHOLIC
SCHOOL
STUDENTS
PRE-K - 12TH GRADE



10

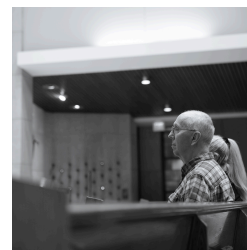
244



NON-RE OR
CATHOLIC
SCHOOL
STUDENTS

TOTAL YOUTH IN PARISH

384



THE PASTORATE NUMBERS

The Pastorate hopes that each parishioner at St. John Paul II comes to know that they are a part of something larger than just their own parish and part of the Divine Mercy Pastorate family, along with Christ the King and St. Mary.

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

2,216 Registered Families

1,451 Families
Contributed Financially

765 Families
Did Not Contribute
Financially

BAPTISMS

94

94

FIRST
COMMUNIONS

CONFIRMATIONS

67

32

WEDDINGS

OCIA
(ORDER OF CHRISTIAN
INITIATION OF ADULTS)

20

32

ADULT
CATECHISTS

RELIGIOUS ED
STUDENTS
PRE-K - 12TH GRADE

222

787

CATHOLIC SCHOOL
STUDENTS
PRE-K - 12TH GRADE

NON-RE OR
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
STUDENTS

775

† INTO ETERNAL LIFE 51

MINISTRIES AT WORK IN THE PASTORATE

The Eucharist: The Heart of the Home



Deacon Peter Cote

The Divine Mercy Pastorate's ministry to the area's long-term care facilities and to the homebound is the quintessential ministry of Communion. Primarily, of course, it is communion with the living Presence of His Divine Majesty in the Blessed Sacrament, but it is also communion with His entire Church. *"Where two or three gather in my name,"* says Jesus, *"there I am among them"* (Mt 18:20). The Head (Jesus) and the Body (Church) must be inseparable, or the body is dead. But the saying is also worth remembering: if you drink from the stream, you drink from the source. In other words, if one extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, on

behalf of the Church, visits another member of the Body who is homebound or facility-bound; then the whole Church is in the visit, and the Communion among them is a transcendent intimacy of God's own design.

Admittedly, the whole cosmic reality of what I'm doing is not usually on my mind when I bring the Blessed Sacrament to someone who cannot attend Mass. But if there's love, then I'm not too worried about my limitations. And love is palpable when you bring Him with you. Asked to describe her experience in this role, one Eucharistic Minister had difficulty expressing it in words: "It's overwhelming," she said. "The people are so grateful!"

The heavenly gift we bring inspires gratitude to those who welcome Him and yet, moved by the profound experience, we, the ministers, become the grateful ones, so that the bringers become receivers and the receivers, the bringers. It's a beautiful, dynamic joining brought to life through the Body of Christ, and it speaks to what every human heart ultimately desires—whether conscious of it or not—and the glorious end for which it was made: intimate communion with the Triune God.

Given all this, I suppose that "overwhelming" is the most fitting expression of what happens in this humble gathering of the Church in private residences or nursing facilities where two or three (or more) are joined in love, gratitude, and communion with the God who promised to be among them.

MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

As missionary disciples, our staff is here to help each of you encounter Jesus Christ in a real and tangible way. Whether that is registering for Religious Education, spiritual guidance, or ways to volunteer in the church, each of our staff members comes equipped with a wealth of knowledge and experience. We are here for you!

For contact information for our staff, please visit divinemercysf.org/staff-contact.



Fr. Paul Rutten
Pastor



Nancy Werner
Director of Discipleship
& Evangelization



Bryn Devlin
Coordinator of
Youth Ministry



Rachel Mueller
Coordinator of
Family Discipleship



Fr. Jacob Doty
Parochial Vicar



Justine Olawsky
Director of
Catechesis



Lora Pelzer
Coordinator of
Pastorate Outreach



Fr. Alex Leschisin
Parochial Vicar



Hannah Flaten
Coordinator of
Youth Discipleship



Helen Hogue
Director of
Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd



Glenn Ridder
Deacon



Kara Magee
Director of St. Patrick
Newman Club



Peter Cote
Deacon



Drake Bachmeier
St. Mary Elementary
Principal

STAFF
MISSIONARY DISCIPLES





James Carrell
*Director of
Communications*



Harlie Hacecky
*Executive
Assistant*



David Siemonsma
Facilities Manager



Becky Dobbs
*CTK Music
Director*



Maggie Lynch
*Communications
Assistant*



Tonia Thoof
Accountant



Adam Lange
Facilities Technician



Paul Moneke
JP2 Music Director



Jan Lenz
Accountant



Zach Long
Maintenance Technician



Kevin Humke
*St. Mary
Music Director*



Martin Lopez
Custodian



Diana Kappen
*Director of
Weddings and Funerals*



Barbara Workman
Worship Coordinator

Pastorate Pastoral Council

- *Danny Kroeze*
- *Brooke White*
- *Beth Noonan*
- *Aaron Aylward*
- *Brianna Stearns*
- *Sara Norstrom*
- *Mary Wuebben*
- *Rich Korman*
- *Deacon Ridder*
- *Ellen Stoll*
- *John Kramer*
- *Matt Mueller*
- *Nancy Werner*

St. John Paul II Finance Council

- *Fr. Paul Rutten*
- *Patrick Foley*
- *Sara Norstrom*
- *Per Ostrem*
- *Rob Hall*
- *Brenda Hudson*



ST. JOHN PAUL II

MASS TIMES

WEEKEND

Saturday 4:30 PM
Shalom Lutheran
Sunday 9:30 AM
*Harrisburg
South Middle School*

DAILY MASS

Tuesday 5:30 PM
Christ the King
Thursday 8:00 AM
St. Mary

PASTORATE MASS TIMES



WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM
10:00 AM

DAILY MASS

Wednesday 7:00 AM
Thursday 7:00 AM
Friday 7:00 AM



WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM
11:00 AM

DAILY MASS

Tuesday 8:00 AM
Wednesday 8:00 AM
(summer)
8:30 AM
(school year)
Friday 7:00 AM

ADORATION

St. Mary:
Wednesday after Mass - 3:00 PM
Christ the King:
Thursday 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM



Scan the QR
code to sign up
for an adoration
time slot!

CONFESSION

St. John Paul II:
Saturday 3:30 PM
Shalom Lutheran

ST. JOHN PAUL II GIVING

Online Giving



Scan the QR code
to make a one-
time gift or to set
up a recurring gift.

Collection Envelopes

Please contact the office
if you would like to
receive envelopes for
weekly giving.

605-988-3750

LET US PRAY

LOVING FATHER, We gather as a community beneath the mantle of Your Divine Mercy, seeking Your limitless love and forgiveness. May Your Mercy overflow within our pastorate, filling every heart with peace and joy.

JESUS, OUR SAVIOR, you revealed to us the depths of your Mercy through your passion, death, and resurrection. Grant us the grace to imitate Your Mercy in our daily lives, reaching out to those in need, forgiving those who have wronged us, and spreading Your message of love and reconciliation.

HOLY SPIRIT, fount of all grace, guide us in our mission to radiate Your Mercy within our pastorate and beyond. Assist us in welcoming all with open hearts and arms, exhibiting to them the same love and compassion You have bestowed on us.

Bless our pastorate, O Lord, with unity, peace, and joy, as we strive to live out the message of Divine Mercy in our words and actions. May your Mercy transform us and lead us ever closer to you.

Through Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

