St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church

The Winged Lion

SEPTEMBER 2021

A MESSAGE from Msgr. Kevin Ryan

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

02 ANNUAL REPORT

06 SPECIAL NEEDS FAITH FORMATION

07 MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

"…there is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'" – Abraham Kuyper

My Dear People,

Our Winged Lion this month includes our annual report for Fiscal Year 20-21. It demonstrates how we, as a faith community, have acted a missionary disciples and stewards of the gifts God has bestowed upon us. You will also find articles attesting to how our volunteers and staff have dedicated themselves to provide discipleship to our faith community.

We, as a St. Mark parish community, are hoping to revive our commitment to whole-life missionary discipleship. Millions of Catholics are "Christians" for only an hour a week. Christianity is something they do on Saturday afternoon or Sunday rather than a way of life. This withering of discipleship is one of the gravest threats facing the Catholic Church today.

Stewardship is an expression of this discipleship, with the power to change how we understand and live out our lives with others. Christian stewardship, therefore, applies to everything - all personal talents, abilities, and wealth; the local, national, and worldwide environment; all human and natural resources wherever they are; the economic order; governmental affairs; and even outer space. The biblical model of stewardship encompasses how we evangelize our neighbor. Whatever you do, Paul says in Colossians 3:23-24, work heartily, because whatever you do you are serving the Lord Christ! Our individual discipleship, our St. Mark Community, and evangelization to society at large should reflect the theology of stewardship and discipleship. We must reintegrate our model of discipleship with the call to cultivate all we touch.

Our year ahead is going to be a year of returning to our mission and returning to an attitude of missionary discipleship. I invite you, as people transformed by the Eucharist, to carry the Gospel into the world in your daily lives through word and action.

Msgr Kevin E. Ryan

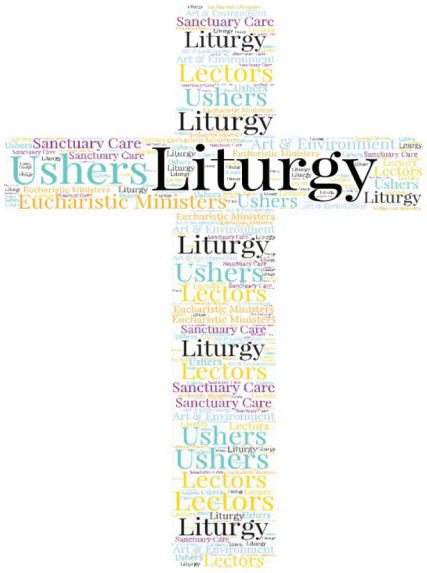
Annual Report
July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

PASTORAL OFFICE

* Celebrated Msgr. Kevin's 75th Birthday with Mass and drive-by parade
* Parishioner Father Ian Robbins celebrated Mass at St. Mark for the first time
* Responded to numerous requests for annointings for ill parishioners and their families
* Responded to numerous requests for prayers
* Finance Council met virtually and in person monthly
* Emailed 1801 *Winged Lion* each month; mailed 32,400 over 12 months
* Over 700 social media posts
* 52 Individual bulletins produced, 300-500 weekly quantitiy reduced from 2000
* Suspended 50+ volunteer money counters and bulletin stuffers
* Regular office hours were reinstituted
* Daily sanitization of Day Chapel, Main Sanctuary, Sunday Offices, Restrooms, Adoration Chapel
* Used internal maintenance staff to complete numerous deferred maintenance projects to reduce expenses
* Internal maintenance staff took on the role of groundskeeping for parish plant
* 2 Staff development days
* Welcomed 81 new families into the parish
* Ministry Fair was cancelled
* Added Christmas, Palm Sunday, and Easter Mass overflow to West Campus Event Center to maintain safety
* Facilitated 545 Zoom meetings with 3907 participants lasting 208,476 minutes
* Begin a weekly newsletter reaching out to all parishioners with known emails

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

* 1 Eagle Scout Project Completed
* 3 young men achieved Eagle Scout Status
* Men's retreat
* Women's retreat
* 628 Prayer Shawls, Lapghans, and Preemie caps made, 136 disbursed
* 1800 Rosaries made
* 9 Scholarships Awarded
* 4 Blood Drives
* Golf Tournament
* Chicken BBQ & Fish Fry Returned
* Trash & Treasure Sale; Book Sale

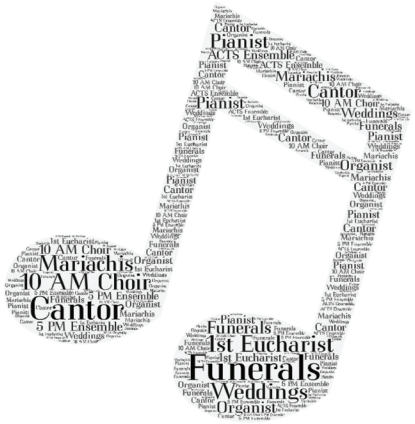


LITURGY TEAM

* Hosted Convocation Mass for Archdiocesesan Catholic Schools, special Mass for the Federation of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Gary Janak, Chrism Mass, Permanent Diaconate Ordination, Graduation Mass of St. John Paul, II Catholic High School, and Graduation Mass for Incarnate Word High School
* Home visits to those families who have experienced a death in the family
* Very limited but extremely helpful volunteers
* 68 Funeral Services
* Livestreamed 278 Masses
* Video Taped 18 Masses over a period of 18 weeks
* Reinstated full Mass attendance
* Total physical Mass attendance 50,706 and 95,116 virtually
*Average cost of Mass $815.90

MUSIC MINISTRY

* Yvonne Cosgrove Concert Series
Samuel Gaskin (organ) and Joshua Bryant (saxophone) | November 2020, David Kauffman and Friends | Lenten Mission Concert 2021, Bell Pepper Trio | March 2021
* 2020 - 2021 Covid Musician Contributions
Various Cantors and Accompanists
10am Choir, Spanish Choir, Violins, and Flute, Cellists Basel Sarweh and Ian Martin, Cathy & John Nix, Samuel Gaskin, and Thomas Buley
* Coverage over all Weddings, Funerals, Holy Days of Obligation, and other Liturgies
* Continued improvement of Sunday & weekday livestreams
* Provided Support For Rite of Election (February 2021), Chrism Mass (March 2021), Installation Mass of Bishop Gary Janak (April 2021), and Diaconate Ordination (June 2021)



ST. MARK CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL

* Celebrated 41st Anniversary of School
* 66 Students enrolled
* 11 Teachers
* 0 Substitute Teachers
* Staff meets bi-weekly
* Met 158 school days
* 36 Movement & Music Classes
* SMCP Staff worked collaboratively to assemble and distribute curriculum enrichment activities. Components of faith enrichment were found in the Grandparents celebration, Christmas, Valentine Day, Easter activities, Mother's Day, May Crowning, and Father's Day crafts and prayer cards.

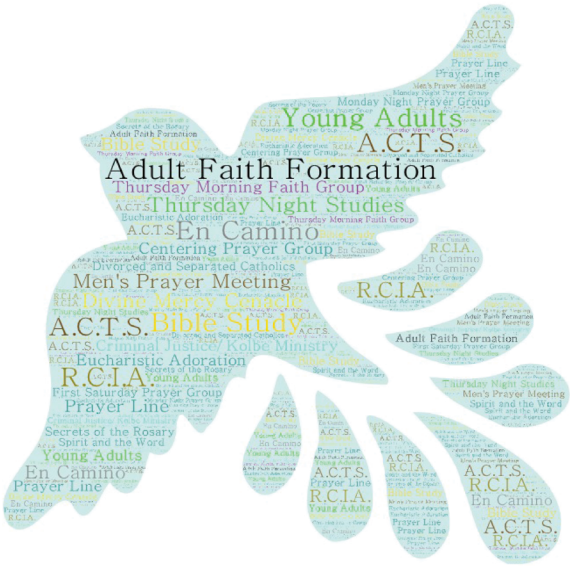
CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

* 230 Children Enrolled
* 25 Online lessons in pandemic
* 82 Children receiving sacraments of Reconciliation and 60 First Eucharist
* 93 Children participated in VBS
* Sacraments of Reconciliation and Firs Eucharist homeschool currriculum
* 5 Baptismal Preparation Classes
* 77 Children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism

YOUTH MINISTRY

* 13 Edge Core Team Members
* 35 Edge Participants
* 24 LifeTeen Core Team Members
* 88 LifeTeen Participants
* 40 Students in Theology of the Body
* 7 Theology of the Body Core Team Members
* 1 Spring Retreat
* 37 High School Students prepared for Confirmation
* 12 Confirmation Core Team Members
* In pandemic Global Life Nights were presented virtually to all students
* Christmas Carol Drive Through Shower for Mary
* Fall Faith Formation Virtual
* Spring Faith Formation in Person
* Students attend Steubenville Youth Conference in Dallas

ADULT FAITH FORMATION



* 10 Adults receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation
* 30 Students enrolled in To Know What We Ought to Believe taught by Carmen Frankel and Paul Vance
* 29 Full entry into the Catholic Church through R.C.I.A. at the Easter Vigil Service 2021 and a private service in July 2020
* Bible Study postponed until Fall 2021

FY 2021 INCOME STATEMENT

FY 2021 INCOME

ITEM	BUDGET	ACTUAL	TOTAL
COLLECTIONS (SUNDAY & HOLY DAYS)	$2,410,000	$2,202,425	($207,575)
PIPE ORGAN INSTALLATION	$25,000	$14,329	($10,671)
GENERAL DONATIONS	$110,010	$78,809	($31,201)
FAITH FORMATION	$196,650	$14,114	($182,536)
YOUTH MINISTRY	$ 123,305	$11,415	($111,890)
RENTAL INCOME	$6,500	$16,500	$10,000
INTEREST INCOME	$2,500	$442	($2,058)
TOTAL	**$2,873,965**	**$2,338,034**	**($535,931)**

FY 2021 EXPENSE

ITEM	BUDGET	ACTUAL	TOTAL
ARCHDIOCESE ASSESSMENT *(13% OF TOTAL INCOME)*	$358,000	$357,896	$104
PROPERTY INSURANCE	$103,000	$109,929	($6,929)
UTILITIES	$164,500	$150,063	$14,437
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	$185,500	$119,564	$65,936
PHYSICAL PLANT	$319,564	$309,767	$9,797
PASTORAL/ADMINISTRATION *(PAYROLL, BENEFITS, VISITING PRIESTS, TRAFFIC CONTROL, I.T.)*	$741,823	$596,911	$144,912
FAITH FORMATION	$277,550	$156,460	$121,090
YOUTH MINISTRY	$296,550	$143,742	$152,808
LITURGY/MUSIC	$283,510	$240,140	$43,370
INTEREST EXPENSE (CAPITOL CAMPAIGN)	$70,000	$47,338	$22,662
LIBRARY	$2,000	$1,069	$931
DONATIONS IN OUR COMMUNITY	$13,900	0	$13,900
TOTAL	**$2,745,897**	**$2,185,541**	**$583,018**

TOTAL NET INCOME/(LOSS) **($47,087)**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Savings Account (As of June 30, 202	$545,904
Pipe Organ Installation Balance	$0
West campus Loan	
Campaign Income	$97,802
Paid on Loan	$138,043
West Campus Loan New Balance	**$1,0 99,122**
Preschool	
Income	$257,733
Expense	$260,666
Net Income/Loss	**($2,933)**
C.Y.O	
Income	$54,361
Expense	$45,112
Net Income/Loss	**$9,249**

Special Needs Faith Formation Begins 20th Year

By Kay Parker

This month of September marks the beginning of our 20th year of Special Needs Faith Formation here at St. Mark the Evangelist! Our program has grown from one classroom ministering to all ages of students with significant learning differences to two classes with a high degree of flexibility to accomodate all ages of students, from beginners with high needs for movement and individualized attention to those who are ready for sacramental preparation in a more traditional classroom setting.

Our emphasis continues to be on meeting the needs of every person who enters our program and the needs of their family. All are welcome to "Come and see!"

Our goal is to integrate each student more fully into the life of our parish faith community. Many of our families have difficulty attending Mass together because of the challenges of a family member with attentional and behavioral challenges. We seek to minister to the needs of such individuals so that they can learn of the love of God for them, participate in faith formation activities individualized for their abilities, and allow their family to attend Mass together.

Our classes are held in the Community Center every Sunday during the 10:00 AM Mass. If appropriate, students can join their family for Holy Communion, to receive a blessing or to receive Jesus in the Eucharist if they have received their First Communion.

Our greatest joy is to see our students become more active in the faith and sacramental life of our parish community!

We do not have age limits to participate in our Special Needs Faith Formation program. For more information contact Rita Cabello at (210) 494-1606, ext. 320.

Kay Parker is one of the Special Needs Teachers at St. Mark the Evangelist.

What Does It Mean To Be A Missionary Disciple?

By Anabel Farrel

St.Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, is blessed to welcome so many people to the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), which includes the Catechumenate for Children (CFC). 'The initiation of catechumens is a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful." (Rite Book p.3) For the team members who facilitate the adult faith formation experience of the people seeking to become Catholic, it is a labor of love! Although supporting the journey of the catechumens and candidates is not just something that a few select people do, instead, it is the responsibility of the entire church community to embrace the role of what Pope Francis calls "missionary disciples."

What does it mean for the parishioners to be "missionary disciples," and what impact does it have for those seeking initiation into the Catholic faith? At the outset, the parish community participates in supporting and nurturing the spiritual growth of the catechumen and candidates. It is another important partner in catechesis. Furthermore, the benefit for the catechumenate is multifaceted. The parishioner's participation through encouragement and outpouring of support helps in the spiritual growth of the seekers and is a powerful contributing factor in forming lifelong disciples.

Even though all of us are called through our baptism to "go forth" and deliver the good news of the Gospel, each one of our catechumens and candidates needs one special person to sponsor and guide them on their spiritual journey. In Guide for Sponsors, author Rev. Ronald J. Lewinski describes a sponsor as a trusted friend or mentor. Therefore, "Your faith becomes transparent in the simple and natural process of accompanying another on a spiritual journey." A sponsor helps the catechumen or candidate develop a relationship with Jesus. Along with the persons they are sponsoring, the sponsors also experience a new spiritual awakening and develop a more intimate relationship with Jesus.

Pope Francis addresses the importance of being a missionary disciple in his Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium, "It is vitally important for the Church today to go forth and preach the Gospel to all: to all places, on all occasions, without hesitation, reluctance or fear." He then wisely adds, "Anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love."

So, what does this all mean for the RCIA lay ministry and the parishioners at St. Mark the Evangelist? Ultimately the RCIA calls The Church to see and to be what it is: "the people of God sent on a world-

shaking and world-transforming mission-evangelizing, witnessing, teaching, serving, healing, dying to self, and rising to new life." The fact is that each of us, by our Baptism, is called to be Priest, Prophet, and King! As Christians, we share the "good news" of the Gospel with all of those we encounter. Pope Francis invites us to "discern the path that the Lord points out" and then boldly answer the Lord's call. When we as individuals and as a church community answer the call, the possibilities for those entrusted to us by God on their spiritual journey are ongoing, and we too gain a deeper insight into just how important it is to be a Christian.

So, what can we do to become a Church that "goes forth?" First, we pray for God's grace when discerning our path. Secondly, we can get involved with individuals seeking to learn more about Catholicism, fallen-away Catholics who have become disinterested in the church, and the forgotten in our society who would benefit from a loving sponsor willing to help reorient their life. Becoming a godparent or sponsor for one of these individuals fulfills the role of a "missionary disciple."

If you feel you are ready to answer the Lord's call boldly or are interested in learning more about becoming a godparent or sponsor, don't hesitate to get in touch with Anne Kemper at 210-494-7434 Extension 329.

Anabel Farrell is an RCIA Core Member at St. Mark the Evangelist.

New Fire! Leading our Teens Closer to Christ

By Madonna Gil

The youth department invites you to enroll in our 2021 – 2022 year of ministry! We are offering many opportunities to get involved for your pre-teens, teens and yourself! Most of our events follow a similar structure. We always begin with a game or activity that teaches as lesson, followed by the teaching on a specific topic. We then discuss this topic together in small groups and allow the youth to ask questions in order to better understand the teaching. We always end with prayer time in which we introduce the teens to many different forms of prayer including: lectio divina, imaginative prayer, the rosary, the divine mercy chaplet, the examen, and Eucharistic adoration. All of our programs have a strong emphasis on participation in the Holy Mass and the sacramental life of our faith. Below, you will find short descriptions of our programs including the days of the week we meet.

Edge Nights enable middle school students to strengthen their knowledge of and relationship with Jesus Christ as well as foster community with their peers.
Who: Middle School Youth **When:** Wednesdays from 6:15-8:00pm
Life Nights are an inviting space for high school students to form community with other young disciples. These dynamic sessions encourage youth to ask questions, find belonging, and participate in the life of the Church.
Who: High School Youth **When:** Wednesdays from 6:15-8:00pm
Summit is a youth Bible study for both middle school and high school students based on the readings from Sunday Mass. Students will gather and encounter the power of God's word, learning how to make their day-to-day a living Gospel.
Who: Middle and High School Youth **When:** Sundays from 3:00-4:30pm
Unleashed is a place of community and mentorship for young people navigating the crossroads of everyday life, modern culture, and the Church's evangelizing mission.
Who: Middle and High School Youth **When:** Sundays from 6:15-8:00pm
The Sacrament of Confirmation
Candidates preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation will be led through a dynamic overview of the core truths of our Catholic faith while entering more fully into the life of our parish family. Our new Confirmation Prep series, My Purpose, will explore deep questions of faith and meaning while seeking to propose answers to three big questions: "Why believe in God?", "Why follow Jesus?", and "Why be a member of the Church?". All candidates will also engage with the parish and wider community through active participation in liturgical worship and engagement in works of mercy.
Volunteer Opportunities
Are you an adult that loves to help in youth ministry? We have many options for you to bring your gifts to the youth ministry department. You might get involved as a catechist, prayer partner, or in countless other important roles! Contact us to ask questions!
For questions on any of our programs or information on how to become a volunteer, contact the office of youth ministry at 210-494-1959.
To register your middle school or high school student, please scan this QR code or visit stmarkym.com

Madonna Gil is the Co-Director of Youth Ministry at St. Mark the Evangelist.

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church

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St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church

The Winged Lion

SEPTEMBER 2021

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Kevin E. Ryan | Pastoral Administrator: Dot Hamlin

Mass Schedule

Saturday	5pm 7:30am,
Sunday	10am,(Livestreamed)
	12 Noon 2pm (Spanish)
	& 5pm
Monday	8:15
Tuesday	6:30 am
Wednesday	8:15 am, 5:00 pm
Thursday	6:30 am
Friday	8:15 am

Communion Services

Monday	8:30 a.m.
Tuesday	8:30 a.m.
Friday	6:30 a.m.

Holy Days

8:15am & 7pm

Eve of Holy Day

7pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30-5pm

Adoration

Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4:45pm

Our mission:
To spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all God's people by word and action.

He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature..."
Mark 16:15

www.stmarkevangelist.com | 210.494.1606