

State of the Parish

2021-2022

SAINT ELEANOR
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saint Eleanor Catholic Church

647 Locust Street, Collegeville, PA 19426 | 610-489-1647 | www.steleanor.com

A MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR

Dear Friends,

It is a blessed privilege to share this State of the Parish report highlighting some of our many ministries, programs, and activities as well as to report on the finances of our amazing parish for fiscal year 2021-2022.

We have made efforts to share this information with you much earlier than in the past so that the information is more timely.Thank you to all those who have collaborated in this effort. Thank you, the active and engaged parish members of this remarkable Catholic community of Saint Eleanor.

This is a truly blessed parish family. Your zeal, commitment to the Faith and to sharing the Faith, your generous and sacrificial contributions attest to the depth of God's love within you and that works through you.

Archbishop Peréz has a wonderful saying that he repeats often. Let us embrace its message as we *Focus on Our Future*: "Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working in you, through you, despite you."

God bless you, God love you,
Monsignor McCulken



2021-2022

REEMERGING THROUGH GRACE

Following nearly two years of unprecedented pandemic protocols and a hesitancy of personal contact and limited interactions, our parish family is reemerging into more and more extensive parish life. We are vibrant and active, hopeful and engaged as we *Focus on Our Future*. This past year allowed a strengthening of full-time worship in our beautiful Church with a noticeable increase in attendance at Mass. Thank you to all our faithful parishioners and families who have shown such marvelous resilience and true fortitude in the face of new and unchartered territory.

The financial report for fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 is included here. We are an amazing parish indeed and the support of our parish family is reflected in the generosity of your donations for the mission and work of the parish as well as for those in need. We continue to *Tithe the Tithe*, setting aside 3% of our Sunday collections for other charitable needs fulfilling the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

In Fall 2020, we took a survey of the parishioners called the Disciple Maker Index. Thanks to all who participated. The information from the survey along with the pastoral report, finances, a review of the parish ministries and other data was prayerfully reviewed by our Envisioning Team leading to three thematic goals or priorities to *Focus on Our Future*. We are beginning to implement our first ~ Forming Missionary Disciples.

But it is important that we draw attention to why our parish exists. Simply put, our parish exists to serve God to serve others and to make disciples in our community. This is the Great Commission that Jesus gave to us just before ascending into Heaven. And we fulfill our discipleship joyfully, being all-in and contagiously faithful as we provide the Sacraments, faith formation, community, and opportunities for spiritual growth to all. We affirm that the anchors for all our planning and decision-making rests on offering a welcoming and hospitable environment, fellowship that develops authentic community, and friendship leading to discipleship. As missionary disciples we seek to win people to Christ, build people in Christ, and send people out for Christ. We invite you to profess Jesus as your Lord personally and join us as we *Focus on Our Future*.

2021-2022

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MINISTRIES

The Church ministries at Saint Eleanor and those participating in them are a living and vital component of living as disciples of Jesus within our parish family. We are truly blessed to have such a diverse array of active ministries, all of whom help make Saint Eleanor amazing.

This year, we again take a moment to share the joyful activity and commitment of several of our ministries. They share their mission and progress in their own words.

We prayerfully hope that everyone will take a moment to read about the blessings, the good works and downright fun of being involved here at Saint Eleanor.



SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRES

CHRISTLIFE

In the Fall of 2021 ChristLife successfully transitioned from Zoom meetings to resume in-person meetings and fellowship. 10 Participants completed the full ChristLife series that Fall. In January 2022 we started Discovering Christ with 30 participants. We held Following Christ in the Spring of 2022 as well.

WALKING WITH PURPOSE

It was exciting to come back together in person beginning last Fall! We started a morning session on Thursdays for moms with young children to attend. We offered our foundational study, Opening Your Heart, for new participants as well as a new study for our returning participants. We had 17 new women join WWP for a total of 50 women between the morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. We also offered the Blaze ministry for teen/tween girls at Holy Cross. We had 13 girls participate in Blaze, in grades 6th through 8th. The girls received practical teaching to help them navigate social media, identity issues, and the drama of friendships.

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

Couples For Christ, just like everyone else, after the 2020 uncertainty hoped and prayed to be able to continue with our work for the glory of God. We are thankful that our Ministry was able to continue with our weekly household/prayer meetings, daily evening Rosary and monthly Family Assembly and teachings, ALL VIRTUALLY! The gift of technology helped the world bring everyone to prayer, no matter what time zone we were in.

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

The Church cleaning crew are very happy to be of service again following the shut down during the pandemic. Our special thanks to Monsignor McCulken for letting us resume.

DIVINE MERCY

The Divine Mercy ministry continues to invite all to come and learn of God's merciful love as revealed to Saint Faustina - with special focus on the theme of the revival of devotion to the Eucharist in the Blessed Sacrament and a living relationship with Jesus. Saint Eleanor parishioners and other local parishes are invited to join devotions held during the year. We are especially looking forward to Saint Faustina's October Feast Day evening service of adoration, benediction and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church with approximately 10 million active members. Saint Eleanor's Mary, Mother of Divine Mercy Praesidium has been given the assignment to visit parish families and visit Catholic residents of two assisted living facilities in our parish; The Landing and Providence Place. Also, at Providence Place, at their request, we lead a rosary each week. Both assisted living facilities have between 20 to 25 Catholic residents. All work assignments are always performed with a partner. During the past year we visited 617 families and made 376 contacts. We are continuing these works in the current year.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Perkiomen Valley Council 3633 of the Knights of Columbus serves the parishes of Saint Eleanor and Saint Mary in Schwenksville with 150+ members. The Council focused on many charitable activities this past year including: the Annual Collection to benefit the Special Olympics raising over $3200. Our golf outing each year donates $6,000 in scholarship funding to two students attending Pope John Paul II High School. We provide donations to the Saint Vincent de Paul organization, A Baby's Breath, Mom's House, Coats for Kids, Little Sisters of the Poor and many more. The Knights provide support to several seminarians each year and distribute a Rose and Rosary to each child baptized at both parishes.

SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRES

SAINT ELEANOR WOMEN'S GUILD

The Saint Eleanor Women's Guild continued to meet last year in person and via Zoom. After two years, we were happy to host the Lenten Supper in Vianney Hall with Deacon Andrew as our speaker and ended our year with our Devotion to Mary. We were able to go as a group to The Movie Tavern to see Father Stu. Our purpose is to provide help and support to others, to encourage lasting friendships, to promote the spiritual welfare of members, and to assist with the activities of the parish.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

We have held Padre Pio meetings for 13 years with once a month prayer meetings and on-line prayer petitions. Prior to the shutdown, we met in person in the Chapel with recitation of the Rosary, prayers, Confession, and Mass. Beginning in August of 2020, we began Padre Pio Zoom meetings consisting of the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, special prayers, and a reflection by our Spiritual Director. We have kept the prayer group on this Zoom format as we found it helpful for those unable to leave their homes to join us in prayer.

EXTRAORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Immediately after our parish returned to celebrating Mass in person, only a few ministers were needed to assist with Holy Communion. As the congregants began to slowly return to in-person Mass attendance, the ministry became more active. As a parish, we are now scheduling six communion stations at each Mass, which includes clergy, so we are about at our 'normal' activity level. Our loyal group of ministers joyously and happily returned to serve!

2021-2022











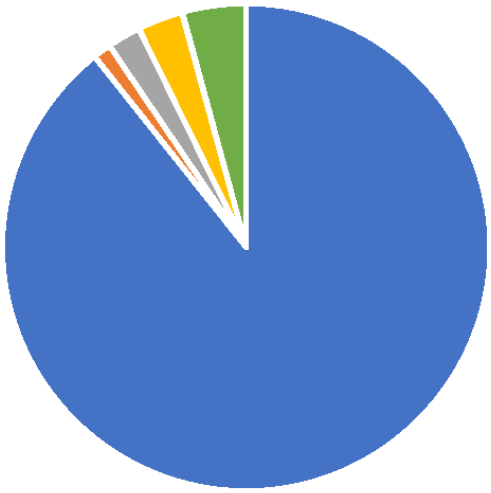
SAINT ELEANOR CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022 (UNAUDITED)

Cash and Investments - July 1, 2021	$	1,078,006 *
Operating Income	$	1,977,952
Operating Expenses	$	(1,641,312)
Diocesan Collections/Remittals, net	$	(110)
Legacies and Bequests	$	20,000
Unearned Income/Other Receipts	$	99,559
Repayment of Loans (Principal Only)	$	(427,730) **
Capital Projects Expense	$	(225,101) ***
Tithing the Tithe Donations	$	(96,200) ****
Other Expenditures	$	-
Cash and Investments - June 30, 2022	$	785,064

Loan Balances - July 1, 2021	$	2,385,069
Debt Principal Payments		(427,730)
Loan Balance - June 30, 2022	$	1,957,339

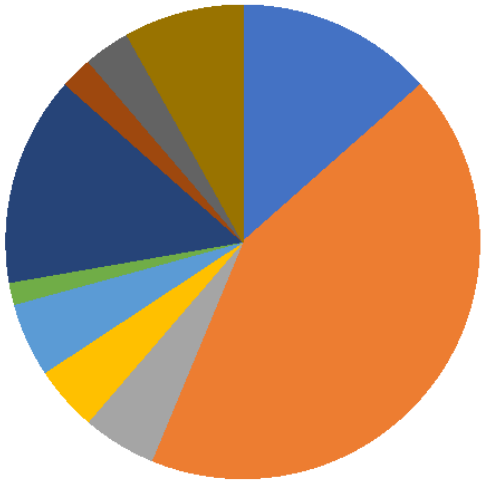
*Excludes scrip inventory as reported in prior year;
**Additional $120,362 payment on School Building mortgage;
*** Incudes $214,290 Parking Lot Expense;
**** 2021 and 2022 Tithing donations paid in 2022.

2022 Operating Income



Collections	$ 1766,525	Stole Fees	$23,736
Socials and Donations (Net)	$43,938	Religious Education	$59,239
Interest and Dividends	$1,105	Other Income	$83,407

2022 Operating Expenses



Diocesan Assessments	$221,300	Salaries and Benefits	$702,492
Property/Liability Insurance	$82,345	Pastoral Admin and Professional Fees	$72,543
Printing, Publications & Supplies	$82,582	Religious Education Programs	$24,765
Maintenance and Rectory Operations	$234,718	Heat, Light, Water & Sewer	$35,812
Interest Expense - Loans	$51,505	Subsidy payments to Holy Cross	$133,250