



LITTLE FLOWER PARISH

STEWARDSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

The purpose of this Parish Stewardship and Accountability Report is to provide parishioners the results of this past fiscal year in terms of our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We are very grateful for all that has been accomplished through the generosity and dedication of our parishioners.

Parish Population (as of June 30, 2019)

Number of Families	924	(930 in '18)	New Families Registered this year:	25	(31 in '18)
Number of Individual Members	2,053	(2080 in '18)	Families Inactivated this year	28	(21 in '18)

School Population (as of December 31, 2019)

Children (3 years old thru grade 8) 331 (331 in 2018, 326 in 2017, 316 in 2016, 266 in 2015, 266 in 2014)

Statistics (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019—last year's numbers in parentheses)

- ☐ 16 infants or minors were baptized (29)
- ☐ 29 adults and children received First Reconciliation and First Communion (30)
- ☐ 24 young adults and adults received the sacrament of Confirmation (19)
- ☐ 3 adults were baptized after participating in the RCIA program (3)
- ☐ 5 children were baptized after participating in the RCIC program (0)
- ☐ 1 adult was received into full communion with the church following RCIA (4)
- ☐ 1 child was received into full communion with the church following RCIC (0)
- ☐ 3 couples were prepared for the sacrament of marriage (6)
- ☐ 33 individuals were buried from our parish (26)

Little Flower Catholic Church

Mission Statement

Little Flower Church (St. Therese of the Infant Jesus) is a vibrant faith community in the Roman Catholic Tradition, striving to live out the Gospel values of Jesus Christ. Centered in the Eucharist, we are called by God to look beyond ourselves to respond compassionately to the needs of others.

Pastoral Staff

Pastor	Father Robert J. Gilday	317-357-8352 Ext. 35	frbob@littleflowerparish.org
Director of Stewardship and Parish Administration	Angie Mackell	317-357-8352 Ext. 30	amackell@littleflowerparish.org
Pastoral Associate			
Health and Senior Ministries	Peggy Clegg	317-357-8352 Ext. 32	pclegg@littleflowerparish.org
Music Director	Tom Costello	317-357-8352 Ext. 27	tcostello@littleflowerparish.org
Accounting Clerk/Religious Education Coordinator	Lisa Gibbons	317-357-8352 Ext. 33	lgibbons@littleflowerparish.org
Parish Secretary	Jeannie Zimmerman	317-357-8352 Ext. 31	jzimmerman@littleflowerparish.org
Parish Office Assistant	Sandy Clegg	317-357-8352 Ext. 22	sclegg@littleflowerparish.org
Maintenance Director	Steve Clegg	317-357-8352 Ext. 29	steveclegg@littleflowerparish.org
Deacon Candidate/ Confirmation Coordinator	Chris Arvin	317-357-8352	carvin@littleflowerparish.org
School Principal	Kevin Gawrys	317-353-2282 Ext 23	kgawrys@littleflowerparish.org
School Secretary	Lori Falk	317-353-2282 Ext. 21	lfalk@littleflowerparish.org

LITTLE FLOWER PARISH

FINANCIAL SUMMARY YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019

Little Flower Parish remains in good financial condition thanks in large part to your ongoing generosity; however, we are experiencing a downward trend that is concerning.

Sunday contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 were approximately \$13,000 under budget. Since that time, we have continued to experience a steady decline in Sunday collections, and we are currently showing a significant deficit of over \$20,000. Prior to Fr. Bob's request for deficit-reduction gifts, we reached a deficit of \$29,339. Although we received a little over \$7,600 in gifts to help reduce the deficit, the gap continues to widen each week. This deficit is a top concern at this point as Sunday collections pay for our day-to-day operating expenses, including salaries.

Income

Sunday and holyday collections ¹	\$ 714,576
Restricted contributions	133,907
Other contributions	211,301
Tuition and fees	2,120,931
Fundraising ²	155,309
PTO, Ladies Club, Athletics, and other groups	107,255
Scrip and other income ³	<u>114,024</u>
 Total Income	 \$ <u>3,557,303</u>

1 Represents a decrease of \$18,015 from prior year and a \$13,000 deficit to budget.

2 Includes festival, fish fry, golf outing, and other school and parish fundraising.

3 Scrip profit for the year was \$1,846.

4 Includes all expenses associated with Fundraising income (e.g., festival food, rides, fish fry expenses, etc.).

Expenses

Capital and restricted expenses	\$ 335,572
Salaries and benefits	2,012,785
Archdiocesan assessments	200,207
Program and instructional expenses	260,330
Property and facility expenses	125,203
Administrative	123,485
Utilities	100,687
Spiritual life	16,815
Fundraising expense ⁴	84,589
PTO, Ladies Club, Athletics, and other groups	57,620
Scrip and other expenses	<u>92,198</u>
 Total Expenses	 \$ <u>3,409,491</u>

Net Excess of Income over Expenses

Reserved for Future Capital Needs	\$ 147,812
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2019 Accomplishments

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Stewardship

- ◆ Conducted a successful Summer Festival with profits exceeding \$65,000.
- ◆ Introduced a new three-part format for the annual Stewardship drive. The parish will focus on each aspect of stewardship individually and at different times of the year.

Finances

- ◆ Total income exceeded total expenses for the fiscal year.

Facilities

- ◆ New windows were installed on both floors of the parish center.
- ◆ All tables and chairs in Duffey Hall have been replaced with new ones.
- ◆ Installed security cameras on the interior and exterior of the school building.
- ◆ Installed new drinking fountains with bottle fill in the school building.
- ◆ Plans are underway for a handicap accessibility project in the parish center.

LITURGY COMMISSION

- ◆ Coordinated consensus on Mass schedule change implemented on December 1, 2019.
- ◆ Maintained average weekend Mass attendance after Mass schedule change.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION

- ◆ No information submitted.

FAITH FORMATION

- ◆ No information submitted.

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION

- ◆ New parishioners were sent a Welcome Packet shortly after registering in the parish.
- ◆ Volunteers with our Funeral Luncheon Committee hosted "Mercy Meals" for several families following the death of a loved one.
- ◆ In addition to the usual events — Parish Picnic, Halloween Party, Christmas Party, Advent Night, First Communion Luncheon, and Soup Supper — the Parish Life Commission sponsored a special Advent Project: they handed out bags containing cake mixes, icing, balloons, and candles to families with children along with the suggestion that each family make a birthday cake for Jesus as a means of focusing on the true meaning of Christmas.
- ◆ Though the Christopher Ministry, homebound parishioners received Communion throughout the year and cards were sent weekly to a homebound parishioner.
- ◆ In conjunction with Little Flower's Health Ministry, we hosted 2 blood drives and offered blood pressure checks once a month. Grief books were sent to those in the parish that suffered a loss.
- ◆ The Gabriel Project assisted mothers with material goods such as diapers, wipes, and baby clothes.
- ◆ Through the generosity of parishioners, our St. Vincent de Paul Society helped families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Over 200 home visits were made to assess needs of clients. Many families were assisted with paying utilities, received gas cards or household appliances, and/or were assisted with rent money. Bags of food were given as needed throughout the year.
- ◆ Through their fundraising efforts, the Ladies Club presented a check to Fr. Bob to help with parish expenses in addition to collecting money for flowers for Easter, Christmas, and our Novena. Members donated socks stuffed with soap, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste for the homeless and made goodie bags to hand out to those begging on the street. Members of the Ladies Club provided desserts for the fish fry and donated to the silent auction for our festival. They had several social outings and went Christmas caroling at several nursing homes.
- ◆ The Men's Club hosted our weekly Lenten Fish Fry and the Mother's Day Breakfast. They worked hard this past year keeping our grounds in order. Each month there was a work day to complete various projects throughout our campus. They enjoyed a number of social outings and offered tailgating at several sporting events.
- ◆ Coffee and Donuts were offered after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on most weekends under the leadership of Mandie Wade, Shannon Estrada, and Mike Haigerty.
- ◆ The 8th grade class hosted a Senior Prom for our parishioners and the Adventuresome Group met monthly for lunch and some type of program, often involving students from the school. One month the meeting was open to all of our cohort parishes.

INVITE COMMISSION

- ◆ Hosted another round of Christ Life series.
- ◆ Began offering bible studies with various concentrations.
- ◆ Sponsored a contest for Little Flower School children to write an essay describing what they would do if Jesus came to their house for dinner. Four lucky winners were treated to a Colts game and even got to meet some of the players, who talked to them about their faith journeys.

LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND THE SCHOOL COMMISSION:

- ◆ Applied for and received Safe and Secure Schools Grant from the Department of Homeland Security to install new and safer classroom doors.
- ◆ Revised school strategic plan.
- ◆ Students scored 110 on a scale of 100 for growth on the new ILEARN test.
- ◆ Mrs. Meghan Reasner was Little Flower's nominee for the St. Theodora Guerin Excellence in Education Award.
- ◆ Students participated (and continue to participate) in Little Way Families to promote community and community values.
- ◆ Began implementation of Conscious Discipline program.
- ◆ The full staff participated in a literacy retreat, trauma-informed classroom training, and staff retreats.
- ◆ Enjoyed a dance presentation for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

2020 Challenges

- ◆ Increased needs for English language learners, trauma, and special education in the school.
- ◆ School enrollment is no longer growing, but remaining steady.
- ◆ Need for increased overall volunteerism. In some areas, volunteer commitment appears to be waning due to individuals' multiple priorities and willingness to commit.
- ◆ To increase Sunday giving so as to meet our Sunday Collection budget.
- ◆ To address facility maintenance challenges, including getting a cooling system for the rectory and removing asbestos in the parish center and school buildings.
- ◆ Less than one-third of registered parishioners attend weekend liturgy.
- ◆ Due to aging clergy, we will continue to face changes. Parish vitality will be paramount to maintaining identity.
- ◆ Adult faith formation and volunteer formation will be increasingly important as parish staffing changes occur.
- ◆ Some people, especially young people, are turning away from the church amid scandal and controversy.
- ◆ To continue to find funding to support all of the needs of our parishioners and those within our parish boundaries.
- ◆ To continue to provide new social opportunities for parishioners.
- ◆ To find ways to get more families to participate in celebrations.