

# *St. Patrick* *Catholic Church*

Lexington, Virginia



**Parish Report  
2022**





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Fr. Štefan Migač

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Dear brothers and sisters!

It has been a year since I was given the privilege to become the pastor of St. Patrick's! It was a year of blessings and challenges in Lexington. The biggest challenge I can say for all of us, but especially for our youth, was the loss of Kevin Riedel, our campus minister serving W&L, VMI and SVU.

Kevin enriched all of with his deep faith and witness he gave to Christ, especially to our students and cadets. We continue to pray for Kevin's family. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord! And let the perpetual light shine upon him.

The biggest blessing, at least for me, is the amazing community at St. Patrick's! I know it was a challenge to welcome a new pastor after so many years of having Fr. Joe as your pastor! He did amazing work in building up the community, and he can relax and rest in his well-deserved retirement.

Our parish community will celebrate 150 years of Catholic presence in Lexington and Rockbridge County. Together we will not only celebrate, but also prepare the parish for another century of faith by our prayers and witness to Christ our Lord.

We made a few changes and I hope improvements over the last year, from new vestments to a new Tabernacle stand, new altar server albs and cassocks. For me personally, the biggest improvement is to see the road when I am leaving the parking lot ... ;-)

Thank you for your welcome and support over the last year. I hope I was a good shepherd, since you were such amazing sheep to take care of! I am looking forward to grow together in our faith in Christ.

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## Parish Life Committee

What is the last fellowship activity in which you participated at St. Patrick's? Was it the First Communion reception or the Lenten Soup Supper? Or perhaps it was the Parish Picnic or Thanksgiving Feast? Maybe it was the St. Patrick's Feast Day celebration, St. Valentine's Dinner Dance, Pancake Supper, Easter Vigil reception, or the International Sampling Supper? Have you used your Church Directory lately or even sampled a recipe in our Slice of Parish Life Cookbook? Yes, all these activities are attributed in some way to our Parish Life Committee!

I began participating in Parish Life activities the moment I moved back to Rockbridge County after retiring in 2014. Helping to create opportunities for fellowship was an extraordinary way to reacquaint with parishioners from my past but also to meet new folks! We have relied on the extraordinary talents of our committee to provide events which encourage fellowship and celebrate all St. Patrick's has become over the past 150 years!

Do you have a favorite activity or memory from one of our activities? Maybe it was the chats you had while heating up your homemade soup for the Lenten Soup Supper. Or maybe you struck up a conversation and made a new friend while being served pierogies at the International Sampling Supper. Or maybe you bonded with another parishioner while asking for the recipe of a delicious dessert at the Parish Picnic. Or maybe like Harper and I, you came in the Parish Hall through the kitchen entrance during the Thanksgiving Feast and were handed a bowl of food to put out on the serving tables! Instant volunteers!

It's our favorite memory because it started some wonderful new friendships which will last a lifetime!

So as we celebrate our 150th year, please consider how you can lend your time and talents to Parish Life! We are always in need of hosts for each event and even new ideas to spice up a current event. This fall I'm "retiring" again, but this time as the Parish Life Coordinator. I'm thankful for all the many volunteers and special times we have shared over the years! Now please join me in welcoming our new Parish Life Coordinator, Victoria Rappold! Vickie has so much to offer and a great faith in our mission. We are so fortunate to have her lead us going forward. Your continued support and commitment to our events will make all the difference in the future!

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16

May God continue to bless us at St. Patrick Catholic Church!

*Kathy Burant  
Parish Life Coordinator*





## *Campus Support Ministry*

Our mission in Campus Support Ministry is to spread the love of Jesus Christ to our college students and provide them with the support they need from our parish families while they are away from home.

We start our year with a Rat Mass and Breakfast in August by providing breakfast to VMI freshmen. Our volunteers make and serve the food and welcome the students. We also lend them cell phones so they can make their first calls home. We open the parish house on Sundays for the Rats to relax and study away from the rigors of VMI. Our Adopt a Rat program pairs up individual Rats with host families who offer them the comforts of home throughout the year.

We provide exam support for W&L by having the parish house open and providing food during exam week. We also have a parents' weekend reception for W&L families.

In November, we do a Thanksgiving Feast for all college students. Our generous parishioners provide and serve a full Thanksgiving meal!!

In February, we provide a celebration dinner for the VMI freshmen at the end of their "ratline".

In March, we provide a Pasta dinner for all students. Parishioners make and serve this homemade meal.

Throughout the year, we have pizza dinners each Sunday after evening mass for all college students. It is an important time for all of them for fun and fellowship.

We provide weekly dinners over the summer for our students who remain in Lexington.

We love our College Students!!

*Donna McCullough  
Carey Wyatt  
Campus Support Ministry*









## Religious Education

Religious Education at St. Patrick Church can be likened to a precious jewel reflecting the light of Christ through its many facets: Kindergarten through High School Faith Formation; The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA); Sacramental Preparation; Adult Faith Formation and New Evangelization; Youth Mass Liturgical Ministry; and Vacation Bible School. Online education is free to all parishioners through our parish's subscriptions to Formed.org and the Word on Fire Institute's digital library. This year, 71 children and teens participated in our various Rel. Ed. programs, while 158 adults attended our Adult Faith Formation & New Evangelization offerings.

Some of the year's highlights were the Children's All Saints Day Celebration; Adult Faith Formation's Advent Evening of Reflection with Fr. Jay Biber, Pastor Emeritus;

the High School Coffee and Donuts Ukraine Fundraiser, netting over \$1,400; Adult Faith Formation's Lenten Evening of Recollection with Fr. John Anthony Boughton, C.F.R. General Vicar and VMI graduate; and the New Evangelization Team's Parish Night at Hull's Drive In Theater. In addition, the parish RCIA program was re-designed to offer separate instruction for collegians and cadets, held at VMI's library, and for adults over 21 years of age, held at the parish office. Our many programs are served by 40 catechists and team members, dedicated to the Church's mission to teach, to evangelize, and to catechize. They open the hearts and minds of children and adults to the truth, goodness, and beauty of Catholicism and to the Good News of Salvation through Christ, the Light of the World.

*Kathleen Nowacki-Correia  
Director of Religious Education*







## Religious Education by the Numbers



9  
Baptisms



3  
First  
Eucharists



5  
Confirmations



9  
RCIA



6  
Marriages





## *St. Patrick Preschool*

We had a good year in 2021-2022, learning about God, the world, and kindergarten readiness.

On May 27, 2022, three students graduated from St. Patrick's Preschool Program. Families and friends gathered in the church to celebrate the successes of another academic year. Justin Souter provided musical accompaniment. Mrs. Laurie Strong, a former director, spoke to the students and encouraged them to do their best in the future. Fr. Štefan Migač congratulated each student on their achievements. Mrs. Francie Belliveau, director, and Mrs. Ann Switzer, teacher, handed out student certificates.

This fall, we have nine current students with one coming in November. We look forward to having an exciting year with lots of parties, field trips, and events. Please come and visit.

*Miss Francie Belliveau  
Miss Ann Switzer*





## *Justice and Peace Ministry*

The Justice and Peace Ministry maintained its partnership with Grace Episcopal and Lexington Presbyterian churches in providing Rockbridge Area Relief Association (RARA) clients emergency assistance. This year, support focused on rental payments as the Covid-19 eviction moratorium expired.

In addition to the regularly scheduled RARA Thanksgiving food drive and the Christmas Star Tree collaboration with Rockbridge Area Community Services (RACS) and Community Action Network, this ministry delivered supplies to Operation Allies Welcome Afghan refugees housed at Fort Pickett, prepared transient food baskets, served on the RARA Helpline evaluation committee, restocked household items to RACS clients devastated by apartment complex bedbug outbreaks, and evaluated an Appalachian Homeless Mission exploratory program.







## *Respect Life Committee*

The Respect Life Committee, responding to the call to be a voice for the voiceless, advocates for the right to life of our unborn brothers and sisters and support for their mothers. We do this through prayer, education, and evangelization on behalf of the unborn.

Our activities include the Ecumenical Candlelight Prayer Service for Life in January. Together with the Knights of Columbus, we sponsor the March for Life bus later that month. In late August we participate in the Rockbridge Community Festival with a booth that provides information on fetal development, adoption, and alternatives to abortion.

Early in the Fall, we also sponsor the Spiritual Adoption Program where members of our committee speak to the 7th grade Religious Education class about prenatal development and the Catholic teaching regarding the sacredness of human life. At the close of the Spiritual Adoption Program in May, the students organize a baby shower for their spiritually adopted babies and collect supplies to be donated to Comfort Care Women's Health, a local pregnancy help center, located here in Lexington.

Twice a year on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday in January and during Respect Life Month in October, our committee provides bulletin inserts to help raise awareness of the dignity of each human life from conception to natural death.

*Tom & Darcy McCabe  
Respect Life Committee*





## *Adult Choir Ministry*

The Saint Patrick Adult Choir Ministry is a small group of musically inclined men and women committed to providing high quality sacred music for Sunday and Holy Day Masses and other liturgical events. From early September through mid-June, the choir rehearses Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and sings at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses and 5:30 p.m. Holy Day Masses. Cantors sing at the 5:00 p.m. Vigil and 8:00 a.m. Sunday Masses throughout the year; at 10:30 a.m. Masses during the summer; and at noon Holy Day Masses, Nuptial Masses and wedding services, and Masses of Christian Burial. Instrumentalists play occasionally at the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass and at Holy Day Masses.

This past year as COVID retreated, the choir returned to full operation, singing “Ave Verum Corpus” at the parish picnic Sept. 26; “Ave Maria” by Bruno Vlahek Dec. 8; with trumpet, trombone, and flutes at Christmas; the “Sanctus” and Agnus Dei” by Fr. R. J. Sorin at Fr. Štefan’s Installation Mass Jan. 15; “Hail, Glorious Saint Patrick” Mar. 12; “In Monte Oliveti” by Anton Bruckner on Palm Sunday and “Adoramus Te Christe” by Theodore DuBois on Good Friday (both a cappella); the Exsultet (Maia Browning, soloist) and “Veni Creator Spiritus” at the Easter Vigil; “Christ Arose” by Robert Lowry with trumpet, trombone, and flute on Easter Sunday; and “In the Breaking of the Bread” by Michael Ward on May 1. We’re looking to increase our membership, so if you have any musical talent, please prayerfully consider joining us!

*Justin Soutar  
Director of Music*





## Haiti Committee

St. Patrick's Twinning relationship with the parish Fond Pierre, Haiti, began in the fall of 2000 as part of the Diocese of Richmond's Haiti Ministry, and the following year we began communications with Pere Jean Louis Mahlerbe, Fond Pierre's pastor.

Even though the Diocesan Haiti Ministry is focused on the education of the children, our first project with Pere Mahlerbe and the community was to build a Parish House, which serves as the rectory and a hostel, where visitors can be housed comfortably. Over the years members of our parish have been able to make pastoral visits to Fond Pierre, meeting the parishioners and celebrating Mass with them.

Our second project was to help build a school. In those early years the youngest children (grades 1 – 4) were taught in a one-room wooden shack while the older children (grades 5 – 9) were taught in a one room cinderblock building). Today the school consists of separate rooms for each grade.

In those early years we also shipped bolts of material for the parishioners to sew school uniforms for the children, and we began the project of annually shipping the various school supplies: pencils, pens, rulers, notebooks, chalk, erasers, etc. that the children desperately needed.

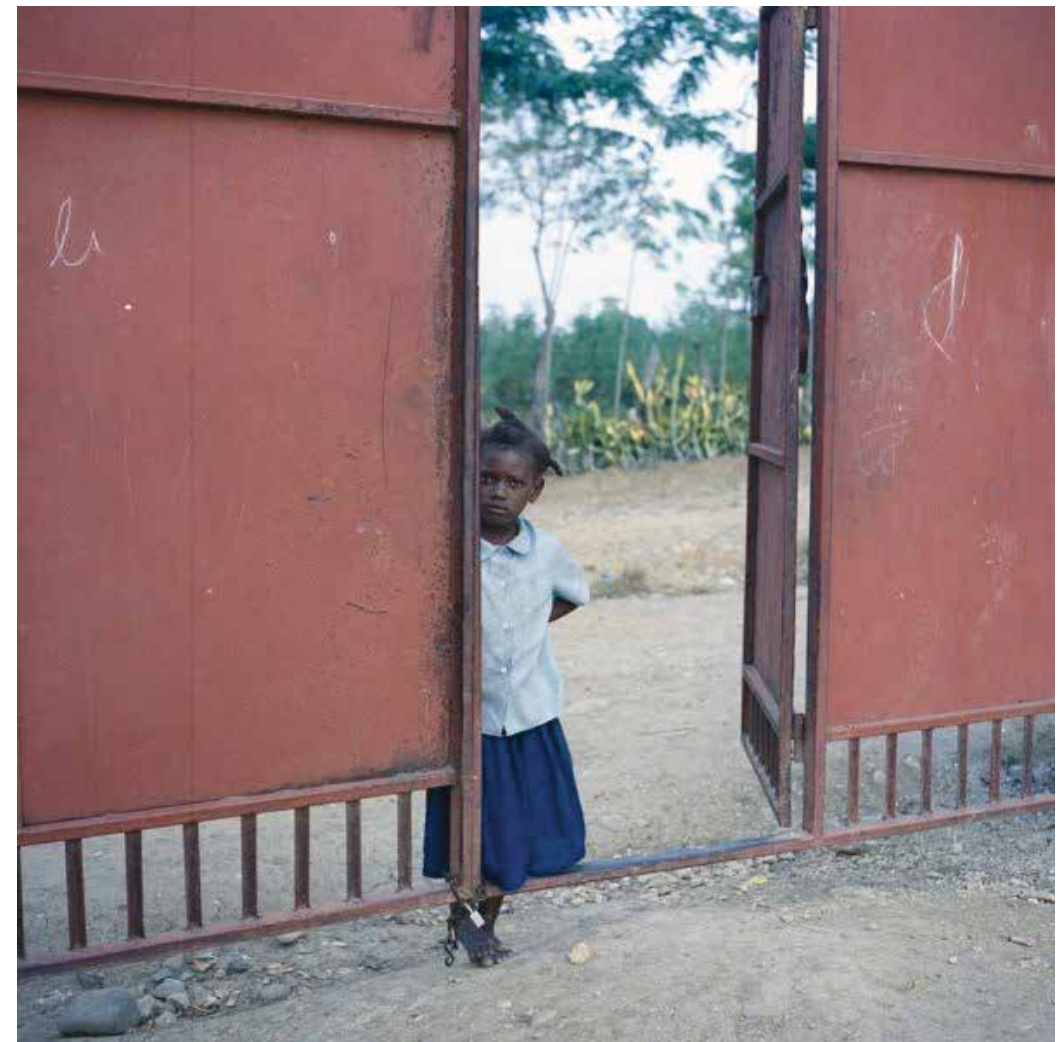
Our next building project was the Church.

Over these years, we helped the pastors to build a cafeteria and a kitchen to provide a school lunch program for the approximately 350 school children at Fond Pierre. Our triannual envelope contributions provided

school desks for both children and teachers and textbooks, written in Haitian Creole. Maintenance on the facilities have included latrines for both teachers and students, building a wall around the parish area for security, and replacement of a septic tank. In just the past two years we have re-painted the school, cafeteria and Church, and funded a new tank for potable water, a week-long catechism summer camp for 75 children, and new batteries for electrical power. When food was scarce, we sent monies so that the pastor could purchase food for various families.

We have developed a spiritual connection with the people of Fond Pierre Parish. We prayed especially for them during the Hurricanes Fay, Gustav, Hannah, and Ike of 2008 when many urban areas were flooded, and food and supplies were unavailable. Then in 2010 a 7.0-magnitude earthquake caused major devastation in Port-au-Prince that killed hundreds of thousands of people. While still trying to recover from the previous devastations, in 2021, they were again overwhelmed when a 7.2-magnitude earthquake and Tropical Depression Grace hit Haiti only two days apart. From all these environmental disasters Haiti has yet to recover because this poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere has a government that is corrupt and nonfunctional and in these recent days violent gangs have taken over the streets. Fortunately, our Twin Parish was not directly affected.

To reinforce the connection between our two parishes, we invited the pastors to visit us here in Lexington. Pere Jean Louis Mahlerbe and the next pastor Pere Roderick Mitial have both visited us multiple times. The current



Pastor is Pere Daisma who has not been able to visit us because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the unstable situation in country.

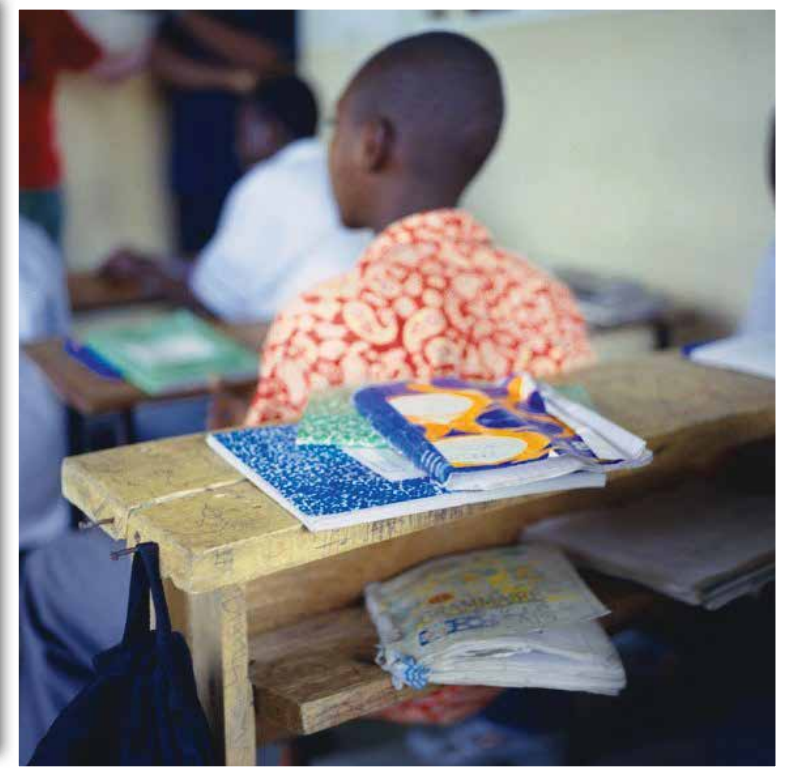
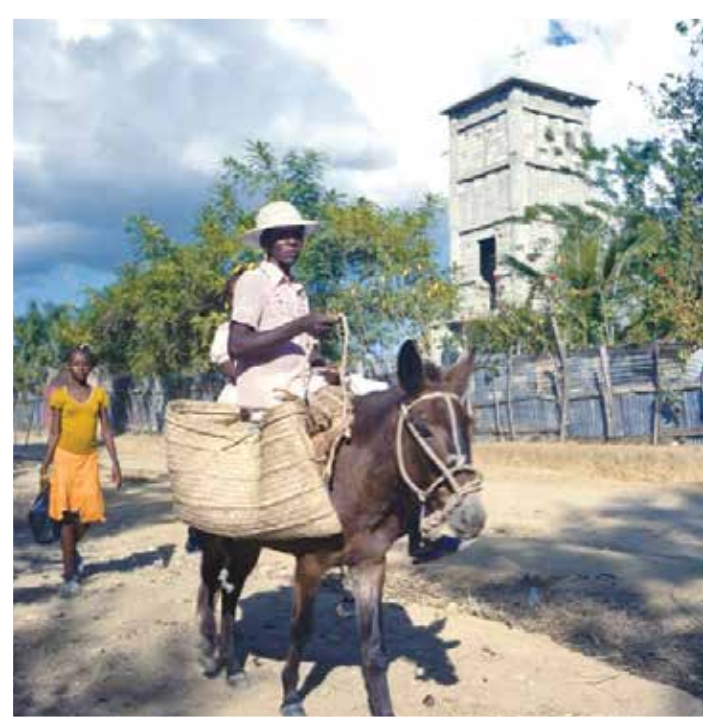
Our efforts at Fond Pierre have improved the quality of the education, including supporting the training and state certification of the teachers, so that we now are graduating students who pass the state's qualifying exam to attend secondary school. Since 2016 by your contributions to the Lenten Banks Project, we fund a scholarship to pay the secondary school tuition for the top five students from each of our graduating classes.

According to the United Nations Commissioner for Humanitarian Rights

since April 24, 2022, 188 Haitians have been killed and 200 people kidnapped-for-ransom. From Port-au-Prince the violence has also caused at least 17,000 people being displaced from their homes. These dire situations involving heavily armed gangs are having severe impacts on human rights. Consequently, the Diocese of Richmond has suspended all parish visits to Haiti's parishes and our annual shipping program has been stopped. We are still in communication by email with Pere Daisma and can transfer money to help him.

Please continue to pray for and support the people of Haiti, especially the people of Fond Pierre.







## ***Knights of Columbus***

The St. Patrick's Richard F. Cayo Council (#11557) began in May 1995, and since that time has grown to over 60 members. The local Council takes great pride in the amount service hours that we perform each year for our Parish. This past year, the Knights of Saint Patrick's sponsored and/or participated in the following service activities:

- KOVAR collections: (Knights of Columbus Assisting Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities) Over \$2,000 was collected and donated.
- Knights of Columbus State-wide Free Throw Competition: Council 11557 sponsored both the local and district championship.
- The Council provided financial assistance with the annual "March for Life" bus trip to Washington, D.C.
- Sponsored the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign by selling Christmas cards.
- Erected and disassembled the Christmas Creche.
- Hosted the annual Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday.
- Planned and conducted a Mass for Deceased Knights (with their spouses as honored guests) with a dinner following the Mass.
- Sponsored Parish activities with trip to Salem Red Sox baseball game and the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs hockey game.
- Provide manpower and sponsored the annual Church Picnic and Raffle held each year at Glen Maury Park.

Our Council is always looking for and welcoming new members. If you are interested in hearing more about the Knights of Columbus, please contact me via email at [mjschwarzmann@yahoo.com](mailto:mjschwarzmann@yahoo.com).

***Matt Schwarzmann***  
***Grand Knight***





## *Rectory Capital Campaign*

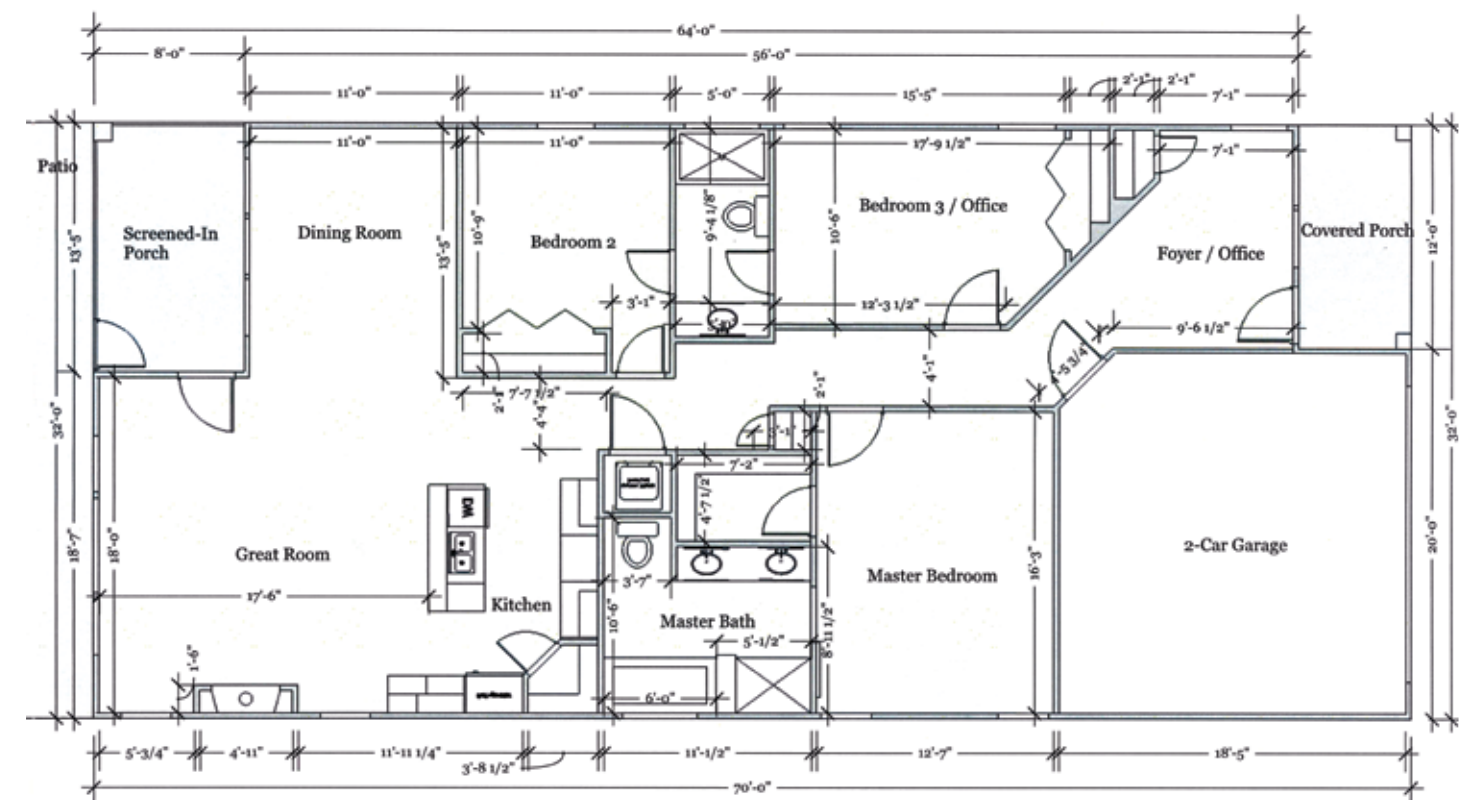
In 2021, St. Patrick began construction of a new parish rectory in the Weatherburn neighborhood of Lexington. The new rectory will comply with the diocesan design guidelines in that it will have one-level living, a garage, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a limited floor plan of 1,700 sq. ft. The rectory will be accessible, comfortable, low maintenance, and spacious enough that the pastor can host visiting clergy, seminarians, and parish small groups.

You may have been reflecting on the project costs during the present topsy-turvy inflationary period. You will be pleased to learn that during the initial process of selling the Denny Lane Rectory and entering into a contract for the Weatherburn Rectory, St. Patrick's Finance Council negotiated a fixed price contract which shields the parish from additional inflationary costs. This should give our parishioners satisfaction and comfort as to how Fr. Štefan and the Finance Council conducted the purchase on behalf St. Patrick Catholic Church.

We are grateful for the assistance from the Diocese of Richmond. Due to funds received from the sale of the Denny Lane Rectory, generous contributions from our St. Patrick parishioners, and a significant grant from the McGonigle Family Foundation, no loans will have to be arranged. St. Patrick's has invested these funds in an interest-bearing account until the completion of construction.

The rectory will be ready soon, most likely in early fall. There were delays due to supply chain issues and inclement weather, however, after a little more than a year, we will finally have a (semi-) permanent home for Fr. Štefan!

*James C. Kostelni  
Chair, Finance Council*





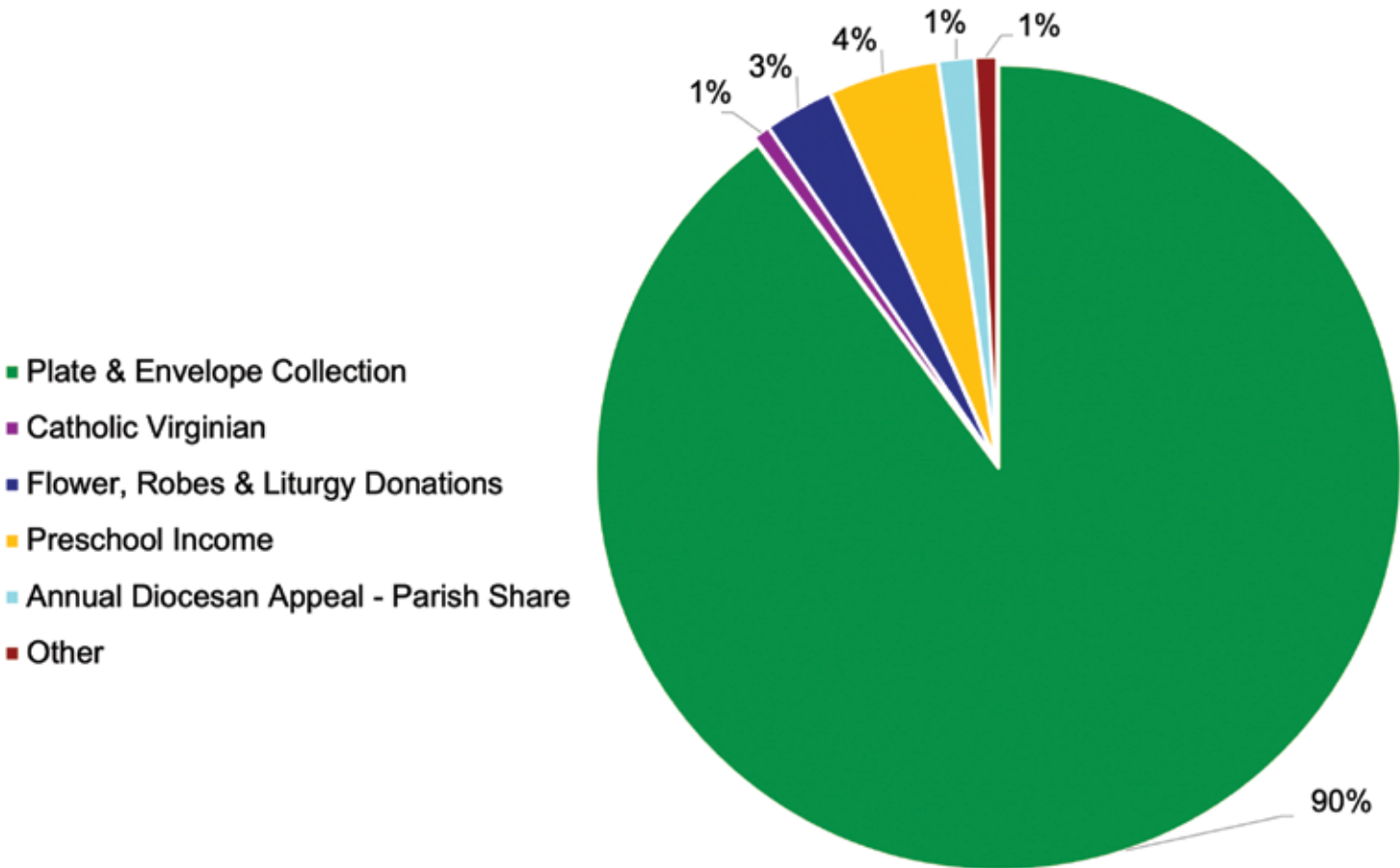
Year End Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2021/2022 (FY22)

Operating Fund  
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Operating Income	FY22 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget
Plate & Envelope Collection	\$418,809	\$387,000	\$414,600
Stole Fees	\$830	\$1,500	\$1,500
Net Entertainment/Benefits	-\$60	\$1,400	\$550
Fees Income	\$1,375	\$1,200	\$1,300
Catholic Virginian	\$3,179	\$2,600	\$2,600
RE Collection	\$1,978	\$1,900	\$1,900
Flower, Robes & Liturgy Donations	\$12,909	\$3,800	\$3,500
Preschool Income	\$20,603	\$18,000	\$22,000
Annual Diocesan Appeal - Parish Share	\$6,713	\$5,000	\$4,500
Total Operating Income	\$466,336	\$422,400	\$452,450

FY22 Operating Income

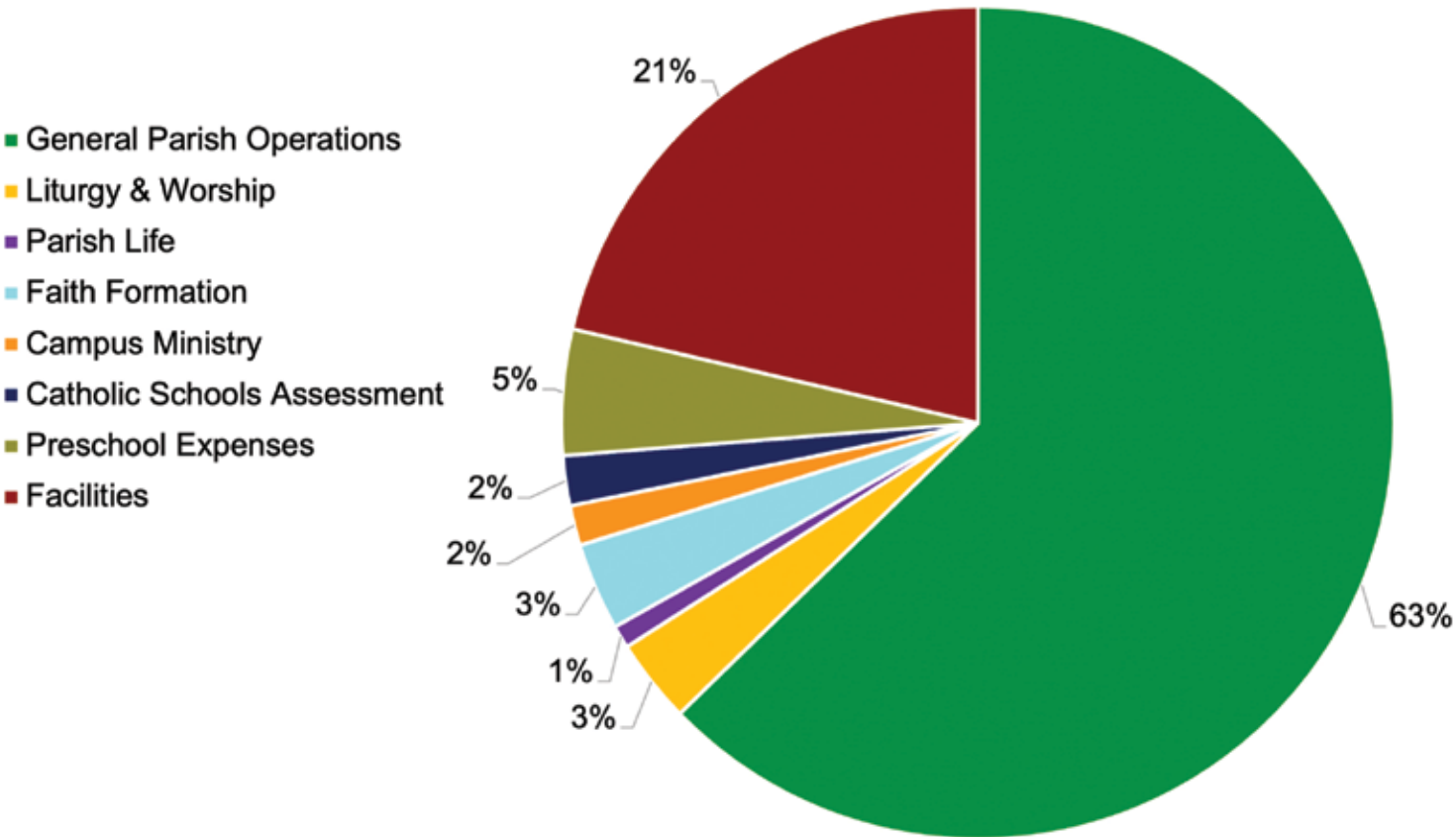


	FY22 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY23 Budget
Operating Expenses			
General Parish Operations	\$259,324	\$255,170	283,099
Liturgy & Worship	\$19,159	\$15,000	14,750
Parish Life	\$4,029	\$4,000	4,000
Faith Formation	\$12,782	\$19,140	15,350
Campus Ministry	\$5,330	\$5,660	7,000
Catholic Schools Assessment	\$7,624	\$7,669	8,749
Outreach - Respect Life	\$622	\$1,000	1,000
Preschool Expenses	\$19,473	\$18,000	22,000
Facilities	\$85,773	\$96,761	96,502
Total Operating Expenses	\$414,116	\$422,400	\$452,450
Net Gain or (Loss)	\$52,220	\$0	\$0
Beginning Balance 7/1/2021	\$105,706		
Transfer to Maintenance Reserve *	-\$5,000		
Net Gain for FY22	\$52,220		
Ending Balance 6/30/2022	\$152,926		

2021-2022 (FY22) Year-End Fiscal Report

St. Patrick's Parish ended the fiscal year "in the black" due to the support of our parishioners and friends.

FY22 Operating Expenses





Other Funds	Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
Maintenance Reserve				
Maintenance Reserve Fund *	\$861	\$24,415	\$15,178	\$10,098
Maintenance Reserve CD	\$23,216	\$93	\$0	\$23,309
Rectory Capital Campaign**	0	\$452,580	\$72,233	\$380,347
Justice & Peace Ministry ***	\$11,986	\$15,938	\$16,123	\$11,801
Haiti Ministry	\$42,761	\$17,109	\$19,305	\$40,565
Respect Life Money Market	\$21,796	\$12	\$0	\$21,808
Endowment & Disbursement Invest. ****	\$379,946	\$0	\$0	\$342,865
Total	\$480,566	\$510,147	\$122,839	\$830,793

\* Income includes \$5,000 tranfer from fund balance.  
 \*\* Income includes proceeds from sale of Denny Lane rectory (\$250,925).  
 \*\*\* Income includes \$4,000-Diocesan Hunger & Fuel Grants & \$934-Kroger Community Rewards.  
 \*\*\*\*Ending balance reflects unrealized loss/gain on investments.

Diocesan Collections Forwarded	
World Missions	\$1,396
Catholic Charities	\$2,320
Respect Life	\$1,543
Catholic Relief Services	\$3,783
Peter's Pence	\$1,217
Religious Retirement	\$3,329
Catholic Home Missions	\$1,550
USCCB - Haiti Relief	\$325
Ukraine Relief	\$13,159
Total	\$28,622

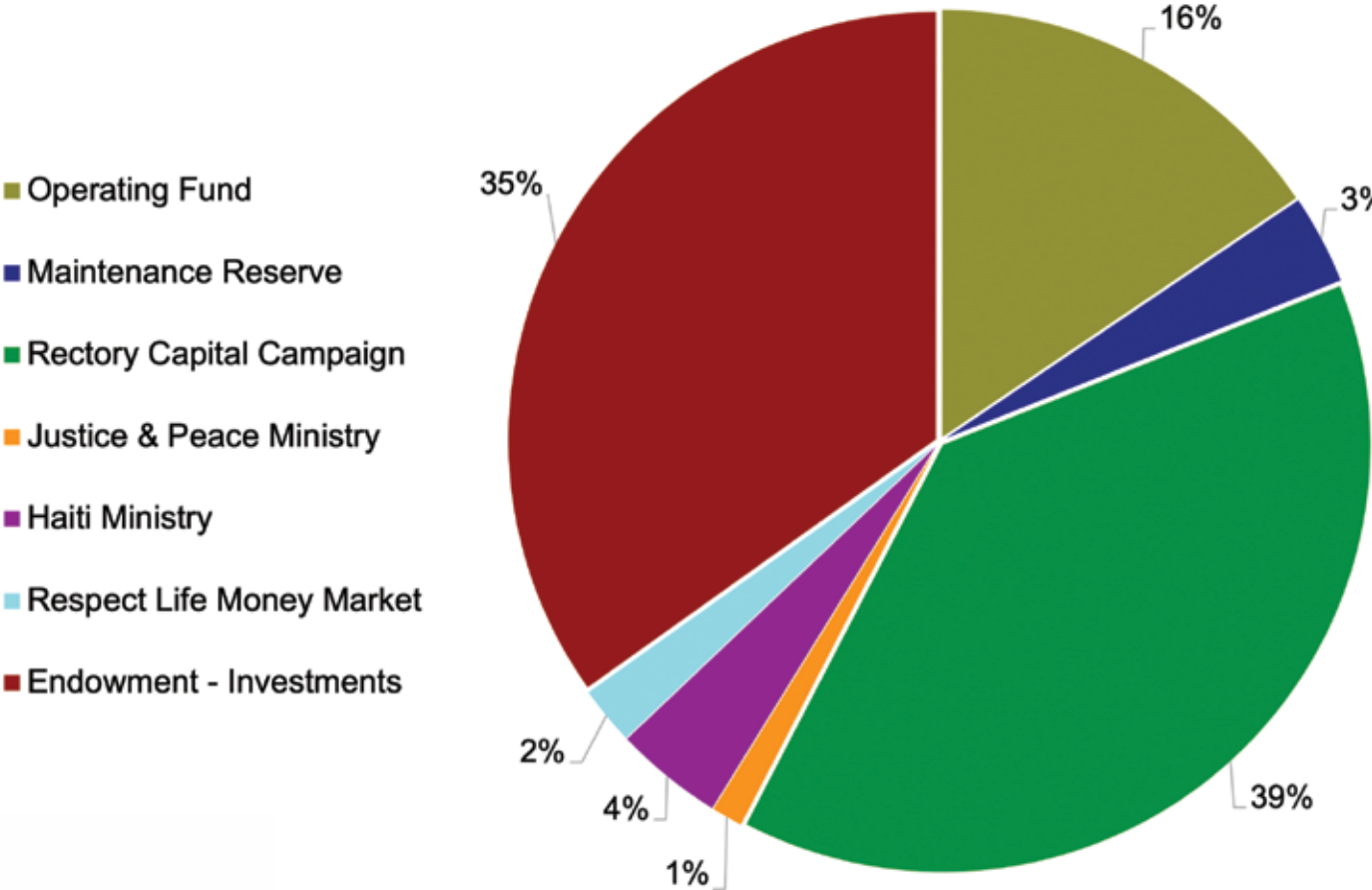
#### 2022-2023 (FY23) Budget

The Richmond Diocese's fiscal year begins on July 1 and concludes on June 30. The Diocese determines many of the figures to be used in such areas as retirement contributions, medical insurance, cathedraticum rates, and the amount of permissible pay raises for the pastor and employees.

Your Finance Council offers the following observations about the FY23 budget:

1. The cathedraticum is calculated on a progressive scale. St. Patrick's effective tax rate is 8.8%.
2. Overall FY23 budgeted income and expenses (excluding the preschool) are a 6.4% increase over FY22 budget.
3. The majority of the budget is mandatory expenditures from utilities to salaries.

St. Patrick Assets  
Cash & Investments



*I would like to express my gratitude, first to God for his gifts and blessings that enabled us to give to our parish!*

*Thank you also to our outstanding Finance Council for the financial oversight. They make my life as pastor much easier by a guidance and advice in financial matters.*

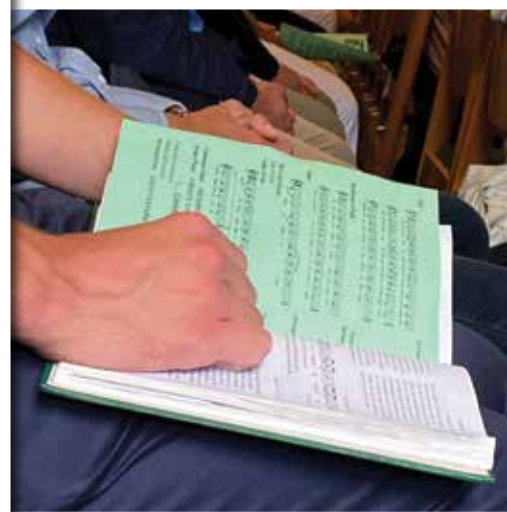
*Dear parishioners, Thank you ALL for your continued support! Because of your support, we can serve in a multitude of ministries and provide pastoral care at St. Patrick's.*

*-Fr. Štefan Migač*

*P.S. Thank you for taking me off the streets of Lexington and building a new rectory house! :-)*

Support Saint Patrick at  
[offertory.richmonddiocese.org](http://offertory.richmonddiocese.org)













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