

Dear Friend,

The doors of the Mission church were dripping with holy water as I looked up from the script and proclaimed: "Open the gates of justice!" It was Sunday, September 14th, at approximately 9:10am, the climactic moment in the solemn rite of blessing. The Jubilee year had begun and we, St. Barbara Parish, were an official pilgrim site of prayer and blessing for the whole Archdiocese. Slowly, with much creaking and scraping - under the power of two strong ushers - the Mission doors began to open.

Looking back on it, that solemn and humorous moment was symbolic of what has made me so grateful to be your pastor over the past year: witnessing a community pulling together and praying together with patience and faith, to open the doors of life and faith, at a "threshold moment" in our community's history.

Five months ago, on Easter Sunday I saw that same energy at play, as the Mission doors were surrounded by flowers and music and hundreds gathered on the asphalt plaza and out across the lawn. Just a few weeks before that, with the lockdown easing, the joy of seeing each other in person - face to face - for the first time in months was almost surreal. The gift of being present to one another had my heart singing.

Your continued generosity and faith made all this possible, and so much more. The parish staff was able to carry on in new and creative ways of service without interruption - no layoffs - to continue liturgy, service, and faith formation, all of which looked and felt very different, but which sustained us as small steps forward in a difficult time. Honestly, the doors at times felt heavy with discouragement and loss. We grieved the deaths of loved ones such as our beloved Owen Guitteau who did so much to open the doors of hope and humor through his decades long commitment to the construction of the famous Mission Christmas creche. Owen's example that of so many others has inspired us to adapt, change, and work together in new ways.

The strong and energetic leadership of our pastoral council has also been at play in the crafting of three central goals to move us forward: building community through improved communication; focusing on families and the next generation of Catholics through vibrant liturgy and religious education; and advancing our Franciscan Gospel tradition through adult study and conversation to offer the medicine of hope and wisdom to a world facing so many important issues of social justice.

Your continued generosity will make all this possible as it has made possible the reopening of our doors over the last 15 months. We want to do more and can with your continued and increased support. Thank you for your spirit of sacrifice and solidarity. The summary report accompanying this letter reflects the good stewardship that we will continue to build on with the help of the parish finance council. "Let the doors of justice be opened" as we move forward as a parish community to take our place with those who have gone before us, as a vibrant and faith-filled community of love.

Gratefully,

Fr. Dan

Saint Barbara Parish 2020-2021 Financial Report

OVERVIEW

- Due to the generosity of parishioners and visitors the parish operated within budget except for the \$125,000 donation to Old Mission Santa Barbara in support of the Restore and Renew Campaign.

INCOME

- Offertory collections accounted for 88% of the total income.
- 10% of the income came from gifts restricted for specific use by the Parish and ministries.
- The remaining 2% of income came from donations for weddings, funerals, baptisms, and Mass intentions. Typically, this percentage is larger but pandemic protocols limited the use of the church. This should change, positively, in the next fiscal year.

EXPENSES

The breakdown of expenses was as follows:

- 38% for wages and employee benefits
- 29% for administrative costs, including rent, insurance, repairs & maintenance
- 13% for the one-time \$125,000 gift in support of the Old Mission Santa Barbara Restore and Renew Campaign
- 8% for professional services, the majority of which was for live streaming of the 9 am Mass and audio set-up for the 11:00 Mass outdoors, both of which are considered an excellent means of evangelization and outreach
- 12% for parish programming, events, and Archdiocesan support

Below is a recap of past fiscal year summaries:

	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2020-2021¹</u>
Income	\$817,890	\$762,267	\$803,221	\$847,147	\$822,041
Expenses	<u>\$854,824</u>	<u>\$882,181</u>	<u>\$887,143</u>	<u>\$821,402</u>	<u>\$942,293</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$36,934)	(\$119,914)	(\$83,922)	\$25,745	(\$120,252)

¹ INCLUDES \$125,000 gift to Old Mission Santa Barbara; the parish would have had a \$4,748 operating surplus if this support was not made to Old Mission Santa Barbara.