

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

– QUARTERLY FINANCIAL UPDATE –

A life of **Stewardship** is rooted in Scripture and is the response of each individual's call to discipleship whereby one responds to the mission and ministry of the local and universal Church in sharing the Gospel. Stewardship recognizes that we, as individuals, are not the owners of our lives, our time, our talent, nor our treasure, but stewards or managers of these God-given gifts. Stewardship is our **Time, Talent and Treasure** given to God in **thanksgiving** for all that He has given us.

MARCH STEWARDSHIP SAINT - SAINT PATRICK

Saint Patrick, the “apostle to Ireland,” is one of the world's most famous and celebrated saints. His missionary zeal arguably matched that of Saint Paul, whose missionary activities, though oftentimes a severe struggle, remained in the territories governed by Roman law. Saint Patrick, however, was the first recorded Christian missionary to evangelize beyond the bounds of Roman rule and into the darkness of what was then considered the end of the earth.

“Patricius” was born in Roman Britain around 385. His father was a public official and church deacon. He was kidnapped by Irish slave traders while in his mid-teens and forced into slavery; herding sheep on remote Irish hillsides under harsh conditions. Spending most of his time in solitude, he grew to trust in God and embrace a life of prayer. After six years, he made a dangerous and harrowing escape over land and sea that finally

resulted in a return to his parents. They found him, at age 22, a serious visionary who sought holiness and friendship with Christ.

Patrick entered the priesthood, and in time, was sent to evangelize the Irish. He was appointed the bishop of Ireland in 435 and established his see at Armagh in the north.

The Irish were known to be wild, unrestrained and corrupt. But Patrick's success in making converts to Christianity was nothing less than astonishing, even to him. He traveled to most parts of Ireland, winning the hearts of the Celtic people by his deep faith, humility, simplicity and pastoral care. He took great measures to incorporate pagan rituals into his teachings on Christianity. Since the ancient Celts honored their gods with fire, Patrick used bonfires to celebrate Easter; and he placed the sun, a powerful Celtic symbol, around the Christian cross to create the now familiar Celtic cross.

Patrick's profound witness to the Gospel eventually brought an end to human sacrifices, trafficking of women, and slavery in general. He is the first person in recorded history to publicly oppose slavery; a protest that would not be taken up again for another millennium.

His writings reveal a keen understanding of stewardship as well. He wrote that whatever good he had been able to accomplish on behalf of the Lord, in his “meager, unlearned, and sinful state ... has been a gift from God.”

Over the centuries, Irish immigrants would spread their devotion to Saint Patrick as they established the Catholic faith around the world. He is thought to have died on March 17, 461, the date which became his feast day.

www.catholicstewardship.com

The Gift of Treasure

St. Gregory the Great parishioners & families are encouraged to make and honor a sacrificial pledge to God of at least 10% of their household income in gratitude for the blessings they have received via the following guidelines:

5% *To our parish as general parish support*

1% *To the Archbishop's Call to Share*

4% **To our parish or other charitable causes*

Ways to Give

- ◊ Weekly collection through envelopes or ACH
- ◊ Participate in annual fundraisers
- ◊ Consider an end-of-year gift or memorials to the school
- ◊ Use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon
- ◊ Turn in Box Tops for Education through the Box Tops App.

**Note: School families are encouraged to give this additional 4% to our parish in light of benefits received related to the school.*

The third quarter of our fiscal year is now completed. Our parish has continued to show tremendous generosity throughout the year and we try hard to be the best stewards of the gifts we receive. Our building loan balance has decreased approximately \$131,000.00 this fiscal year and Supporting Our Legacy (SOUL) raised over \$167,000.00 for our school, which shows just how much people value and support our parish and school. God's blessings to us have been amazing. Please continue to offer your support into the future so that we can have a thriving parish community.

Right now we are showing more income than expenses but there are some upcoming expenses that will effect that number. Many of our Chromebooks and iPads are at the end of their life and we are continuing to replace them; the school roof needs repaired, of which we have received \$13,506.78 from insurance; and the carpet in the school hallways needs replaced. We also received a generous donation in the amount of \$232,024.80 for the purpose of constructing a much needed storage building to the west of the school. This amount is included in the School Gifts and will most likely not be paid out until our next fiscal year.

As always, thank you so much for your generosity and for allowing us to be able to do so many great things as a parish. We understand the hardships that many people are experiencing, but we must continue to focus on ways to pay off the debt for our new church in a timely manner. All donations to the parish, school and building fund are greatly appreciated.

INCOME	
PARISH INCOME:	
Envelope & Plate Collections	\$ 445,601.69
Extra Parochial & Leaven Subscriptions	\$ 15,569.48
Gifts & Bequests	\$ 90,084.28
Building Fund	\$ 65,458.09
Parish Organization Donations	\$ 3,963.31
Endowment Distribution & One Faith Rebate	\$ 10,719.26
Other Income	<u>\$ 42,163.74</u>
TOTAL PARISH INCOME:	\$ 673,559.85
SCHOOL INCOME:	
School Fees & Cafeteria	\$ 151,290.13
School Development	\$ 193,287.29
Gifts & Bequests and Grants	\$ 314,593.97
Endowment Distribution	\$ 30,114.40
Other Income	<u>\$ 7,983.72</u>
TOTAL SCHOOL INCOME:	\$ 697,269.51
TOTAL PARISH & SCHOOL INCOME:	\$1,370,829.36

EXPENSES	
PARISH EXPENSES:	
Personnel	\$ 63,655.64
Operational	\$ 89,432.45
Parish Programs & Services	\$ 15,795.32
Parish Missions & Assessments	\$ 40,037.15
Principal Payments on Loan	\$ 88,726.18
Interest Payments on Loan	\$ 18,412.70
Extra Parochial & Leaven Subscriptions	<u>\$ 15,569.48</u>
TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES:	\$ 331,628.92
SCHOOL EXPENSES:	
Instructional	\$ 21,622.43
Operational	\$ 113,795.47
Personnel	<u>\$ 555,004.56</u>
TOTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES:	\$ 690,422.46
TOTAL PARISH & SCHOOL EXPENSES:	\$1,022,051.38
NET PARISH & SCHOOL: \$ 348,777.98	

BUILDING LOAN:	
Beginning Loan Balance	\$1,061,236.52
Payments Made Towards Principal	<u>\$ 502,217.83</u>
BUILDING LOAN BALANCE:	\$ 559,018.69

ORGANIZATIONS:	Income	Expenses
Altar Society	\$ 77,625.99	\$ 63,853.46
PTO	\$ 42,528.04	\$ 24,345.48

CEMETERY:	Income	Expenses
Checking Account	\$ 12,862.63	\$ 16,565.27

