



February 2, 2016

Dear Parishioners of St. Anne Parish:

May the Lord's blessing and peace be with you. Shortly after I was asked to be parish administrator, one of the first major tasks I had as was to work with the Parish Finance Committee on completing the 2015 Parish Fiscal Report and planning the fiscal budget for 2016. We finished this report prior to the Christmas season, but thought it would be best to send this out after Christmas. Attached to this letter is the 2015 Fiscal Report.

As has been mentioned before, our parish has been operating for multiple years running at a significant annual deficit. This is not a new trend, but it is one that is unwise in the long term and we need to find a solution to end this trend. Our parish is not in any immediate crisis, but we need to find a way to not spend down our savings in order to meet the ongoing operating costs of the parish. In short, each year, the net worth of all of our assets decreases.

It is important to first mention that we are indeed a generous parish. As a community, we give generously to those around us, through our Haitian ministry, through our support of the Southborough food pantry, through our giving to the Partners in Charity drive, and through many other ways in which the community of St. Anne gives outward. This is vital, because above all else, a parish community should be an example to those around us of what it means to give generously and trust in God to provide. As we strive to correct our own financial situation, we should not stop our practice of being generous to others.

Going forward, from an administrative and staff point of view, we will try to do what we can to control parish spending and operate more efficiently. This will not be an austerity program, instead, we need to continue to do what is needed to keep this parish healthy, active, and continually improving. However, we will work on spending wisely and efficiently where needed.

Controlling costs alone is not enough. Our weekly collections for the operation of the parish should cover our normal operating expenses. We have been good at covering large expenses when needed for improvements, but not so good at covering the basic operating costs on a weekly basis. To help us close this gap we need to increase the income of the parish. This can be done in two ways. Father Conrad had already declared last spring that we need to be a fundraising parish. This will continue. The Golf Tournament was an outstanding success, so it and programs like it will continue.

Even with increased fundraising, we still need to increase our weekly collections. With an operating deficit of around \$54,000 for the past year, it wouldn't take that much to close this. If our fundraising efforts can reduce this by \$14,000, then to cover an additional \$40,000 in operating costs, we really only need each family to increase their weekly contributions by a meager \$3 each week. A very small percentage increase by each household in this parish would contribute greatly over the course of the year. It really doesn't take that much.

St. Anne Church 20 Boston Road Southborough, Ma 01772



St. Anne Parish is a beautiful and generous community that acts very much like a large, loving family. I thank you sincerely for all that you do to help support and nourish this wonderful community. I also understand very deeply that we all have our own financial worries and needs, I sure do in my own household. But I really need to ask all of you to prayerfully consider a very minor increase in your regular giving to this community. Any increase you could manage would be greatly appreciated and it will be used in the most careful and prudent way possible

Sincerely yours in prayer,

Don. Paul J. Reuter

Deacon Paul J Reuter

The parish finance committee would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of our parishioners for your continued financial support. Please review this summary of the operating or day to day financials of the parish for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2015 (FY 2015). We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



The Year in Review

During the year, despite an increase in weekly collections over the previous year, the parish showed an operating loss in FY 2015. The chart below summarizes parish income and expenses for the last several fiscal years:

	FY 2015	FY 2014	FY 2013	FY 2012
Operating Income:				
Sunday Collections (White envelopes)	\$ 240,622	\$ 224,698	\$ 235,623	\$ 268,398
Christmas / Easter / Holy Day Collection	29,120	28,398	21,473	16,449
One Time Gifts	30,150	34,150	17,500	18,750
CE Registration	10,180	12,570	16,090	5,980
Other (Funerals, flower, Golf Tournament)	18,339	5,989	21,926	17,193
Total Operating Income	\$ 328,721	311,793	\$ 312,612	\$ 326,770
Operating Expense:				
Payroll + Benefits (1 priest + 7 part time staff)	211,298	195,617	210,218	211,975
Utilities + Lawn + Snow Removal	72,507	78,228	70,242	58,116
Diocesan Tax	20,064	17,260	24,310	20,090
Supplies (Office, food, candles, etc.)	38,690	34,301	34,660	30,493
Ministry, CE, Church Events	24,591	19,400	29,299	15,204
Insurance	13,535	12,388	12,559	12,344
Other (Walker St. real estate taxes, gifts, etc.)	1,851	2,008	1,785	2,276
Total Operating Expense	\$(382,536)	(359,202)	\$(383,073)	\$(350,498)
Net Operating (Loss) for fiscal year	\$ (53,815)	(47,409)	\$ (70,461)	\$ (23,728)

As shown above, the parish experienced a increase of over \$20,000 in expenses during FY 2015. The primary driver of this increase was payroll expenses particularly in the area of deacon and funeral stipends but also the parish has committed salary dollars to a provide in-house maintenance support of our facility. The parish also upgraded some of our liturgy supplies and vestments. Diocesan taxes were up slightly as were costs for candles and flowers. On a positive note, utility costs in the hall were down 15%. Keep turning off the lights and lowering the thermostat when you leave.

On the income side weekly collections were up 7% driving an overall income increase of more than \$10,000. It is in this area that we need to experience more growth. Controlling expenses will continue to be a top priority, but an increase on the income side appears to be to only way to close the operating gap that we have been experiencing for a long time. To that end the parish ran a very successful golf tournament that generated over \$11,000 in much needed income which was targeted at youth education and programs. Of the \$11,000 raised, \$6,300 is included in this year's (FY 2015) numbers shown above.

We thank you for your continued support of our parish infrastructure through the monthly yellow envelopes (\$41,990). These funds were used for the maintenance of our facility which is in great shape thanks to the support of the parish. The unused funds (\$12,619) are put aside to address a future improvement or a repair to our facility.

As we look to FY 2016 we plan to provide a more detailed view into our expenses with the hope that a parishioner or friend may be able to directly help with specific needs via in-kind donations or financial support. If the rectory needs a new air conditioner, then we will ask for one, giving the parishioner who is installing central air the opportunity to donate the unused unit to the church. We are blessed with generous parishioners who support the Bishop's Fund (\$75,000 last year) and many other charities, but hope that you continue to make St Anne's one of your top charitable priorities.

Thank you for your support and taking the time to read this report. We look forward to seeing you in church, at a coffee hour or around town in the near future.

The St. Anne Finance Committee: John Andries Tom Bhisitkul Greg Conigliaro Rich Flathers
Paul Reuter