

# SAINT MICHAEL PARISH

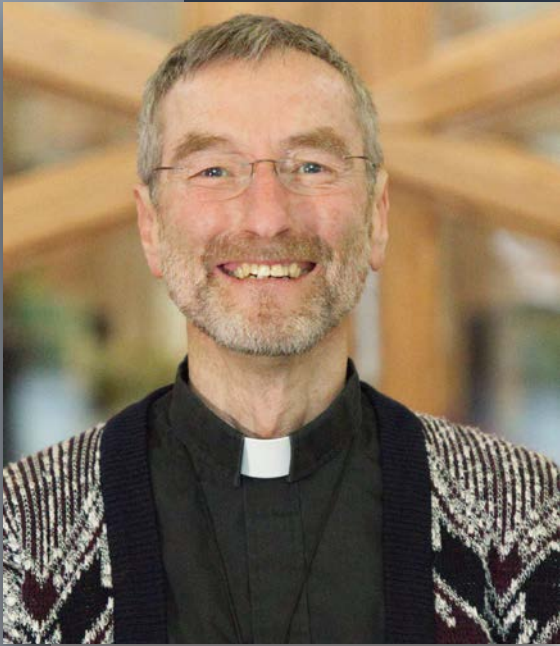


PASTORAL YEAR 2017-2018

## ANNUAL REPORT

From transition to transformation.





PASTORAL YEAR 2017-2018

## PASTOR'S LETTER

From transition to transformation.

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Saint Michael Parish,

Each year during the warm summer months, I am tasked with putting together some thoughts about this past pastoral year from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. In some ways it is a daunting task. How can I adequately summarize all the ways that God has blessed us as a parish community this past year? Yet, I want to try to highlight some of the many gifts we have been given by the Lord as well as look forward to where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

We have experienced the successful efforts of our Faithraising Campaign not only in the generosity of so many, but have also watched the construction moving ahead at a rapid pace. I thank each and every one of you who have in any way participated in this community effort. Thank you for praying for the success of our Faithraising Campaign and for fulfilling or working toward fulfilling your three-year commitment. Your generosity and your faithfulness are amazing.

You will receive this annual report on our parish feast day, September 29. In a few weeks on Monday, November 5, Archbishop Sartain will lead us in rededicating our church and consecrating our new altar. This will be the culmination of years of hard work on the part of our Building Committee. I thank them for the incredible stewardship of their time, their talents and their treasure. We owe them our prayer and our gratitude.

I also thank each and every one of you for your patience and perseverance as we transitioned to a new Sunday Mass schedule and shifting daily Mass and Reconciliation to the Westside Chapel. I know this has not been easy for some. I'm grateful to all the ministers who adjusted their schedules and have been such good stewards of their time and talents. We are blessed by their generosity.

As the building renovation process comes to completion, I want to thank Connor Geraghty, Saint Michael Parish School principal, and the entire school staff for their hard work on a different kind of renovation. For the past two years they worked diligently towards completing an accreditation process which resulted in an extremely positive report and a new six-year accreditation for the school. This highlights once again the quality and the importance of Catholic education in our parish.

The Pastoral Council continued their hard work on the Saint Michael Parish strategic plan, continuing to help us look to the future and to who we desire to be as a vibrant Catholic community



in the state capital. They also helped transition a new Pastoral Council that will lead us and guide us the next three years. Together with new Council and Commission members, we pledge to use our time and talent to fulfill the goals that we have set for ourselves. Guided by the Holy Spirit through prayer and discernment, we once again commit ourselves to place God first in all things, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and grow in holiness through prayer, sacraments, and service – our parish mission.

Rooted in our parish values of faith, witnessing and evangelizing, community, love, stewardship and education and our six elements of discipleship – grow, worship, serve, give, connect and share – we “press on toward the goal,” as St. Paul says. This new pastoral year we want to grow in gratitude for all that God has done and continues to do for us and with us as Saint Michael Parish.

This has also been a time of transition in other ways. After two years with us, Fr. Cody Ross began a new assignment as Priest administrator of Sacred Heart Parish in Bellingham and campus minister at Western Washington University. Newly ordained, Fr. Lou Cunningham has joined us. We are grateful for his presence and his many gifts. Also, we were blessed last year with the presence of seminarian Thomas Tran. Your welcome and kindness toward him deepened his commitment to the priesthood. Please continue to pray for him. We are also grateful for Deacon Tyler Johnson who joined us for the summer. Let us hold him in prayer as he continues his final year of preparation for priesthood. How blessed we are to have these fine men working and praying with us.

Beginning with this annual report and for the next five weeks, we will highlight, through the lens of the six elements of discipleship, how your stewardship has been enabling us to fulfill the mission of Jesus to, “Go, make disciples.” It is your continued generosity of your time, your talents and your treasure that enables us as a community to respond to the deepest yearning of the human heart. As we transition into our newly renovated worship space, may our hearts be inwardly transformed. May the outer transformation be an invitation to an interior transformation of greater holiness and faithfulness. May our newly renovated worship space be a reflection of an interior renovation and transformation that will enable us to worship the Lord with full, active and conscious participation; to be more deeply in communion with one another; to enthusiastically welcome others into our midst and to allow ourselves to be sent forth as missionary disciples, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ.

Our world so needs our witness today. We truly need to be a people of holiness, a light set on the hilltop, a place of hope where the plan of God for us to become the best versions of ourselves takes place. These hopes and dreams and all the hard work that we do is not just for ourselves. Rather, strengthened by the sacraments in the community of Saint Michael Parish, we are commissioned and sent out to be good news to the world.

May the Lord Jesus bless our efforts. May the Holy Spirit guide us daily. May we always call upon our heavenly Father that His will be done in, with and through us.

In Christ, through the intercession of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, I love you.

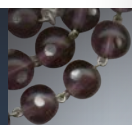


# WORSHIP

**F**or much of Pastoral Year 2018 we have emphasized hospitality and the importance of welcoming all. We had “name tag Sunday” once a month, homilies throughout Advent on the topic, and greeters at the doors every Sunday. We sought to be Christ for one another so that others can easily find a home with us.

There have been many changes, both big and small, to music ministry this year, always with the intent of helping us participate in the songs of the liturgy and move us deeper into relationship with God. Most of the music ministers attended a retreat day in September with a well-known musician, music was offered as part of large and small gatherings, and our three music directors met regularly to collaborate on music choices and visioning for the parish.

The renovation of the downtown worship space, gathering space and exterior began and will soon be brought to completion. Yet this is not merely a transformation of a building, but of the heart as well. As the Lord says in Ezekiel 36:26, “I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.” The worship space in particular has the power to shape us and change us. This sacred space, reflecting God’s beauty, along with a culture of hospitality, and powerful music, will draw us in to the wonder, faithfulness, and love of our Creator.







## GROW

We are called to continually GROW as disciples; to be transformed by God's grace and love for us. Our mission in Faith Formation is to arouse a spiritual hunger in people that leads to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This year we reached over 460 children and 420 adults who were on their journey growing as disciples. In addition, we engaged 740 parishioners through the online platform called *FORMED.org*. Our Faith Formation programs continue to offer excellent opportunities to grow in faith for children, youth, young adults, families and adults. Some opportunities we've offered this year include: the Alpha marriage course, the Alpha young adult course, adult formation through F.A.I.T.H., Small Groups, family formation, Bible studies, and mission opportunities.

Saint Michael Parish School plays an integral role in the formation and education of many of our children. Last year 244 children received daily formation through prayer, school Masses, saint houses, retreats and religious education classes which all enhance the educational experience. This year our Catholic school received one of the highest accreditation scores given to any applicant. We received a "highly effective" rating and a six-year accreditation term. This year the parish was able to provide the school with a \$368,922 grant. All of this was made possible through the generosity of our parishioners. Your stewardship is changing lives; it is growing disciples for Jesus. Thank you.



## SERVE

Outreach is at the heart of the Church's mission. Some highlights from last year:

106 volunteers trained and commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion reached out to over 100 homebound parishioners to give them the Eucharist on a weekly basis. Through Grief and Cancer support and small groups sharing at the Olympia Center, we provided support to those who are grieving, sick, carrying a heavy heart, unchurched, and in doubt. We sheltered and fed the homeless, providing over 1000 warm beds, meals and sack lunches over a five month period. Through your generosity we built a shower in the Parish Center for shelter guests. Over this last year, 60 volunteers took turns preparing weekly meals at the Community Kitchen, serving 220 people per meal. We also provided over 7,500 individual dinners at the Interfaith Works Shelter. Saint Michael Parish donated over \$110,000 to other nonprofit organizations. All that we do as at SMP is made possible because you are living the call to give of your time, talents, and treasure. You are transforming lives.





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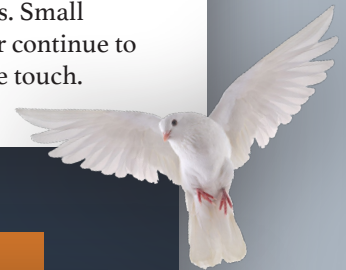
## CONNECT

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**T**his past year our parish has seen many activities and opportunities to **CONNECT** and develop deep and lasting relationships with fellow Catholics by reaching out to others in hospitality and welcome. In February at our annual appreciation events, we shared our gratitude for being able to serve others and experience the joy of charity. The parish picnic fostered our sense of belonging and our identity as Catholics who welcome guests and families to our parish. This is one way we continued to cultivate what it means to be a parish family.

An exciting new development was the introduction of Saint Michael Parish Meet-Up Groups that allows for deeper fellowship and connection within the community. These groups represent a diversity of interests and form an intentional and active community presence that creates ripples of faith and love far beyond their focus. Small Groups rooted in Gospel reflection and prayer continue to grow, transforming our hearts and the lives we touch.



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## SHARE

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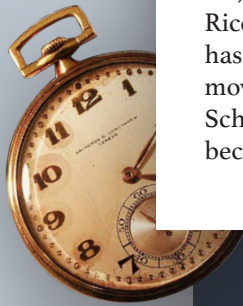
**T**his has been an exciting year of evangelization. Our Saint Paul Street Evangelization ministry is up and running. Every month, we have missionaries on the streets of Olympia and Lacey praying for people and sharing the message of God's love. This summer our parishioners were present at the Lacey Fun Fair, LakeFair, Harbor Day, Thurston County Fair and more. We have received over 100 prayer request from people we have encountered on the streets. Our parish has also sent out more than 80 missionaries to Youth Migrant Project in Skagit Valley; Juarez, Mexico; and Madian, Haiti. Most of these missionaries have come from our Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

Another highlight this year was Alpha, which introduces people to Christianity and helps them explore questions about God and faith. This year we hosted a nine-week session for young adults and married couples. This upcoming year Alpha will be offered to our high school youth. Your generosity helped us shared God love on the streets, in other countries and to those coming to Saint Michael to explore the faith.



# GIVE

**T**his year we have been blessed in so many ways. Through your generosity, the Faithraising Campaign has pledged of \$4.3 million, two million of which has been given as of June 30 for our church renovation. The completion is only a few weeks away. Because of your generosity, our parish was able to donate \$523,963 to non-profits locally, nationally and internationally. Some of these donations support our children at Saint Michael Parish, our brothers and sisters on the streets, Catholic Relief Services, Rice Bowl, and missions around the world. Our parish leadership has also worked tirelessly laying the foundational work towards moving to fully funded Catholic Education at Saint Michael Parish School. This important work will continue in the years to come because of your generosity.



## INCOME

- Sunday Offertory – \$3,270,573
- School Tuition – \$1,525,968
- Gifts & Other Sources – \$301,730
- Annual Catholic Appeal Rebate – \$76,222

## EXPENSES

- Salaries/Benefits – \$3,239,780
- Supplies/Programs – \$473,675
- Operations & Maintenance – \$143,990
- Contracted Services – \$234,844
- Business & Utilities – \$359,294
- Assessments – \$229,550
- Parish Grant to School – \$368,922
- Donations to Others – \$523,963

## STATISTICS

- Parishioners: **6588**
- Registered Families: **2367**
- Liturgical Ministers: **639**
- Music Ministers: **113**
- SMP School Students: **244**
- Preschool–5<sup>th</sup> Grade F.A.I.T.H. Kids: **281**
- Life Teen & EDGE Teens: **180**
- Catechists & Aids: **114**
- Baptisms: **66**
- Confirmations: **53**
- First Communions: **94**
- Funerals: **53**
- Weddings: **14**
- Adult Faith Formation Participants: **300**

