

# St. Mary's Annual Report 2007

*We are a Eucharistic community whose mission is to  
worship and pray, to grow in faith and discipleship,  
and to serve those who are in need.*

*We respect the traditions of the past and  
are open to the guidance of the Spirit as we move into the future.*



Dear Parishioners of St. Mary's,

The past year was a very good one for us here at St. Mary's as we made considerable progress in the area of stewardship. More people than before came to Mass on a regular basis. Many people were involved in the sharing of their talents and gifts. And, for the first time in many years, our parish income actually exceeded our budgeted expectations with no need to withdraw from parish savings.

It has been great to see so many of our young people involved in liturgical ministries and service activities. Families are worshipping together, the homeless are being cared for, and our "senior" members continue to provide wonderful witness of what it means to be faithfully committed to Jesus and His church.

All in all, we are thankful for the many blessings we have received; we take responsibility for sharing our gifts in an accountable way; and we generously respond to the needs of others.

May Jesus and His Gospel continue to be proclaimed and lived by all who belong to our great parish family.

God bless you,

Father Ken Kuntz  
Pastor



St. Mary's Church  
Present Day

**ST. MARY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Torie Hefel – Chairperson  
Kevin Mellen – Chairperson Elect  
Karla Peiffer – Secretary

**PASTORAL COUNCIL  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Jane Doucette – Family Life  
Ann Elsbecker – Peace & Justice  
Marty Shafer – Liturgy  
Cathy Sharp – Christian Formation  
Kevin Mellen – Property  
Management  
Cathy Sharp - Evangelization &  
Stewardship  
Mary Loops – Fellowship &  
Communications  
Megan Myers – Youth

**ST. MARY'S FINANCE COUNCIL**

Anne Hargrave (Lay Director)  
Vince Maurer  
John Maxwell (Lay Director)  
Mike Pugh

**Parish Staff**

Fr. Ken Kuntz  
Fr. Jeff Belger  
Sr. Agnes Giblin, BVM  
Dan Teets  
Patti McTaggart  
Rachel Santos

Pastor  
Parochial Vicar  
Pastoral Associate  
Director of Adult Formation  
Youth/Music Coordinator  
Office Administrator

**Parish at a Glance**

Registered Households	1,774
Individual Parishioners	4,832
Baptisms	73
Professions of Faith	18
Confirmations	94
Receptions of First Eucharist	80
Marriages	33
Funerals	34



St. Mary's Church  
circa 1880

# OUR COMMISSIONS

## **Christian Formation Commission:** Cathy Sharp, Chairperson

- Meetings are held the second Thursday every other month. Standing committee reports were received at each meeting from
  - The Regina Board of Education, one of the three elected parish members of The Board provides the report.
  - The Coordinator of Youth Ministry, provided by Patti McTaggart.
  - The Adult Formation Director, provided by Dan Teets.
- Received an annual report from Sister Agnes Giblin, BVM.
- Received an annual Regina Tri-Parish Religious Education report from Sister Mary Frances Michalec, ND.
- Conducted the annual Regina School Board of Education election.
- Conducted the annual performance evaluation and review for the positions of Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Adult Formation Director. Both directors continue to provide exemplary service and commitment to our parish life.

## **Youth Ministry** centers around the three “S’s”:

Patti McTaggart, Coordinator

- **Spirituality**- (from which all the other “S’s” flow): The youth of the parish were involved in every aspect of liturgical ministry. They were servers, ushers, greeters, musicians, lectors, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at each Mass as well as Extraordinary Ministers to the homebound. The youth were also involved in the Advent and Lenten Communal Penance services. St. Mary’s hosted a deanery-wide Confirmation Advance (retreat) with the National Evangelization Team (NET). The youth also participated in diocesan-sponsored events such as the Christians in Action program (CIA), Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), the Diocesan Youth Rally, and the Diocesan Junior High Youth Rally. 73 St. Mary’s youth received the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2007.
- **Service**: The youth visited the hospitals, videotaped the liturgies for the homebound parishioners, made casseroles for and served Free Lunch, baked, decorated, and delivered cookies to the homebound, made rosaries for mission schools, assisted with the Back-to-School clothing drive, cleaned and polished the pews in the church, and helped serve and deliver meals at Thanksgiving.
- **Social** activities: These included trips to Sundown Ski Resort, Adventureland, and Lost Island Water Park, and a Make-Your Own Pizza and Movie Night. The youth also participated in diocesan-sponsored events such as the Catholics in Action program (CIA), Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), the Diocesan Youth Rally, and the Diocesan Junior High Youth Rally, as well as a Steubenville Youth Conference coordinated by St. Mary’s in Solon.. The Christian music band “Leap of Faith” began leading a Wednesday night youth night in the parish hall once a month and invited youth musicians to join them in playing music on youth nights as well as at Mass.

## **Adult Spiritual Formation:** Dan Teets, Director

- Offered the 2nd 12-weeks of Jeff Cavin’s The Great Adventure Bible Timeline study during Easter Season and summer.

- For the city-wide Christian Experience Weekends during Lent 2007, many parishioners participated or served as team members and in other ways to facilitate the retreats.
- Provided resources for personal and family reflections during Advent 2006 and Lent 2007.
- Three parishioners continue to serve as members of the Iowa City CEW Advisory Board.
- Five parishioners continue to serve on the city-wide planning team for *Why Catholic?* study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church to be offered over 4 years in 6-week fall sessions and 6-week Lenten sessions from October 2006-Lent 2010.
- Made many resources for adult faith formation available in the parish library which is open on Sunday mornings and on evenings when adult enrichment opportunities are being offered in the church hall.
- The Catholic initiation process for adults included the following:
  - Catechetical sessions were offered two times during year (on Sunday mornings from late August through mid December and again on Tuesday evenings from Mardi Gras through Corpus Christi Sunday) for those wishing to become Catholic, for adult Confirmation candidates and catechumens.
  - A Morning of Reflection was held in the spring and the fall for converts and adult Confirmation candidates with the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation the day before they were received into the Catholic church and/or confirmed.
  - The Rites of Initiation for converts and adult candidates for Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion were celebrated on Christ the King Sunday in the fall and Pentecost Sunday in the spring.
  - Catechumens (adults preparing for Baptism) were dismissed from Mass for Breaking Open the Word from Christ the King weekend through Palm Sunday with the Rites of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist) celebrated during the Easter Vigil.

**Liturgy Commission:** Natalie Robinson, Chairperson

- Planned and prepared for the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time.
- Decorated the church for Lent, Easter, Ordinary Time, Advent, and Christmas.
- Decorated the parish hall for Easter and Christmas.
- Celebrated the sacrament of Baptism during our weekend liturgies in January, March, July, and October.
- Led the Holy Hour for Vocations the first Thursday of each month.
- Scheduled adult and youth choir rehearsals each week during the school year with the choir singing at the 9:30AM Mass.
- Scheduled children's choir rehearsals each week during the school year with singing once a month at a selected liturgy.
- Conducted altar server training in November and June.
- Conducted ministry training for youth and adults in October and May.
- Coordinated the Rite of Acceptance for Catechumens.
- Coordinated the Call to Continuing Conversion for Candidates.
- Coordinated the Rite of Sending Catechumens to the Rite of Election (in Davenport).
- Coordinated the Rite of Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church in November and May.

- Planned the Holy Hour for Life in January.
- Coordinated Taize Prayer for the Sundays of Lent.
- Coordinated the Stations of the Cross for the Fridays of Lent.
- Planned the Lenten Communal Penance Service.
- Prepared the Confirmation liturgy (with Bishop Amos) in May.
- Prepared the First Communion Masses in May.
- Blessed mothers in May, fathers in June, and expectant mothers in December.
- Led the Novena to the Holy Spirit in June.
- Planned the Multicultural Mass on Pentecost.
- Coordinated the indoor Corpus Christi Procession.
- Ordered candles and altar wine from Religious Supply in July.
- Led the Novena for Life in October.
- Introduced the engaged couples at all liturgies in November.
- Prepared the Advent Communal Penance Service and First Reconciliation.
- Led Advent Evening Prayer on the four Sundays of Advent.
- Prepared the Children's Pageant on Christmas Eve.
- Videotaped Mass for PATV Channel 18 to the homebound each week.
- Coordinated the Children's Liturgy of the Word (Sr. Agnes).

**Evangelization & Stewardship Commission:** Dave Sharp,  
chairperson

- Conducted the annual renewal of time, talent and treasure and followed up with commission chairs to get people who signed up for ministries involved.
- Participated in the city-wide Catholics Returning Home program. Three returned to the church.
- Participated in two city-wide Christian Experience Weekends (CEW). There were seven participants and 20 team members.
- Had three representatives on the city-wide CEW board along with two future CEW directors.
- Five parishioners served on city-wide *Why Catholic?* team. Five parishioners. 95 parishioners participated in *Why Catholic?* small groups.
- Conducted an in-service for Regina elementary faculty on children's stewardship. Students then designed childrens' envelopes.

**Family Life Commission** Barb Shafer, chairperson

- Sponsored the annual chili supper with the Iowa women's Hawkeye basketball team.
- Continued progress on Neighborhood Liaison Project.
- Expanded MOMS Ministry.
- Provided Sponsor Couples for those preparing for marriage.
- Held the Annual Birthright Baby Shower.
- Sponsored the Annual Health and Wellness Fair.
- Conducted the Annual Flu Shot Clinic.
- Updated the Family Life poster display in the parish hall.
- Held elections of new commission officers.
- Participated in Stewardship Sunday.
- Held an "End of Life Issues" seminar.

## **Fellowship Commission:** Kathy Brechler, Chairperson

- Welcomed newcomers - March, June, September and December.
- Hosted the annual potluck with our neighbors from First United Methodist Church.
- Prepared and served funeral luncheons.
- Sent birthday cards to parish members age 65 and older (Sr. Agnes and staff).
- Sent sympathy cards to parish family members whose funeral was not held at St. Mary's (Sr. Agnes).
- Held the annual commission potluck.
- Participated in the Block Party with neighboring churches.
- Sponsored the annual Thanksgiving Dinner.
- Sponsored Coffee Hours following the 8:00 and 9:30 Masses.
- Coordinated St. Mary's annual Multi-Cultural Pentecost Potluck.
- Served a luncheon for the Mazzuchelli Steeplechase.
- Served a luncheon for the Regina teachers following opening school Mass.
- Served a luncheon for the emergency personnel of Johnson County following the Blue Mass.
- Provided hospitality for the diocesan panel on sexual abuse.

## **Peace and Justice Commission:** Kathy Maxwell, chairperson

- Consistent with our mission to serve the poor, quarterly allocations of a total of \$48,300.00 from parish tithing funds were made to programs which work to improve health, education, and social justice.
  - Local (\$26,850) St. Anthony's Bread, Shelter House, Free Lunch utilities, Twain After School Reading development, Community Mental Health Center, ARC of Johnson County, Compeer Mental Health program, and Buxton School Aid Program, etc.
  - Regional (\$6,950) David School in KY, San Miguel School Chicago, Lantern Light New Orleans, Iowa Juvenile Home Music Therapy and Library
  - Global (\$14,500) LanZhou Orphanage in China; Soc. For International Help, Pakistan; Catholic Relief Services for the crisis in Darfur; Handicapped Children & Elderly, Viet Nam; Wheels for the World; Comandos de Salvamentos, El Salvador; Newman Center student mission to El Salvador; etc.
- Organized three weeks of the Homeless Overflow Project at St. Mary's, increasing our numbers of volunteers.
- Worked with the Fellowship Commission on the annual Pentecost Multi-cultural dinner.
- Solicited food for the Crisis Center Food Bank and transported the food to the Bank.
- Assisted the Free Lunch Program with monthly solicitation of food donations.
- Provided and prepared some of the food for the Parish Thanksgiving Dinner.
- Promoted parish involvement in Catholic social justice issues through bulletin inserts.
- Supported parishioners of St. Mary's who work to provide support for local groups and programs.
- Supported students from Regina and from the Newman Center who participated in Catholic outreach programs
- Supported community programs and activities which promote social justice issues such as affordable housing, the development of the homeless shelter, and support for Habitat for Humanity.
- Educated ourselves by inviting speakers to Peace and Justice Commission meetings to expand on allocation requests and their programs in general.

**Property Management:** Kevin Mellen, chairperson

- Work was done on the rectory and church exteriors.
- The youth minister's office and upstairs hallway were painted.
- Trees were trimmed.
- The organ humidifier and leaking drain pipe from the organ to the sump pump were replaced.
- New carpet in the rectory guest room was installed.
- Stained glass windows in the church were repaired.
- The pipe organ was repaired.
- The chimney of the church was worked on.
- The fire extinguishers in the church were checked/replaced.
- New smoke alarms in the church, rectory, and the office were installed.
- The church carpeting was cleaned.
- The rectory garage door was replaced.
- Brick work on the back steps of the rectory porch was done.
- A new janitorial company to clean the church, parish hall, and parish offices was hired.
- All of the light bulbs in the church were replaced.

## St. Mary's Financial Report – July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007

### Ordinary Income

Envelopes	886,026.01
Offertory	56,478.42
Other collections (Christmas, holy days, flowers, etc.)	50,787.48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>993,291.91</u>

### Auxiliary Income

Surplus Annual Diocesan Appeal	2,648.00
Local charities (Crisis Center, Birthright, etc.)	24,193.48
Hospitality (coffee and donuts after Mass)	7,977.09
Miscellaneous income (refunds, etc.)	5,273.31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>40,091.88</u>

### Transfer From Savings

	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.00

**TOTAL INCOME** **1,033,383.79**

### Administration Expenses

Priests wages (1.5 priests)	42,852.00
Secretary wages (1.5 people)	33,041.10
Custodial staff wages	17,585.49
Employer's FICA (13 people)	8,753.52
Secretary insurance benefit	4,395.42
Secretary retirement benefit	820.00
Other staff benefits	2,100.00
Pastoral Associate compensation	37,512.00
Priests' accountable plan (1.5 priests)	3,484.44
Priests' continuing education (1.5 priests)	979.00
Priests' health insurance (1.5 priests)	13,291.00
Priests' retirement (1.5 priests)	4,430.00
Staff hospitality	163.27
Office supplies	13,432.16
Equipment maintenance and repair	3,279.33
Educational materials (pamphlets, etc.)	763.24
Staff continuing education	343.22
Extra priest services	385.00
Utilities (gas, electric, water)	33,702.47
Telephone	3,473.61
Postage	3,863.19
Custodial supplies	3,955.65
Contracted services (Orkin, snow removal, etc)	7,391.14
Property insurance	13,209.00
Professional fees (Virtus training)	0.00
Building maintenance and repair	15,249.09
Catholic Messenger expense (shortfall)	8,892.00
Transportation (Sister's car)	4,107.34
Regina subsidy	532,730.04
Parish hospitality (coffee & donuts after)	8,883.15
5% tithing allocations (Peace and Justice)	46,301.45
Banking Fees	453.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>869,821.35</u>

