



St. Mary Parish

313 Court Street · Plymouth, MA 02360

October 2023

Dear St. Mary Parishioners,

There is a certain rhythm to life in a parish. While things tend to quiet down during the summer months, when September rolls around the parish begins to come back to life. This month, Religious Education classes are starting up again and people who spent the summer away have found their way back home. We continue to see people return following the pandemic. Saint Mary Parish feels like it has come back to life.

Now we enter the month of October, the time when I write to ask for your support of the Grand Annual Collection. Every Sunday we take up the weekly Offertory Collection, our main source of income for the parish. In theory, the Offertory Collection should pay for all our parish expenses. On the other hand, the Grand Annual Collection is intended to be used for capital improvements and for any unforeseen expenses that may arise. In reality, here at Saint Mary as in many other parishes, the Grand Annual is also used to make up for any shortfall in the budget from the Offertory. Truthfully, we cannot pay for all our bills relying only on the Offertory. That has made the Grand Annual Collection incredibly important for our parish.

In addition to the cost of simply running the parish each year, there are also a number of costs associated with the maintenance of our facilities. In the past several years we have tried to make several improvements to our property. This past year saw the installation of a new ramp on the Rectory side of the Church. The single largest project was the replacement of the Church roof. This project involved much more than replacing an aging, leaking roof. In the process of replacing the shingles, we also installed an insulation system that will drastically increase the energy efficiency of the Church. We were able to undertake this important project because of a very generous gift given by a parishioner. Without that gift, relying only on the Offertory and the Grand Annual Collection we could not have even considered such an undertaking.

As a Parish Staff, we are attempting to do all we possibly can to make our parish run more efficiently. In the process of assembling this year's budget, we have taken a hard look at how we use the money that you, the parishioners of Saint Mary so generously give to us. One result of this was the decision I made to consolidate the rectories of Saint Joseph and Saint Mary. In order to make better use of the funds allocated each year for the living expenses of the priests, both Fr. Antonio and I will live at the Saint Joseph Rectory. We estimate this one change alone will allow us to save approximately \$10,000.

I am well aware that this is a financially difficult time for so many. I recently read that it is estimated the average family spent approximately \$7,000 more this year to run their household. I am very grateful that during these recent difficult times you have continued to support Saint Mary Parish. I have been humbled time and again by the generosity of the Saint Mary community. It is a very humbling experience for me to come to you asking for your continued support. I do so because I believe the upkeep and improvement of our Parish is important. All proceeds from the Grand Annual remain at St. Mary's and contribute directly to the life of the parish. To achieve our goal of \$45,000, I would ask each family to consider a monthly gift of \$15 or \$180 annually. This goal will allow us

to meet our operating needs for the year. I realize that for some families, this will be too great a sacrifice. Others will be able to give more. I am grateful for any amount that you are able to give. Saint Mary is a special place and an important part of the Plymouth community. The Grand Annual Collection is an investment that will help us continue to be a special place for many years to come.

One final note, I will speak briefly about our financial well-being as well as the Collaborative as a whole the weekend of **November 11th and 12th following all Masses**. This is an effort to be transparent about the financial condition and overall state of our Parish. Should you have any questions or thoughts, I would love to hear from you.

God bless and be assured of my prayers for you and our beloved Saint Mary Parish,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Graham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Graham".

Rev. John J. Graham, Pastor

St. Mary Finance Council Members


Kathy Cartmell
Joe Coleman
Ken Cristofori
Tyler DeCost
Jim Gaudette
Tony Provenzano



ST. MARY PARISH BUDGET TO ACTUAL COMPARISON FY2024

313 Court St. Plymouth, MA 02360

	ACTUAL FY2023	BUDGET FY2024	Notes:
OPERATING INCOME			
Collections			
Offertory	324,419	322,000	
Offertory Monthly	47,124	44,000	
Grand Annual	25,855	45,000	
Dizimo - Brazilian Community **	51,503	48,000	** Funds reserved for Brazilian
Total Collections	448,901	459,000	Community expenses
Catholic Appeal Rebate	1,261		
Donations			
Rental Donations	4,120	5,000	
Gifts and Bequests	75,000		
Donations - Other	30,634	25,000	
Total Donations	109,754	30,000	
Religious Education	8,173	8,000	
Sacramental Offerings	30,528	30,000	
Shrines, Candles, & Flowers	8,032	8,000	
Other Revenue	15,001		
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	621,650	535,000	
Non-Operating Income			
Market Gain(Loss) Investments	5,602	4,800	
Total Non-Operating Income	5,602	4,800	
TOTAL INCOME	627,252	539,800	
OPERATING EXPENSE			
Lay Salaries & Benefits	294,844	280,000	
Clergy Stipends & Benefits	65,179	71,163	
Program Activities	848	1,063	
Office Expenses	14,024	13,982	
Insurance Expenses	36,644	42,935	
Facility/Utilities Expenses	78,118	67,500	
Household & Food	9,949	9,140	
Other Expenses			
Central Ministries Tithe	35,675	37,236	
Catholic Appeal Assessment			** FY23 Catholic Appeal Goal reached
Total Other Expenses	35,675	37,236	
Pastoral/Liturgical	20,462	16,781	
Total Operating Expense	555,743	539,800	
Non-Operating Expenses			
Capital Acquisitions/Improvements			
Parking Lot Improvements	39,233		
Church Handicap Ramp Improvements	6,367		
Church and Parish Center A/C Installations	28,543		
Church Roof Improvements	249,936		
Total Improvements	324,079		
TOTAL EXPENSE	879,822	539,800	
Net Income	(252,570)	-	

 Archdiocese of Boston			
ST. MARY PARISH BALANCE SHEET FY2024			
313 Court St. Plymouth, MA 02360			
	June 30, 2023		
ASSETS		LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Checking		Liabilities	
· Brazilian Community **	126,741	Current Liabilities	
· Petty Cash Fund	200	· Accounts Payable	6,635
· Main Operating - Parish	20,276	· Second Collection Obligations	775
Total Checking	147,217	· Reserves	4,000
		Total Accounts Payable	11,410
Savings			
Depository at RCAB		Other Current Liabilities	
· Depository at RCAB - Savings	215,765	· Accrued Payroll	13,548
· Bruna Belle Estate	14,985	Total Other Current Liabilities	13,548
· 6 Month Certificate	151,599		
Total Depository at RCAB	382,349	Total Current Liabilities	24,958
Total Checking/Savings	529,566	Total Liabilities	24,958
Due to/from Related Organizations		Equity	
· Due to St. Joseph Parish	(44)	· Fund Balance	757,133
Total Due from Related Organizations	(44)	· Net Income	(252,569)
		Total Equity	504,564
TOTAL ASSETS	529,522	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	529,522
** Restricted Use funds for the Brazilian Community			