



# DIOCESE OF WORCESTER ANNUAL REPORT 2010



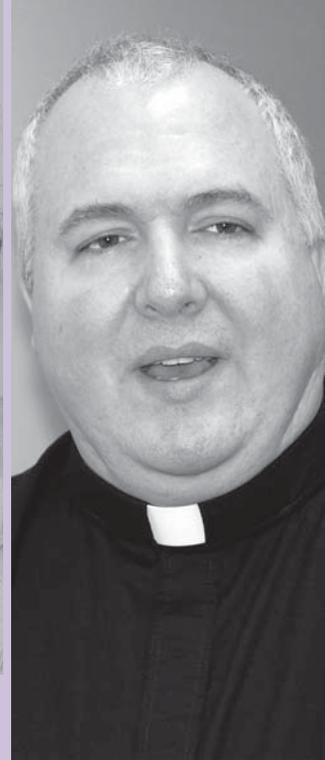
Elizabeth Marcil, Director  
Pastoral Planning &  
Office of Religious Education

Msgr. Thomas Sullivan  
Chancellor



Allison LeDoux, Director  
Respect Life Office  
Office of Marriage & Family

Fr. Jim Mazzone, Director  
Office of Vocations



Dr. Delma L. Josephson  
Superintendent of Schools

## perspectives Moving the Church Forward

*We invite you to consider how five members of the diocesan management team responded at a roundtable discussion about strategic areas of the local mission of the Catholic Church.*

*From your perspective, how did the Diocese move its mission forward in this past year? How is it making a difference in working with parishes and other Catholic institutions in bringing people closer to Jesus Christ?*

**MSGR. SULLIVAN:** We're advancing the mission on a number of fronts. Restructuring parishes in key areas has seen parish communities working together and was coupled with a renewed sense of the need for evangelization,

stewardship and fiscal accountability. 'Sharing our Blessings' is seeing unparalleled increases in parishioners' offerings everywhere. The Stewardship Conference kept the importance of Christian Discipleship on the front burner. The Catholic Men's and Women's Conferences both set attendance records and kept alive the importance of establishing personal relationships with Jesus Christ and his people.

**DR. JOSEPHSON:** In addition to all those fronts, I saw each department go beyond its individual focus to work collaboratively with other departments and Catholic institutions to bring people closer to Jesus Christ.

**MRS. LEDOUX:** Within my area, the implementation of the revised Diocesan Policy for Marriage Preparation is, I believe, a great tool for helping to implement the "new evangelization." It involves all our parishes, and we assist them in strengthening marriage and families.

**FR. MAZZONE:** Along with strengthening the vocation of marriage, welcoming new priests into the service of our Catholic faithful is critical to our mission as Church. This past year five diocesan seminarians were ordained

*Continued on page 3*

# stewardship: A Community Responsibility



My brothers and sisters in Christ,

Stewardship is the responsibility of the entire Catholic community and commits us to joyfully live the Gospel as disciples of Jesus Christ. Recently, the Diocese of Worcester has actively encouraged the use of stewardship principles through diocesan initiatives and educational programs.

An important aspect of our efforts is the full disclosure of how gifts offered to God are used. This mandate is true for the Diocese at the level of its central operations as it is for each of our parishes. As you know, I ask that all pastors meet regularly with their respective parish finance councils and make known their parish finances to their parishioners.

At this time, I am happy to provide our annual operational audit report on our Central Administration. It includes the Catholic schools system. It is the fiscal year end report for September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010 and demonstrates our obligation to be accountable for all the gifts offered to the Lord by the people of the Diocese.

Despite the significant economic challenges of the past two-and-a-half years the Annual Partners in Charity Appeal raised \$4,807,782. This generous sum reflects the gifts of over 20,000 partners in ministry and will assist us in sustaining essential diocesan initiatives throughout the current fiscal year. With gratitude for these gifts, those who manage our departments and agencies were able, for the most part, to operate with balanced budgets last year. As a Diocese, our overall operating gain in the year ended was \$161,293.

The Diocesan Expansion Fund (DEF) realized a gain of \$1,328,146. Diversification of the portfolio in the Master Investment Account continues to help us as well. That account, representing numerous restricted endowments, showed a gain of 5.5% for the year. I am very grateful for the oversight of the Board of Governors of the DEF and the members of the Diocesan Investments Committee, as well as the excellent staff of the Diocesan Finance Office, for these results.

The rising cost of providing care for 63 retired diocesan priests continues to challenge us. Our retirement programs for clergy were underfunded last year by \$1,024,009. This amount would have been significantly greater without a \$500,000 subsidy from the Partners in Charity Appeal. The amount of the subsidy for retired priests is second only to that for our seminarians, who will serve the Diocese as priests in the near future.

An allocation of \$143,614 from the Partners in Charity Appeal enabled the St. John's Cemetery System to meet its obligations. With declining enrollments and increasing costs our Catholic schools will continue to experience significant financial challenges. Nevertheless, our schools are being well managed by the Catholic Schools Office and excellent headmasters and principals.

As you know, a diocesan-wide increased offertory campaign to enable all our parishes to better address their fiscal challenges was conducted this year. It appears that the *Sharing Our Blessings* campaign has well surpassed its diocesan goal of increasing parish revenues by 25%. In addition, thousands of families now participate in Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) programs established by our parishes. Our priests and parish leaders have been trained in how to renew the campaign themselves in each of the next four years. I am especially grateful for the generosity of all our parishioners and benefactors, without whom our Diocese could not flourish. I look to your continued good will and support as we join our efforts to provide for all of the people of our Diocese. Our good and gracious God will always provide for us.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Robert J. McManus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Worcester

## reflection: My Catholic School Education

Looking back on the 13 years that I spent in Catholic Schools, I realize how much I took it for granted. Now, six years removed from St. Peter Marian High School and ten years removed from St. Peter Central Catholic, I find myself reflecting on an education that has helped me become a successful science teacher, in what is probably one of the best public school districts in the state. I cannot say enough about my educational experience in the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Worcester.

It is difficult to put into words just how much Catholic schools have contributed to my personal success. I truly believe that the most successful students learn from the most driven teachers, and that is exactly what I experienced in every class. From an early age I was fortunate enough to have teachers that used core values and morals to teach me right from wrong. And, from my first day of pre-school to my last day in senior year, I was taught that being a good person will get you a lot farther than anything else in this life.

Now that I am a teacher, I appreciate my Catholic education even more. To be able to freely discuss our Catholic faith and pray to God are easily the biggest advantages to a Catholic School. Having God at the center of everything I did from such a young age taught me to always believe that he will provide, and, so far in my life, that is most certainly true. Additionally, my classes were with other students that wanted to be there, whose families wanted them to be there, and faculty and staff that expected them to be there and to succeed.

The teachers I was fortunate enough to learn from shared in a wonderful gift to make every child want to be a better student and a better person. Without them, I wouldn't be who or where I am today. For that, I am forever grateful.

~ Veronica Clark

priests and transitional deacons. We continued our annual vocations retreat, at which 25 young men participated, and promoted it at various events and visits to schools and colleges.

**Ms. MARCIL:** When I asked a friend from a closed parish how things were going in the new merged parish, I could see the pain in her eyes. After a pause, the shadow of a smile crossed her face and she said, “Well, last Sunday I heard a baby crying someplace in back of me and a little ahead of me a toddler was fussing. I don’t think I’ve heard that in years!” Our people are experiencing the paschal mystery. There is pain, but it is partially the pain of new birth.

*What do you see as the biggest challenges in the year ahead?*

**Ms. MARCIL:** Both our experience of pastoral planning and recent studies of adolescents and young adults indicate that there are many people of deep faith. The challenge is to help them draw from the fullness of our faith so that they can move ahead on the path of discipleship. The time is ripe for adult faith formation and a more challenging adolescent catechesis.

**Dr. JOSEPHSON:** We believe that Catholic Schools are a unique opportunity to offer catechesis at an early age, and we’re challenged to broaden awareness of the value of a Catholic education. We must use social media and traditional methods of communications to promote the positive impact Catholic education has on individual students, families, parishes and the greater community. Catholic schools are different and make a profound and lasting difference.

**Mrs. LEDOUX:** Of those groups, I think the family is the most vital cell of society. We need not look far to witness terrible brokenness all around us, and it stems from the breakdown of the family. People have lost sight of what

marriage is, and society no longer recognizes the meaning of the family as a community of life and love. We need to continue to teach and to live what these things mean.

**Msgr. SULLIVAN:** And as we minister to families, we face a smaller number of priests in our parishes. Our aging priests have been asked to accept more responsibilities. Some priests cover more than one parish. This is a challenge! At the same time, we must recognize that lay ministers can really help us address the pastoral demands of today’s Church.

Another challenge is that fewer parishioners feel the need to support the plethora of diocesan charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Our focus will be to invite many more parishioners to be supportive of the Annual Partners in Charity Appeal for the essential works of 29 diocesan-wide efforts including Catholic education, outreach to new immigrant groups, support for retired clergy, and preparing new priestly vocations.

**Fr. MAZZONE:** And I’ll add that the biggest challenge for vocations in the year ahead is to identify and nourish what I call domestic vocations which I know exist in hundreds of young men born and raised in our Diocese.

*Are there changes happening in society, which significantly impact the way the Church must operate today and in the future?*

**Dr. JOSEPHSON:** Societal norms used to more closely mirror family values. This has changed dramatically. It is why we think it is critical to increase enrollments in Catholic schools so that more children will have an opportunity to grow in their relationship with God in a high-quality learning environment.

**Ms. MARCIL:** In the past, people had deep roots in the local parish and community. Today’s society is more mobile

and rely on communities of interest. We have to find new ways of communicating and building communities. Young people are digital natives who thrive on social networking. It is increasingly difficult for those of us who are technical immigrants to reach the younger generations.

**Msgr. SULLIVAN** More and more people are seeking personal ‘wisdom’ apart from a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. New forms of entertainment and social media seem to be driving forces. The ‘new evangelization’ must take root in our Diocese as well as across the nation and world. Not only can evangelization be successful it can also be reinvigorating. This should be a foremost priority.

**Mrs. LEDOUX:** Tragically, moral relativism permeates the culture and many people reject that certain things are objectively good or evil. When God is not first in people’s lives, everyone suffers in some way. Our challenge is to proclaim the Good News that we are made in the image and likeness of God. We are created in Love and for Love. God has a plan for our lives, and if we follow it, we will discover the answer to the deepest desires of our hearts.

**Fr. MAZZONE:** But how do we hear God talking to us? Among the reasons for the impeded discernment of vocations in this region is what I call a competitive, breakneck pace of life. There’s a fierce drive to succeed, which is measured by wealth. Both the trajectory and the target are spiritually dangerous. They pierce the vital components of discernment: silence, stillness, prayer, and reflection. The encouragement from the bishops and even Pope Benedict himself to utilize modern modes of communication with which young people are familiar is, of course, necessary and wise. However, nothing will ever replace God’s call that comes in silence, stillness, prayer and reflection. ♦

# Annual Report on Financial Activities FY2010

## Partners in Charity

### Revenue Sources

Donations	\$4,822,180
Uncollected Pledges	241,337
Available Funds for Use	4,580,843

### Use of Funds

#### Programs

African Ministry	\$25,317
Campus Ministry	84,175
Catholic Charities	400,000
Central Catholic Schools	155,000
Development	322,410
St. John Cemetery System	143,614
Office of Marriage and Family	32,056
Grant-In-Aid	350,000
Haitian Apostolate Ministry	53,140
Hispanic Ministry	113,961
McAuley Nazareth Home	33,600
Ctrl. Catholic Schools Assessment Sbdy	44,975
TV Ministry & Communications	166,899
Office for Divine Worship	73,631
Office of Ongoing Priestly Formation	28,650
Minister to Priests	33,739
Advance Studies for Clergy & Laity	134,644
Pastoral Planning	12,548
Permanent Diaconate Program	69,413
Pernet Family Health	30,000
Priests' Retirement Fund	500,000
Religious Education	280,079
Respect Life Office	48,338
Retired Priests Ministry	55,122
Seminarian Education	499,432
Subsidy to St. Paul Cathedral	145,411
Superintendent of Schools	217,081
Vocations & House of Studies	269,115
Youth Ministry & Retreat House	122,192
Administration	101,842

Total Use of Partners in Charity Funds: \$4,546,384

Partners in Charity Exp. Over Funding: \$34,459

## Central Administration

### Revenue Sources

Cathedralicum	\$2,112,963
Insurance Program	945,321
Realized Investment Income	209,220
Unrealized Investment Gain	140,905
Other Income	170,726
	\$3,579,135

### Expenditures

Bishop's Office	\$182,004
Bishop's Residence	68,244
Building Commission	89,339
Chancellor's Office	103,888

(Continued at the top of next column)

\* Included in Partners in Charity Detail of Use.

(Central Admin. Use of Funds continued)

Computer Services	17,392
Donations and Memberships	196,908
Fiscal Affairs Office	363,188
Interest on Indebtedness	1,042,169
Legal Services	12,679
Office of Healing and Prevention	121,216
Presbyteral Council	1,034
Priests' Financial Assistance	390,274
Reserve for Bad Debt	400,000
Sharing Our Blessings	319,632
Miscellaneous Expenses	17,919
Therapeutic Assistance	36,629
Tribunal	144,884
Vicar for Religious	55,105
Women's Commission	2,750
Total Departmental Expenses	3,565,254

Depreciation	103,674
Ctrl Administration Expenses Over Revenue	(\$89,793)

## Central Catholic Schools

### Revenue Sources

Tuition	\$12,455,875
Fund Raising & Non-Educational	930,441
Bookstore Income	161,920
Parish Assessment	135,450
Other Income	112,407
	\$13,796,093

### Expenditures

Educational Expenses	\$12,856,109
Fundraising & Non-Educational	679,698
	\$13,535,807

Central Catholic Schools Operations 260,286

Other:

Partners in Charity Funding	155,000*
Depreciation	(329,283)
Interest on DEF Loan	(162,175)
Bond Interest Rate Swap Obligation	76,457
Net Change in Assets	\$286

## St. John Cemetery System

### Revenue Sources

Revenues from Cemetery Operations	\$1,098,918
Release of Restricted Funds	125,412
	\$1,224,330

### Expenditures

Excess Expenditures	(143,614)
---------------------	-----------

Partners in Charity Funding 143,614\*

-0-

## Priest Retirement

### Revenue Sources

Partners in Charity	\$500,000*
Parish Assessments	775,267
Investment Income	119,025
Bequests/Donations	132,981
	\$1,527,273

### Expenditures

Support for Retired Priests	\$2,156,533
Nursing Home/Assisted Living	465,324
	\$2,621,857

Unrealized Gain on Investments 70,575

Expenses over Revenue (\$1,024,009)

## Diocesan Expansion Fund

### Revenue Sources

Investment Income	\$1,300,792
Interest on Loans	2,296,825
	\$3,597,617

### Expenditures

Interest on Savings Accounts	\$2,123,651
Interest Waived on Loans	107,057
Bad Debt Expense	1,500,000
Administration	201,154
	\$3,931,862

Unrealized Gain on Investments 1,662,391

Revenue over Expenses \$1,328,146

## Catholic Free Press

### Revenue Sources

Parish Quota Subscriptions, Net	\$290,552
Direct Subscriptions	22,606
Advertising	209,165
Print Shop	62,197
Miscellaneous Sales	5,323
	589,843

### Expenditures

Newspaper	618,457
Print Shop	59,183
	\$ 677,640

Expenses over Revenue (\$87,797)

## Restricted Funds

### Released

Forward in Faith	\$729,338
Endowment & Annuities	513,256
Donor Restricted Funds	125,768
	\$ 1,368,362

### Expended

Forward in Faith	\$729,338
Endowment & Annuity Commitments	513,256
Donor Restricted Support to Ministries	125,768
	\$1,368,362

Change in Designated Funds (\$0)



DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 • ph. 508.791.7171

To learn more visit our website for a complete report: worcesterdiocese.org