

St. Theresa Catholic Community
Financial Update
Fiscal 2008-2009

Dear St. Theresa parishioners,

In these challenging economic times, we are working to be faithful stewards of the finances of the parish, which are generated only through the generous support of our parishioners, school parents, and donors and friends of the parish. Our income is achieved primarily through weekly stewardship offerings and school tuition, supplemented by special donations from time to time. We receive no support from the Archdiocese or anyone else to fund the parish operations - **your contributions are what keep this parish going.**

In this particularly difficult environment, as in our own households, we find costs increasing. The facilities are beginning to show their age, requiring expensive maintenance and repairs to keep them in good condition for our worship, education, ministries and fellowship.

On the back side of this page is a financial update of the parish's operating results through April 30, 2009. This includes 10 months of actual operating results, plus projections for the remaining two months of the parish's fiscal year. We are currently projecting a loss from operations of roughly \$343,000, which means that our weekly stewardship and tuition are not supporting our operating expenses.

We are in the situation currently where we are dependent on one-time donations, bequeaths and grants to fund our operations. However, certain of these donations are made for specific purposes or projects, and cannot be used to pay the electric bills. Our financial goal as a parish is to fully cover our operating costs through stewardship and tuition, so we are not dependent on periodic donations to pay normal operating costs.

Our plan to address this operating shortfall is as follows:

- ***Strict scrutiny on expenses*** - the parish and school staff continue to scrutinize all expenses, and identify any areas where reductions can be made. For example, the lawn maintenance contract has been canceled and equipment was purchased to enable us to maintain the lawn internally, in order to minimize these costs.
- ***Stewardship appeal*** - we are tremendously grateful for all you are already doing to contribute to the parish in so many ways. Your financial support is essential to the continued growth and improvement of our parish. We will be communicating with you over the next few months regarding ways that you can assist us in boosting weekly stewardship. An immediate action that can be made, with no additional cost to you at all, is signing up for our electronic giving (ParishPay). This is a great benefit to the parish in ensuring regular giving (while also making things easier on you). The registration form is available each week in the bulletin or through the church office (713-869-3783), or you can register online at our website (www.sttheresa.cc).
- ***Detailed focus on budgeting*** - the school and church staff are finalizing the operating budgets for the next fiscal year, which begins on July 1st, and the budgets are being developed from 'square one,' budgeting each expense individually without reference to this year's results, in order to better identify areas in which costs can be reduced.

We have experienced a wonderful increase in parishioners for which we are truly thankful. While our stewardship has increased from the previous year, it has not kept pace with our increase in membership, or the increase in costs associated with a larger parish, older facilities, and increasing costs of normal operating items such as utilities, insurance, and maintenance/repairs.

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We realize that many of you may be facing great financial challenges, and this parish is here to support you as we weather these challenging times together. As we do in our own families, we seek to help those in need by sharing whatever resources we have. Many of us are able to share the resource of time, and we are abundantly grateful for the many of you that dedicate countless hours of your time to the parish through the various ministries. Others may have more opportunities to share their financial resources, and we recognize so many of you that are already generously sharing your treasures with the parish. We ask that you consider your treasures, in whichever form they may be, and whether you have the ability to increase your contributions to St. Theresa parish either through increased contribution of your time, or through increased financial support, or both.

Thank you for all you do for the parish and for your prayers as we continue our work as the Body of Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Phil Lloyd
Pastor

Caroline Grahmann Gardner
Chair, Finance Council

Johanna Bransford
Parish Finance Administrator

	Actual 4/30/09	Remaining Forecast	Total Projected for the Year	2007-2008 Actual
Operating Results				
Revenues:				
Church				
Stewardship	\$ 759,816	\$ 185,000	\$ 944,816	\$ 850,590
Other Income	53,649	9,900	63,549	42,099
Total Church Operating Revenue	813,465	194,900	1,008,365	892,689
School				
Tuition and Fees	1,086,734	142,000	1,228,734	1,090,258
Other Income	62,600	8,500	71,100	102,800
Total School Operating Revenue	1,149,334	150,500	1,299,834	1,193,058
Total Parish Operating Revenue	1,962,799	345,400	2,308,199	2,085,747
Expenses:				
Church	785,073	159,621	944,694	899,724
School	1,434,535	271,700	1,706,235	1,417,330
Total Parish Operating Expenses	2,219,608	431,321	2,650,929	2,317,054
Total Parish Net Operating Income	(256,809)	(85,921)	(342,730) (1)	(231,307)

(1) Operating results are projected at a deficit of approximately \$343,000. This is based solely on operations (weekly stewardship, tuition and other operating income such as facility rentals, and operating costs of the parish) and does not include special donations, bequeaths and memorials, and specific fundraising (such as the auction and golf tournament) as these are not normal operating income sources for the parish, but are one-time or special income sources.

Those extraordinary sources of income are essential to our parish - both the Mardi Gras auction results and the school's golf tournament proceeds are substantially less - a 20% decline - compared to the previous year.