

2023-2024 Annual Report

St. Joseph Parish

THE HANDS OF CHRIST...

OPEN TO ALL

Letter from Parish Administrator



Dear St, Joseph Family,

On November 7th 1849, a small gathering of German immigrant farmers found its way into the Grafton Courthouse. Their purpose? To celebrate the beginnings of the newly formed St. Joseph Parish. One can imagine how different the landscape must have looked compared to today.

While the landscape may look different 175 years later, the mission of those first parishioners and the parish remain the same: to be The Hands of Christ Open to All.

As you will see in this annual report, we still gather together for many celebrations: to celebrate the birth of a new child in baptism, the joining of a man and woman in marriage, the life of a loved one at a funeral, the education of children in our school and formation, the study of Scripture in small groups, visiting the homebound and imprisoned, serving the poor, caring for the sick, protecting the earth, uplifting our brothers and sisters at Los Toros mission, and so much more.

I am proud to be joining the St. Joseph family as current Parish Administrator. It is an honor to inherit the fruit of the labor of those who came before me and I am excited to add my labors to theirs.

Thank you to our wonderful staff who give their heart to their ministry and their countless hours of hidden work. Thank you to our many volunteers who share the gifts and talents God has given them. Thank you for your continued financial support which allows us to extend the reach of our hands to so many.

While I have been here a short four months, I can say with confidence that the 20 people who started the parish of St. Joseph 175 years ago, are proud that the mission they began continues today and their hope that the people of Grafton would not be without the hands of Christ has been realized.

Through the intercession of St. Joseph and his spouse the Blessed Virgin Mary, may God bless our parish, the community of Grafton, and its people. Here's to another 175 years!



Fr. Tim Schumaker, Parish Administrator

Statement of Financial Activity



	<i>Year Ending June 30,</i>			
	<u>2024</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Budget</u>
Revenue				
Envelopes & Offertory	\$ 1,294,717	\$ 1,296,500	\$ 1,255,636	\$ 1,360,800
School Tuition & Fees	727,992	682,400	691,924	804,600
Christian Formation Tuition & Fees	25,575	36,500	31,867	33,500
Other Donations & Revenue	147,208	143,300	149,929	150,000
Fund Raising & Activity Events	154,591	183,300	151,005	161,000
Total Revenues	\$ 2,350,083	\$ 2,342,000	\$ 2,280,361	\$ 2,509,900
Expenses				
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 1,795,103	\$ 1,743,400	\$ 1,674,329	\$ 1,925,800
Supplies & Purchased Services	184,212	210,100	174,765	183,000
Buildings & Grounds Expenses	230,810	225,200	214,443	235,000
Other Expenses	151,688	155,000	147,045	166,100
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,361,813	\$ 2,333,700	\$ 2,210,582	\$ 2,509,900
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (11,730)	\$ 8,300	\$ 69,779	\$ -
<i>Restricted Revenue & Expenditures (not included above):</i>				
<i>Revenue - Love One Another</i>	<i>\$ 135,351</i>	<i>\$ 128,000</i>	<i>\$ 131,889</i>	<i>\$ 130,000</i>
<i>Revenue - Parish, School, Cemetery</i>	<i>\$ 132,020</i>	<i>\$ 85,000</i>	<i>\$ 75,530</i>	<i>\$ 55,000</i>
<i>Expenditures - Love One Another</i>	<i>\$ 33,628</i>	<i>\$ 135,000</i>	<i>\$ 33,731</i>	<i>\$ 135,000</i>
<i>Expenditures - Parish, School, Cemetery</i>	<i>\$ 93,259</i>	<i>\$ 80,000</i>	<i>\$ 43,121</i>	<i>\$ 55,000</i>

Financial Successes:

- Envelopes and Offertory came in on budget and 3% over last year (thanks to your generosity).
- Tuition and fees benefitted from steady enrollment and increases in tuition.
- Spending was in line with expectations.
- Grants and donor contributions helped us with safety and security upgrades, the 175th Anniversary, and the Rectory Renovation.
- Love One Another contributions are still coming in, which will allow us to invest in much-needed improvements and upgrades.

Financial Challenges:

- Like everyone, we face higher costs; we will continue to manage to our budget and watch spending while continuing to invest in our mission as a Catholic parish and school.



Deacon Scott Wiese, Director of Administration

Letter from our Trustees



Dear St. Joseph Parish Family,

St. Joseph Parish experienced a healthy 2023-24 fiscal year. We extend our sincere thanks for your steadfast stewardship and support of our parish mission, “The Hands of Christ...Open to All”. For 175 years, our parish family has had an uninterrupted Catholic presence in Grafton, having a strong connection to the community, as we continue to invite all to grow in faith. We reflect upon all who have come before us and those resting in our St. Joseph and St. Francis Xavier Cemeteries, including several dozen whose graves, until recently, were unmarked. Now, permanently marked and still known only to God, we know they too helped write the St. Joseph Parish story.

During the priest placements this Spring we learned our Parish Administrator, Fr. Nick Baumgardner would be reassigned. While unexpected after just two years, we reflect on Fr. Nick’s time with us as a great blessing during which he shared unwavering faith and leadership. On June 18, we welcomed Fr. Tim Schumaker as our Parish Administrator. Fr. Tim has begun building relationships with our parish and school staff, councils, and parish community. He has ‘jumped in with both feet’, enriching our liturgies and embracing our mission and traditions. We look forward to our future together as we continue to get to know each other!

Under renovation for a number of months, the finish line is now in sight for our parish rectory! No project of this size would have been possible without your generosity. Our Capital Reserve and Love One Another Funds, along with direct contributions provided renovation funding. Many products and services were provided in-kind and countless volunteer hours translated into many dollars saved. We are committed to responsible use and care of our buildings and grounds, and extend our gratitude for your tireless stewardship.

We expect Fr. Tim to move into the new space in the coming weeks.

Letter from our Trustees



With unwavering dedication, our Pastoral and parish staff remain a cornerstone of all that makes our day-to-day parish life run smoothly. Their tireless efforts ensure guidance and leadership, providing inspiration and stability at the committee level and within the parish community. In addition, their willingness to embrace change and challenge move us forward - a winning combination!

What's ahead?

- With the rectory project soon complete, led by our Finance Council and Facilities Maintenance, we have the opportunity to evaluate, prioritize, and discern other capital needs.
- Preparations for our 175th Anniversary in November continue and excitement is growing for our November 10 celebration day. We began our celebrations with a kickoff in November 2023 with hospitality and memorabilia decorated throughout our gathering hall. In June 2024 we held a parish-wide picnic in June and look forward to the ongoing sharing of memories, memorabilia, our newly published St. Joseph Parish Commemorative Book, and the installation of our Holy Family statue. We will see you there!

As trustees, we serve St. Joseph Parish on the Pastoral and Finance Councils, and along with Fr. Tim, the Archbishop, and the Vicar for Clergy, are the directors of the corporation. We remain humbled and grateful for all of you, the faith you actively share, your gracious welcome to all, and the endless ways you share your God-given gifts to serve God and each other.

Peace to all,



Chuck Boehm, Treasurer



Lisa Delorit, Secretary

Sacraments



Sacraments of Christian Initiation lay the foundation for a Christian life

Baptism

33

Jesus instructs his disciples to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to teach people to follow his commands.



First Eucharist

28

"Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.'" Luke 22:19

Confirmation

21

"Remember, then, that you received a spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear. Keep safe what you received. God the Father sealed you, Christ the Lord strengthened you and sent the Spirit into your hearts as the pledge of what is to come."

St. Ambrose



Sacraments



“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.” St. Thomas Aquinas

Rite of Christian Initiation 1

The cross is the badge that shows who we are: our speaking, thinking, looking, working is under the sign of the cross, that is under the sign of the love of Jesus to the end.

Marriages 7

“Authentic married love is caught up into divine love...so that this love may lead the spouses to God...and in God they find the strength to carry on their foles and responsibilitites.”
Second Vatican Council



Funerals 35

"We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers." 1 John 3:14



Marriage Prep Team



FAMILIES 1234
MEMBERS 2632
NEW FAMILIES 74



First Mass
July 2, 2022

GOODBYE

Fr. Nick
Baumgardner



Last School Mass
June 5, 2024



Fr. Tim Schumaker

HELLO



Fr. Tim first weekend Masses June 22 and 23, 2024

Celebrations



Pet Blessing



St. Joseph Feast Day



Grafton Christmas Parade



Easter Vigil Welcomes

Worship



All Souls



Christmas



“A God who became so small could only be mercy and love.” St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Worship



Throat
Blessing



Holy Thursday



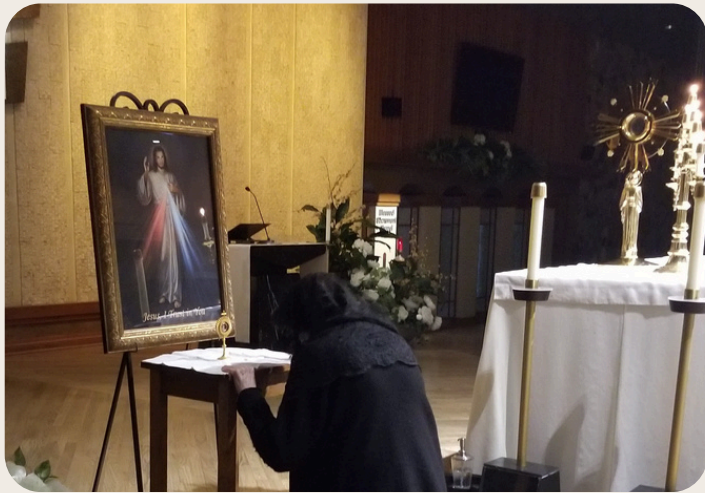
Holy
Week



Worship



Divine Mercy Sunday



“Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy.”
St Faustina Diary 300



MAY Crowning



Corpus Christi





November 7, 2024 will mark
St. Joseph Parish's 175th anniversary.

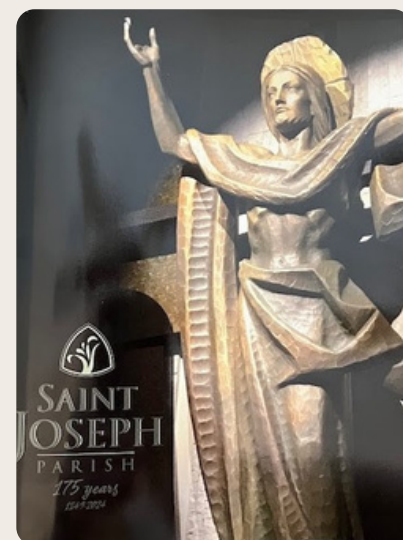
To celebrate, this past year we worked diligently to raise funds to install a Holy Family sculptured statue, a commemorative memorial book, a video and a anniversary reception at St. Joseph Parish on November 10, 2024.

PARISHIONERS ALSO SHARED THEIR MEMORIES

All Year



*175th
Anniversary
PHOTO DIRECTORY*



175th Activities



Celebrating our 175th Anniversary
with a summer picnic.

JUNE
23, 2024



Gary
CLAUSING
entertaining us
with music

almost **300**
in attendance



Lions
Club *provided*
hamburgers, brats & hot dogs

175 Years

THEN



AND



NOW



The Hands of Christ...

MANY
hands to welcome
you!

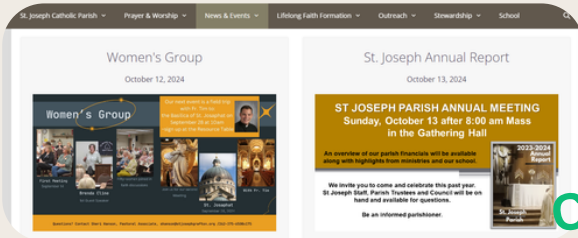


Ministries in Action



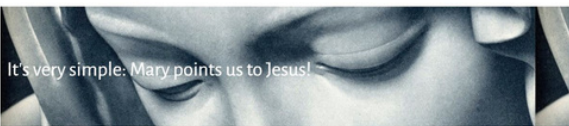
85 Ministries Strong and Growing

Website Facelift



Content updated/added daily!

Devotion to Mary



Jesus loved and honored his mother, and so we, too, love and honor her.

Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and... all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf.

We pray to Mary, but not in the same way we pray to God—and not to worship her as a god.

Feast Saints Simon and Jude



Wayne Larrivee Talks Faith & Football



Grief Support



New Church Management System



Makes Digital Giving and Staying Connected with each other Simple and Flexible



Prayer Shawl Ministries



Respect Life Month

Prayer Shawl group crochet hats for the veterans on the Pineridge Reservation in South Dakota
Crafted 80 hats!



WOMANS Group



75 woman came together for the first event



Growing in faith together

MEN of St. Joseph



Fall 2023 “That Man
is You Program”



Summer 2024
Biblical Walk with the
Blessed Mother

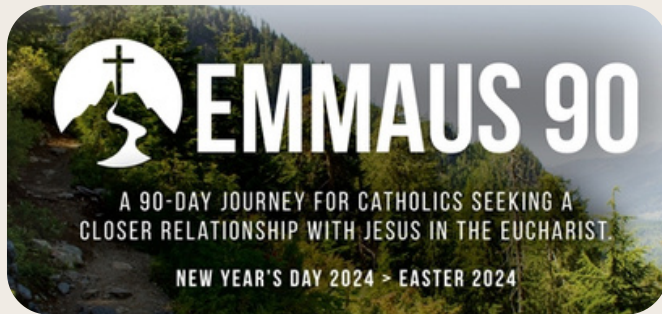


Lifelong Formation

SCREENING Events



Series on the
life of Jesus!



Scripture Study



Each week our
Scripture Study group
reflects on the
upcoming Sunday's
readings

Ministries in Action

GROUNDS Committee



Dedicated Team that works to keep St. Joseph's grounds beautiful!



Lake Michigan Bird Observatory set up a new bird house to help with migratory birds

And then...came the babies, "Faith, Hope and Charity"



Ministries in Action

KNIGHTS OF Columbus



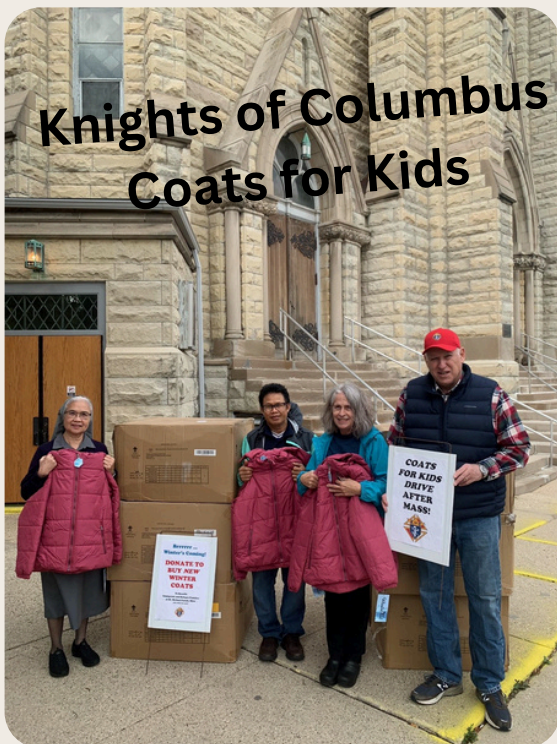
 THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF
OUR LADY OF CHAMPION



Over 50 people representing 4 parishes—St. Joseph, St. Francis Cabrini, Holy Trinity & St. Francis Borgia traveled to the Shrine



Raising over \$1,000 to support Women's Centers



Parishioners of St. Francis Borgia & St. Joseph donated over \$9,000, enabling them to purchase a record 648 brand new coats for those in need!

Ministries in Action

RECTORY Renovation



Elder Abuse Talk



Ministries In Action



Labor Day Picnic at Repairers of the Breach. 145 people were served!



St. Ben's Meals



St. Joseph Parish is a longtime supporter!



Human Concerns Advent collection of food for the Capuchin Communities. Collected nearly 100 boxes of food, which provided Christmas dinners for almost 100 needy families in Milwaukee



Food for the Homeless
Human Concern Committee

Ministries in Action



Ministers of Care

Visit the sick, elderly, and homebound to bring communion, prayer, and compassion



Care for Creation



We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation



SVdP Giving Tree collected:

- 164 gifts for families in Grafton
- 23 gifts for children in Milwaukee through the food pantry
- 30+ gifts for women at the Women's Care Center
- Over \$1,000 in monetary donations

Collected \$4,400+ for St. Vincent de Paul through our Advent Almsgiving!

Los Toros



Our Farmer's Market raised over \$3,700 to support our Los Toros Mission

Mission Council took part in the Archdiocesan World Mission Ministries

Annual Mission Appeal raised over \$14,000

Becca raised over \$5,400

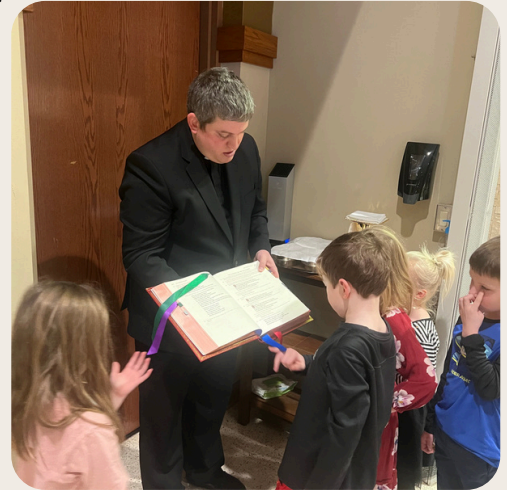


Members of the Los Toros Mission Youth and Adult Mission Experience, YAME - this is an annual event
Over \$700 raised

We are now in our 38th year of working in solidarity



"Gather the children, teach them what they should know for salvation. Teach them their catechism...how to properly approach the Sacraments. Go and fear nothing I will help you." Holy Mother of God to Adele Brise



- 11 - K4 - K5
- 11 - 1st Graders
- 18 - 2nd Graders
- 16 - 3rd Graders
- 14 - 4th Graders
- 8 - 5th Graders
- 12- Catichisits



Faith Formation

LIFE Teen



High School Ministry

- 22 - 9th Graders
- 28 - 10th Graders
- 6 - Core Team



&EDGE



Served & Prayed together



Edge Middle School Ministry

- 13 - 6th Graders
- 13 - 7th Graders
- 17 - 8th Graders
- 3 - Core Team

Mission Trip - Abbeville, Louisiana - June 9-16, 2024



Built a Wheelchair Ramp



21 Teens - 7 Adults

School



Thank you!



GOING FOR THE GOLD!

St. Joseph Parish School



Auction raised over \$65,000

Catholic School Walk
Raised over \$13,000

CALENDAR

OF CASH

Raised over \$5,800



Raised over
\$4,000



FISH FRYS

2024

Over \$46,000 raised

Bringing our Community
Together



ST. JOSEPH Parish School



- 129 Students
- 19 Scholarships Awarded
- 5 Major Fundraisers
- 3 Grants Awarded



GRANTS



- \$20,000 Casey's Cash for Classrooms
 - PA/Emergency Alert System
- \$5,000 Archdiocese Safety/Security Grant
 - Door Lock System
- \$3,802 Department of Justice
 - Digital Mapping Grant



Graduation June 2024