

Parish Financial News

This is section 2 of the final installment of our 4 part series presenting a capsule view of the “business” side of church ministry. We’ve entitled these sections “*Your Frequently Asked Questions.*”

Q. You mention the Gift Shoppe in the second week’s discussion of income. Where is the Gift Shoppe located?

A. The Gift Shoppe is located on the east side of the main vestibule entrance to the church. Its hours of operation are Saturday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday from 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. during the months of Oct.- May.

Q. How many students are enrolled in Faith Formation?

A. For the 2008-2009 academic year there were 342 children registered in our Faith Formation Program. Grade levels consist of Pre-K, Kindergarten through 8th, and a 9th grade Confirmation program. The teaching staff is led by Mrs. Mary Alber, Director of Faith Formation, and consists of catechists and teachers aides that volunteer their time and talent to teach our children in the Catholic faith. There are also programs for Adult Faith Formation and those interested in inquiring about the catholic faith.

Q. What type of programs is the youth group involved in?

A. There is currently between 25 – 30 teens participating in the youth group. A Mass is celebrated once a month at 6:00 p.m. on a Saturday in which the youth group takes an active role in the liturgy. Teen nights are held in the parish center for social events as well as the regular Thursday night youth group meeting. Some of the other activities of the youth group are: participating in retreats, assisting the St. Vincent de Paul Society, helping out with Knights of Columbus functions, and conducting fundraisers to support their ministry.

Q. I missed making my sacrificial donation to APA earlier this year during the campaign. How do I go about making my contribution now?

A. APA campaign envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church and at the entrance doors to the chapel. You may also pick up an envelope at the parish office or call the office and request an APA envelope be mailed to you.

Q. How many students from our parish are enrolled at Bishop Larkin School?

A. For the academic year 2008-2009 there were 46 students enrolled for which a total of \$63,066 was given to the school for subsidy assistance. In 2009-2010 there are 40 students enrolled and the subsidy will be \$54,840.

Q. What are the qualifications for a family with a student in Bishop Larkin School to receive assistance?

A. Our pastor, Fr. Henry interviews each family and the following criteria is used to approve their subsidy:

- The family must be registered practicing members of St. Michael Church.
- The family must be contributing members.
- The family must be participants within a ministry (time and talent).
- The family must be contributing to the Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA).

Q. How much did it cost to switch the Crucifix from the Chapel to the Church and replace the Risen Christ in the Chapel?

A. The total cost for labor and material for the project was \$875.00.

The aforementioned questions and answers are intended to help parishioners gain a better understanding of church finances as the Finance Council continues to assist our Pastor, Fr. Henry and his staff with the stewardship responsibilities for St. Michael the Archangel church. If you have any questions, please submit them in writing to Vince Garofolo, Parish Administrator in the parish office and he will coordinate with the Finance Council to obtain an answer.

Your Parish Finance Council

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