

CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS

1966

2016

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GOLDEN  
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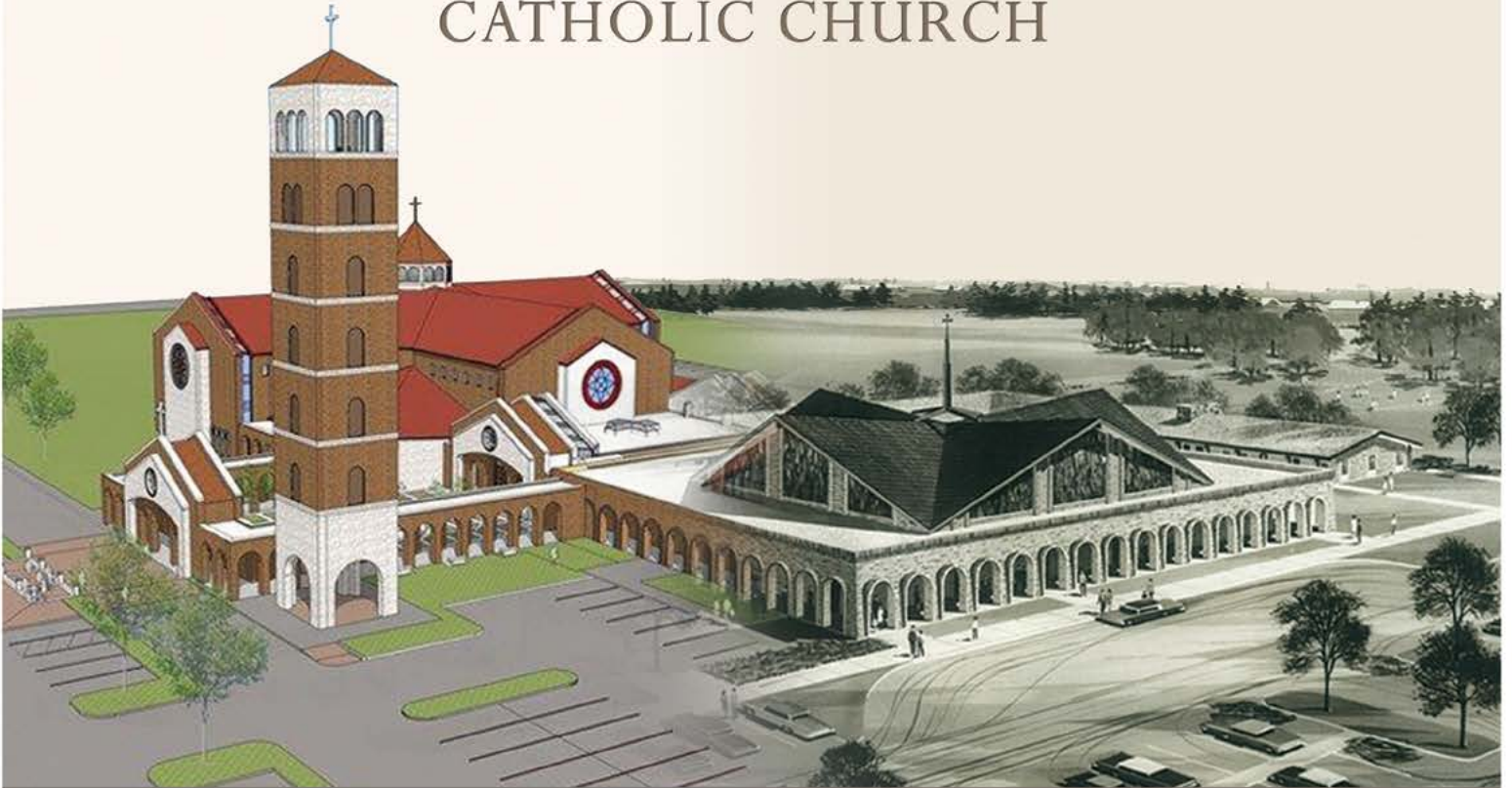


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# SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

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## CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Living Faith*

*Changing Lives*

*Making a Difference*

**2016**  
Annual Report



## A Note from Father Troy

Dear Friends in Christ:

What a joy and a blessing it is for us to celebrate 50 years as a parish! It is impossible to thank God enough for all the graces that have been bestowed upon us during this half century. Yet, as with any great endeavor, the groundwork for our parish and the blessings we enjoy today were prepared years before the official establishment of our parish in 1966.

Three centuries ago in 1716, at the age of 60, a Spanish Franciscan missionary, Venerable Antonio Margil de Jesus, set out with five fellow Franciscans from the Mexican state of Zacatecas to bring the gospel to the rough frontier that is now Texas. Walking barefoot and fasting each day, Fr. Antonio and his band of missionaries pushed forward and established missions reaching all the way into deep East Texas. A century later in 1842, when Texas was a republic, the French missionary, Jean Marie Odin C.M., who would become the first Bishop of Galveston, established a Catholic parish in the muddy hamlet on the banks of Buffalo Bayou called Houston. Here the gospel would be preached to the handful of Catholics and all others who would listen.

Another century passed and in the boom years following WWII, before there were yet any homes or businesses, or roads and freeways in what is now the Memorial area of West Houston, land was purchased by the fifth Bishop of Galveston, Bishop Wendelin J. Nold. Plans and preparations were being made to continue the mission of proclaiming the gospel to those who would settle West Houston. Then in 1966, 250 years after Fr. Margil set out on his missionary journey, Bishop John L. Morkovsky established the parish of St. John Vianney with Fr. William L. Tinney as the founding pastor.

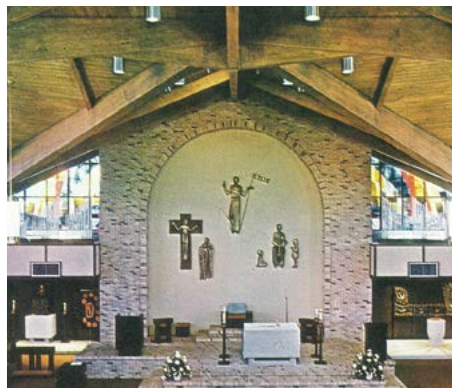
Then Fr. Joseph H. Crosthwait, our second pastor, continuing the vision of his predecessor, established ministry programs and social services to serve the needs of the people.

Our third pastor, Fr. John Morfin, and the parishioners seeing the great growth of the area, undertook the



**In 1966, we started off with only 300 families.**

**In 2016, we have 5,059 families (15,214 individuals) served by more than 3,000 parishioner ministry volunteers, 38 full-time, 98 part-time staff members, 3 deacons and 1 assigned priest.**



enormous responsibility of building a new church. For more than three centuries, the Catholic Church has had the vision to preach the gospel in this area we call home. The faithful of our parish have embraced this vision. For 50 years they have sacrificed in faith knowing that God continues to call His people to proclaim the beauty and joy of the gospel loudly and clearly to a world hungry for its saving truth.

This Annual Report which we are pleased to provide for you is more than just a statistical reporting of sacraments received, activities, membership data and financial figures. This Annual Report is a snapshot of the fruit of that singular vision which has been expressed in a variety of ways over the last five decades. It is a glimpse of the multitude of expressions of the gospel lived and proclaimed. What is presented in this report is not just a look at the past but also a look into the future. For the fruit that we experience and enjoy today by God's grace also bears the seeds for the fruit of the years to come. Our task today is "Continuing the Vision" that has been handed on to us. We are blessed to embrace it, make it our own and share it with others. The vision we have received and the vision we share is none other than the building up of the Kingdom of God in this wonderful portion of the Lord's vineyard.

In Pace Christi,

Reverend R. Troy Gately  
Pastor

# Celebrating 50 Years

## Continuing the Vision

### 50th Anniversary Construction Project

Thank you to all who have generously pledged to the "Continuing the Vision" Capital Campaign. We appreciate your continued support.

Construction began in early January, 2016. There are three major areas of construction: the parking lot, the exterior (plaza, bell tower and lantern) and the interior (church, chapels and narthex). Each section is being developed in sequenced stages. During construction, since we have been using the church on weekends and the parking throughout the project, many of our activities have been relocated with the cooperation of parishioners and staff.

As the project moves along, we have encountered many challenges and a number of unexpected issues, but our General Contractor and their partners have been fantastic in addressing them. Our parish committees along with the architects and design associates have been doing a great job. One of the original intentions of the project was to make necessary repairs to the buildings. Unfortunately (or in reality, fortunately), we have discovered more repair issues than previously expected. Among the issues discovered were serious cracks in the walls throughout the church, some of the foundation of the church was crumbling, numerous roof issues, and a host of other problems. All necessary repairs are being made to resolve these issues. We are also taking preventative measures to avoid future problems. Some of the repairs are for problems that are simply the result of time. As buildings age, things happen that need to be addressed. There have been other issues that have had to be addressed due to safety and building codes that have been implemented since the construction of the original church in 1967 and the "new" church in 2001. All in all, it is good that we are taking advantage of this opportunity to update our buildings and bring them into code compliance. One of the items we are addressing



is an ADA (handicapped accessible) restroom for the Adoration Chapel. Another problem that has been repaired is the threshold to the entrance to the Adoration Chapel. There has also been major work to the drainage and utilities beneath the parking lot.

There should be noticeable progress in the coming months, as we approach our completion deadline. Yet as with any construction project, there are times of rapid and visible progress and then the work seems to come to a standstill. Be assured it is not. Work is continuing each day. However, we continue to run into difficulties and delays in obtaining materials and skilled labor. When there is a delay with one part, it has a ripple effect in delaying work and progress in other areas of the project. We have been blessed with the patience and understating of all parishioners.

Please remember to keep the project and all of the workers in your prayers.





# Living Faith



## Sing of Salvation Series

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord...

So began the latest performance in the Sing of Salvation Series at SJV.

It was one of several beautiful selections from "Godspell" performed. Sing of Salvation, a series of scriptural narratives with selected Broadway music, is a collaboration between Adult Formation and Music Ministry.

**173 infants and 45 children (ages 1 -7) received their Baptism.**

**314 children received their Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.**

**116 youth and 47 adults received the gifts of the Holy Spirit by the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

**51 couples celebrated their marriage at Saint John Vianney Catholic Church.**



## He is Risen! Alleluia!

Easter Triduum at Coleman Coliseum

Words cannot express how much we owe in thanksgiving to God for such a blessed and beautiful Holy Week and Easter. The liturgies were simply wonderful. One of the greatest blessings of the Triduum was the welcoming of 42 new Catholics into the Church through Baptism and Profession of Faith at the Easter Vigil! We thank God for these women, men and youth. May our prayers always be with them and may their lives give praise to God by living their Catholic faith joyfully!

Having the liturgies in the Coleman Coliseum was a tremendous challenge but our great parish staff and the many dedicated parishioner volunteers did a fantastic job of pulling it all together. We are grateful to all who worked so hard. It is safe to say that our liturgies were the largest in the entire archdiocese, if not the most beautiful!



## Called to Pilgrimage

Holy Land 2015

Over 40 pilgrims were blessed to make the Holy Land trip to Israel last October. Tours and accommodations were organized by Catholic Travel Centre, while spiritual direction was provided by Fr. Troy and overall happiness was coordinated by Carolyn Greene. This amazing trip included visits to Cana, Nazareth, Capernaum, Tabgha, the Jordan River, Mt. Tabor – just to name some of the sites. One of the many highlights of this pilgrimage was listening to Fr. Troy read from John 6 in the same temple where Jesus had first preached the same. It's hard to imagine how much there is to experience in a place as geographically compact as Israel. There are too many stories and memories to include because it was truly the "journey" of a lifetime. Needless to say, the hymn "Jerusalem, My Destiny" will never be the same for these pilgrims!

## Vocations

Answering the Call

All Christians are called to be a gift of self to one another. Some of us are also called by God to be a total gift of self to the Church as prayerful catalysts of love and mercy.

We currently have two young women from our parish in the convent: Alexia Zaldivar and Katie Lowe; and five young men in the Seminary: David Ramirez, Rick Arriola, Francisco Enriquez, Justin Cormier, and Paolo Puccini, CSP. Please keep them in your prayers.

# Changing Lives

## Jeff Cavins Live

SJV parishioners were blessed to host Jeff Cavins the first weekend of October for his presentation "Walking Toward Eternity: Learning to Walk the Walk." Jeff challenged attendees with "Living the Life that You Don't Have Time For" in which he explained how Jesus is the answer to the complexity of our modern lives. Jeff pointed out that God created us with a desire only He can satisfy, then he went on explaining how we might respond to and satisfy this desire with practices that can help us in our journey home to God.

Throughout his presentations, we were encouraged to spend time with God and be faithful in every aspect so that we can find true peace and happiness. For many who have only experienced Jeff in the classroom recordings, what a blessing it was to experience Jeff's wit and wisdom up close and personal!



## ACTS Retreats

Adoration. Community. Theology. Service.

An ACTS retreat weekend is designed to transform lives by experiencing God's love and joy working through the Holy Spirit and with fellow parishioners.

This experience fosters a deep sense of community filled with a deeper love for and friendship with one another and instills a desire to become more involved in the parish community.

This last year, our parish hosted four retreats, including two in Spanish. Since our first men's retreat in 2005, over 600 SJV parishioners have attended an ACTS Retreat. Additionally, SJV has missioned three other parishes to begin their ACTS program.

Our parish is so blessed to have such a wonderful program that builds friendship and community within our SJV family.

## Exploring His World

Jean Vianney: A Series of Lectures

Adult Formation presented a four part lecture series focusing on the historical context in which Saint John Vianney lived. The series, "Jean Vianney, His World, His Church, His Ministry," was presented by Fr. Chuck Talar, priest-in-residence at St. John Vianney parish.

Born in 1786, Jean Vianney was not insulated from the effects of the larger historical events of that era. Precisely because his ministry revolved around the sacramental and pastoral duties of a parish priest, studying his life provides access to the Catholicism of his day as it was lived out in the ordinary circumstances of the faithful during those tumultuous times.

Fr. Chuck Talar, Ph.D is Professor of Systematics and History at the University of St. Thomas Graduate School of Theology. He is a well known author and editor of several books. He has lectured at conferences throughout the U.S and Europe.

**Over 1,600 children and youth received Religious Education at SJV served by 11 staff members and more than 160 volunteer Catechists!**

**Our Young Children's Program served 140 children ages 1 to 4. Classes meet every Tuesday and Thursday, 9am - 2pm during the school year.**



## A Very Special Program

CCE for Children with Autism

Five years ago when Fr. Troy asked, "Can we do something for families of children with autism?" a special Ed. teacher and one mother of a boy with Autism began a very special program to assist five families in the parish. The program has grown to 11 children and 12 volunteers who alternate Sundays to come and help. We give parents the opportunity to go to Mass without being judged because of their children's behavior. Some of the children who started in this program have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion and have been mainstreamed into regular classes. If you have time on Sunday at 9:30am, come and see what heaven looks like in the Youth Formation Office while meeting some of these incredible families of our parish.

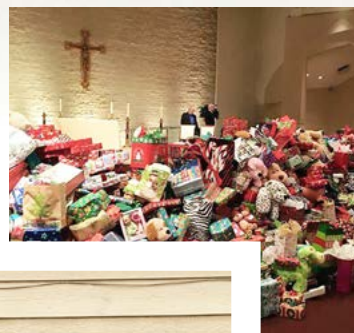


# Making a Difference

## Super Senior Program

Confirmed High School Leaders Sharing their Faith

Our Super Senior program continues to grow. This is a group of Confirmed teens who continue to participate in weekly events as well as retreats. They work together to help mentor the underclassmen and lead their peers to Christ. They serve as role models and discussion group leaders to the upcoming Confirmation Class. For the seniors, participating in this leadership group gives them an immediate way to take ownership of their faith and pass it along to others. Throughout the year, this group turns into a family of support and accountability for all involved. The Super Seniors are and continue to be a blessing to our program and parish.



## St. Anne's Society

An SJV Organization of Mothers with Young Families

St. Anne's Society helps mothers of young children grow both spiritually and emotionally while providing faith based social activities.

In this past year's general meetings we heard from a wide range of speakers who shared their Catholic Faith and their expertise on different areas of our lives such as spirituality, early childhood development, parenting, marriage and family life. We ended the year with the Wise Women panel which allowed an open format question and answer session with seasoned mothers. In addition, we enjoyed teaching our children about acts of mercy through many service projects, participated in a book study called Walking to Eternity, offered adoration with childcare, and celebrated our faith through Easter picnics and Advent activities.

St. Anne's membership has grown to over 170 members and continues to grow!



The SJV Mission Teams conducted 1 medical mission to El Salvador, and 5 home repair missions to Eagle Pass, TX, including a trip with our High School Ministry!

Our Social Service Ministry served 1,172 families with emergency services

The Gabriel Project provided much needed help and support to 163 expectant mothers.

## The Joy of Giving

Social Ministry's Christmas Program

We estimated that more than 7,000 gifts were collected and distributed on Gift Giving Sunday this past December. The gifts went to SJV Emergency Service families as well as 18 participating parishes and charities with the help of over 90 volunteers.

SJV Social Ministry's Christmas Program served 89 families and 290 children who were provided with a Nativity Cross for their home, a generous gift card, two presents for each child, a book about the birth of Jesus, a turkey or ham, and a bag of groceries. We could not have done this without the assistance of hundreds of volunteers who helped us make this a beautiful Christmas for the families in our program.

## Respect Life Presents:

Movie Night

We thank you for making our Respect Life Movie Night such a big success! This past May, we featured "The Letters: The Epic Life Story of Mother Teresa." We had almost 100 attendees, and we can honestly say that we were all moved by Mother Teresa's example of showing Christ's love to those too often shunned by society. During this Jubilee Year and given her recent canonization, let us all look to her example of mercy in action.

# Thanks for your Support!

## SJV Charities

Thank You for your Support!

100% of the net proceeds of our annual bazaar are directed to our SJV Charities. They are not used for any of our parish programs. In addition to proceeds from our bazaar, we also dedicate monies from our regular income (Sunday collections) to support other parishes and charitable entities through subsidies and financial gifts. Many benefit from our sacrificial stewardship. Each year we also award grants to assist in the ministries and works of charity, including our Archdiocesan support, second collections, subsidies, grants and other gifts. St. John Vianney Parish gave over a million dollars to support outside charitable and religious works.



## Grant Recipients

2015 - 2016

- Casa Juan Diego (Shelter for Immigrants)
- Magnificat House (Shelter for the Homeless)
- Wellsprings (Shelter for Abused Women)
- Angela House (Halfway House for Incarcerated Women)
- Isaiah House (Halfway House for Incarcerated Men)
- Habitat for Humanity (Housing)
- Memorial Assistance Ministries (Housing)
- Christian Community Services Center (Emergency Services)
- Interfaith Ministries | Meals on Wheels (Food Services)
- Our Daily Bread (Food Services)
- Catholic Charities (Emergency Services)
- Carmelite Nuns (Religious)
- Cenacle Retreat House (Religious)

Our 2015 fall bazaar was a huge success. We had a record 1,800 volunteers and countless attendees. "Thank you" to all our committee members and volunteers!

God blessed us with a beautiful sunny day where both kids and adults enjoyed a day of fun and fellowship. Congratulations to our raffle winners, which were all parishioners!

We had a total earnings of \$244,900.00. 100% of all proceeds benefit our parish charities.

SJV Annual Bazaar is a great way to build community in our parish while raising much needed funds for the needy, and a great witness for Living Faith, Changing Lives & Making a Difference!

- Legion of Christ (Religious)
- Texas Right to Life (Healthcare)
- Houston Coalition for Life (Healthcare)
- Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers (Healthcare)
- Spring Branch Community Health Center (Healthcare)
- San Jose Clinic (Healthcare)
- CanCare (Healthcare)
- Interfaith Care Partners (Healthcare)
- St. Leo The Great Church (Parish)
- St. Peter Claver Church (Parish)
- St. Francis of Assisi Church (Parish)
- St. Francis of Assisi School (Catholic Education)
- Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory High School (Catholic Education)
- St. John XXIII College Preparatory (Catholic Education)
- St. John Paul II School (Catholic Education)
- Inner City Catholic Schools (Catholic Education)
- St. Jerome School (Catholic Education)
- FOCUS | Fellowship of Catholic University Students (Catholic Education)



## Finance Report

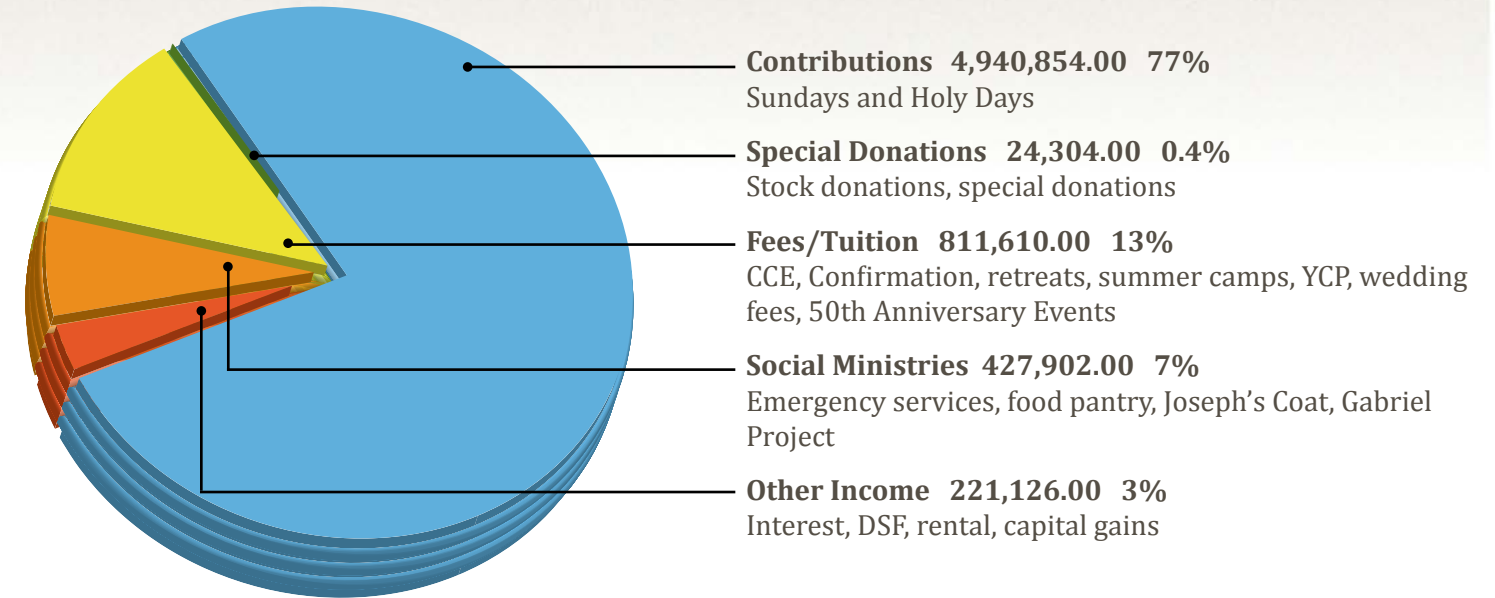
Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)

For Fiscal Year 2016 we had revenues of \$6,425,796 and expenses of \$5,753,038 resulting in a net profit of \$672,758. Surplus funds were allocated to Capital Renewal.

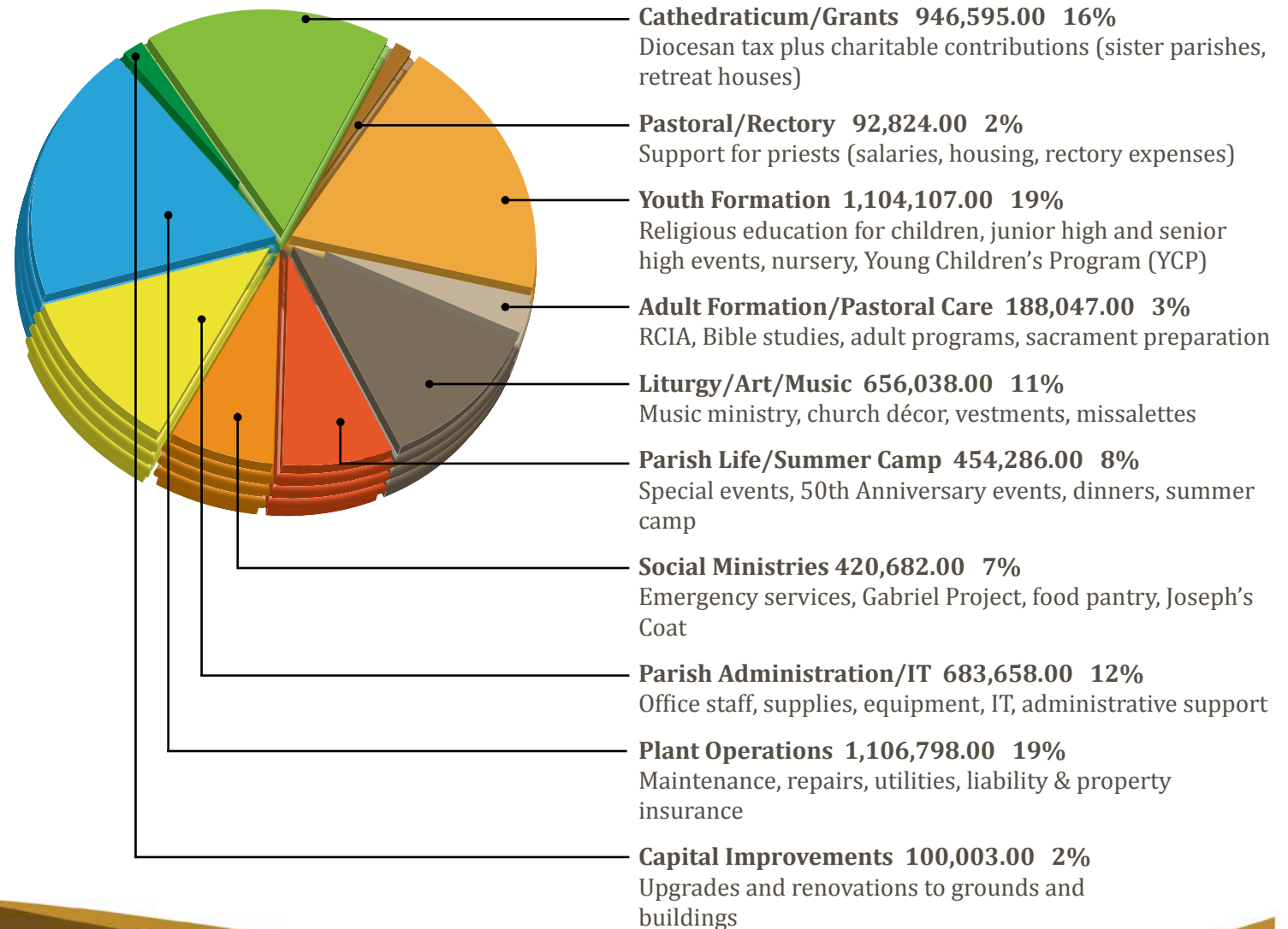
For Fiscal Year 2017, we are projecting a 3.5% increase in revenue. Projected increase could result due to the completion of the Church renovations. We are projecting a 15.7% increase in expenses. This is attributed to the addition of staff for the Youth Formation and Adult Formation departments, 50th Anniversary events, 12% increase in employee healthcare due to federal requirements and the continued growth of all ministries. The projected revenue and expense figures will result in a net loss of \$4,200 for FY 2017 if all variables hold true.

Description	2015-2016 Budget	2015-2016 Actual	2016-2017 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contributions - Sundays	4,750,000.00	4,940,854.00	5,000,000.00
Special Donations	200,000.00	24,304.00	25,000.00
Other Income: DSF/Interest/Rental	220,600.00	221,126.00	255,600.00
Fees/Tuition/50th Anniversary Events	874,050.00	811,610.00	1,016,200.00
Social Ministries	391,000.00	427,902.00	353,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>6,435,650.00</b>	<b>6,425,796.00</b>	<b>6,649,800.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Cathedraticum/Grants	1,052,800.00	946,595.00	1,177,300.00
Pastoral/Rectory	112,785.00	92,824.00	86,000.00
Youth Formation	1,285,505.00	1,104,107.00	1,214,973.00
Adult Formation/Pastoral Care	364,180.00	188,047.00	438,700.00
Liturgy/Art/Music	724,000.00	656,038.00	560,700.00
Parish Life/Summer Camp/50th Anniversary Events	461,915.00	454,286.00	600,700.00
Social Ministries	517,335.00	420,682.00	533,700.00
Parish Administration/IT	690,535.00	683,658.00	724,800.00
Plant Operations	1,131,595.00	1,106,798.00	1,117,127.00
Capital Improvements	150,000.00	100,003.00	200,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>6,490,650.00</b>	<b>5,753,038.00</b>	<b>6,654,000.00</b>
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(55,000.00)</b>	<b>672,758.00</b>	<b>(4,200.00)</b>

## Income 2015-2016



## Expense 2015-2016



SAINT JOHN VIANNEY  

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CATHOLIC CHURCH

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