

"They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life,  
to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers."

Acts 2:42



*Living Faith ❖ Changing Lives ❖ Making a Difference*

# 2019

## Annual Report

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston*

## A Note from Father Troy

Dear Friends in Christ:

*Praise the Lord for He is good and His mercy endures forever!*  
Ps 136

It has been two years since Hurricane Harvey and the devastating floods that impacted so many in our community and parish. Many have yet to return to their homes, but thankfully some of our parishioners and neighbors who lost their homes and possessions have been able to return after months of delays, agony and frustration. Our parish continues to offer assistance and to stand by our neighbors and friends as they have made the long journey of rebuilding. As the area has been recovering, we have seen positive signs here at the parish as well. Our numbers at Mass, in our programs and at our events are not yet to pre-Harvey levels, but they are showing definite signs of recovery.

During this time of recovery and rebuilding, we have experienced many blessings here at the parish. We have been able to fill some of the staff positions that had to be eliminated due to budget cutbacks after Harvey. We have seen an increase in new young families moving into the neighborhood which has resulted in a slight "baby boom", requiring us to increase our nursery space. Likewise, we have happily seen an increase in the number of young couples seeking the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Our parish was especially blessed this past year to have two young men from our parish ordained to the priesthood! Frs. Rick Arriola and Justin Cormie were two of the seven men ordained by Cardinal DiNardo for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. This is the second time in ten years that we have had two men from the parish ordained in the same year.

A wonderful blessing of 2018-19 was when a group of parishioners was able to go on pilgrimage to France and spend several days at the shrine of St. John Vianney in Ars. Our parishioners were hosted by Fr. Patrice and the parishioners of Ars. They were able to spend time in prayer in the village where St. John Vianney lived and dedicated himself in his priestly ministry and pray for the blessings of all of our parishioners here in Houston.



While much has changed in the more than century and a half when St. John Vianney ministered among the rural flock in a remote little village, some of the most important things have not. God's mercy and goodness continue to be lavishly bestowed upon the people He has chosen as His own. Today, in the bustling, modern metropolis that we call home and in the remote village of southeastern France where our patron served and ministered and in every place in the world big or small, God is still longing for souls. Our mission continues. Like St. John Vianney, we too seek to win brothers and sisters for Christ by *Living Faith, Changing Lives and Making a Difference!* It is my hope that as you read this Annual Report of the activities of our parish for the past year that you may see the great things that God has done for us and continues to do for us and through us. May God's goodness and mercy continue to give you hope and strengthen your faith.

*Praise the Lord for He is good and His mercy endures forever!*

In Pace Christi,

Reverend R. Troy Gately  
Pastor

# Changing Times



Fr. Justin Cormie



Fr. Rick Arriola

## Growing Vocations

SJV has seen a steady increase in the numbers of seminarians and priestly ordinations over the last two decades. We are specially blessed this year in our parish with the priestly ordinations of Fr. Rick Arriola and Fr. Justin Cormie this past June. We also have six seminarians from SJV: Michael Noriega, David Ramirez, Paolo Puccini, Ahn Nguyen, Josh Svadja, and Phuc Nguyen. Even though not with the same growing numbers, there are still young women who are answering God's call. One is from our parish, Sr. Alexia Zaldivar!

Please pray for these young people and that their numbers may grow.

*St. John Vianney, pray for us!*

## Thank you, Fr. Clark!

This past June, Cardinal DiNardo appointed Fr. Clark as Administrator (Pastor) of St. Thomas More Parish in southwest Houston. This is a large parish with a big parochial school. This move shows what we all know; Fr. Clark is a very talented and gifted priest! We wish him all the best and are confident that he will do a great job there and the people of St. Thomas More will appreciate and love him just as we have here at SJV. We are thankful for Fr. Clark's wonderful priestly ministry and his faithful witness to the Lord Jesus and the gospel.

In late June we joyfully welcomed Fr. Richard Hinkley as our new Parochial Vicar. A native Houstonian, Fr. Richard grew up in St. Francis de Sales parish. He attended the University of Notre Dame and continued to law school at University of Houston. He then entered the seminary, first attending Holy Trinity Seminary and then The Pontifical North American College in Rome. Fr. Richard has theological degrees from the Gregorian University and from the Pontifical Athenaeum San Anselmo. He speaks English, Spanish, Italian, French and Portuguese, one of many reasons we feel blessed and happy to have Fr. Richard here at St. John Vianney!



## Welcome Deacon Jeff!

This year we welcomed a new deacon assigned to our parish, Deacon Jeff Willard, Ph.D., LPC. Jeff has been on staff since August 2018 when he became the Director of Pastoral Care and Spiritual Life for our parish. A native of Oklahoma, Jeff is a Licensed Professional Counselor with a background in Marriage and Family Therapy. A convert to the Catholic Faith, he was ordained to the diaconate for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 1999.

We are blessed with five deacons: Fred Kossegi, Dale Steffes, Greg Stokes, Al Vacek and Jeff Willard; and five more men in formation: Joe Barber, Dough Birkbeck, Charlie Vatterott, Tom Williams and David Wirfs.

### Prayer for Vocations

*Father, You call each one of us by name and ask us to follow You.*

*Bless our Parish of St. John Vianney by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons, and Lay Ministers.*

*Inspire us as we grow to know You, and open our hearts to hear Your call.*

*We ask this through Christ, our Lord.*

*Amen*



# Living Faith



## ***A Day of Reflection***

Almost 50 Social Service Ministries volunteers gathered for a Lenten Day of Reflection. This event was planned in appreciation for their hard work and generosity of spirit throughout the year.

"I Was Blind and Now I See," based on the passage of the man born blind (Jn 9:1-41), was an opportunity for the volunteers to take some time with Jesus, as they allowed His words to quiet the mind and soothe the spirit.

Facilitated by Deacon Jeff Willard, who is also the Director of Pastoral Care and Spiritual Life here at SJV, the day also provided the volunteers some time to pray, reflect, discuss, meditate upon the Gospel, and re-commit themselves to Jesus and His commission to us all. The day concluded with the volunteers attending Mass together as a group.

## ***Spirit Driven***

Our new and improved High School Confirmation Program had over 85 participants last year. The best news is that over half of our confirmed students are returning to serve as leaders in the parish and youth formation during the upcoming year!

Thank you to all the volunteers, catechists, parents, sponsors, family members, and staff who helped make this year's Confirmation preparation possible.

*May the Holy Spirit continue to guide them in serving God and Neighbor.*



### **Sacraments:**

**112 infants and 47 children (ages 1 -7) received their Baptism**

**6 youth (ages 7-17) completed the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) and 28 adults, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

**221 children received their Sacrament of First Reconciliation and 210 their First Eucharist**

**86 youth and 53 adults received the gifts of the Holy Spirit by the Sacrament of Confirmation**

**71 Marriages were celebrated at SJV**

## ***Faith and Snacks***

### **Vacation Bible School**

We all remember the perennial assignment "What I did during my summer vacation." Some of our elementary students enjoyed a week of VBS at SJV. They pretended to be slaves of Pharaoh, they were rescued by Moses (a teen volunteer) and they were brought to the Promised Land. All this and a good snack too!

Some of our Junior High students spent a week sharing the Great Adventure Bible study by Jeff Cavins. They learned the 12 periods of Bible history, they learned about the Prophets, and now they understand that the books of the Bible carry a narrative story.





## Inspiring Journeys:

### SJV's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

*"Life Changing," "Trip of a Lifetime," "Bucket list Journey."*

This trip makes such a difference. Our pilgrims that journeyed to the Holy Land this past October are still inspired and continue to grow in their faith and fellowship, as evidenced by their ongoing dinners, bible studies and at-home prayer services.

### Young Adult Pilgrimage to Italy

Last February, 30 young adults from St. John Vianney went on a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. This journey of learning and discovery of our faith's most sacred sites helped build new friendships and deepened the faith of all who joined. Several pilgrims are now helping spearhead targeted outreach to new young adults in our surrounding community.



## Reel Faith

### Experiencing the Transforming Richness of our Faith

In the fall of 2018, Adult Formation presented "Reel Faith," an opportunity for parishioners and their guests to gather together in the Activity Center and view specially selected

movies. Films can transport us to places with the result that life takes on a richness not ordinarily experienced. Additionally, a film has the potential to transform us especially when we interact with it communally and not just consumptively; when we converse about the film with others in the process of viewing.

The movies presented included *Under the Roman Sky*, *Romero*, *The Sexual Revolution*, and *I Prefer Heaven*. Through these films viewers were exposed to the trials and triumphs of others and were reminded of the importance of faith, hope, and love as fuel for their own journey of faith.

### Youth Formation:

**132 Pre-K and Kindergarten children,  
754 Elementary,  
151 Jr. High and  
256 High School  
students were enrolled  
in Continuing Christian  
Education (CCE) served by  
211 Volunteer Catechists,**

**130 Children ages 1-4  
were enrolled in our  
Young Children's Program**



# Changing Lives

## ***The Blessing of a Home***

### **SJV Mission Team's Home Build Project**

After many hours of hard work during the past year (September 2018 - June 2019), our Mission Team members relied on their discipline, expertise and their loving generous spirit to successfully complete a home build project in Holiday Lakes, Brazoria County. In short, they helped the Vega family rebuild their house from the ground up after it flooded in August of 2017.

While this is a huge blessing for the Vega family, it has also been a satisfying project for the team members. The feeling of accomplishment after overcoming numerous challenges pales in comparison to the satisfaction of helping those in need and answering God's call to serve others.

Although each team member brings different skills to the worksite, they have come together as a 'band of brothers' to bring out the best in each other and to see this commitment through. They have truly been the hands, feet, and face of Jesus Christ to the Vega family and to those with whom they've partnered for this project.

As our team moves on to other projects, they would like to encourage anyone who is considering mission work but is hesitant or thinks a special set of skills is needed for this type of ministry to just dive in and find out. Home repair skills are clearly a plus, but we know that everyone has something to offer. SJV Service Missions also entail visiting the homes of the needy and homebound, community outreach, evangelization, and mission spirituality. It is a fulfillment of Jesus' own mandate:

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you"*  
John 20:21



## ***A Weekend that Lasts a Life Time***

### **ACTS Retreats**

An ACTS retreat weekend is designed to transform lives by experiencing God's love and joy working through the Holy Spirit. Lead by fellow lay parishioners, this experience fosters a deep sense of community and friendship, while instilling a desire to become more involved in the parish community.

The take-away message from the retreat can help those participating further commit to their faith and inspire them to become more deeply involved in serving the needs of their parish and community.

This last year, our parish hosted five retreats, including two in Spanish. Over a hundred parishioners, men and women of all ages, participated in an ACTS retreat this year. We were blessed to have our very first Teen ACTS this past June! Special thanks to the Teen ACTS Team from the Diocese of Lake Charles, Louisiana, it would not have been possible without their support.

If you have never experienced an ACTS retreat, consider attending one next year!



# Making a Difference



## **No Ordinary Summer**

**Faith, Fun and Friends at Camp SJV!**

Camp SJV experienced its most successful summer to date in 2019. Our 170 families and their 288 campers each helped make this a summer to remember. Campers ages 4-12 engaged in various theme days and activities, including The Ultimate Gameshow Challenge, Crazy Hair Day, Camp SJV's Got Talent, and much more. The 7-12 year old campers went on several new field trips including a Sugar Land Skeeters game, the George Bush Library & Museum, and Blue Bell Creameries, just to name a few. The camp averaged over 130 campers in attendance each day. This is in stark contrast to the 85 that the camp averaged just 5 years ago. The camp's annual growth and success is only possible thanks to the continued support from all of our families, volunteers, and dedicated staff.



### **Social Ministries:**

**SJV assisted 1,402 families or 4,485 individuals, including 2,195 children.**

**The Food Pantry assisted 1,022 families, Joseph's Coat served 631 families, and 220 families received financial assistance through the Emergency Service Program.**

**The Christmas Program served 107 families, including 392 children.**

**Gift Giving Sunday collected over 7,000 gifts for children and teens in 20 parishes within the Archdiocese.**

**SJV provided \$65,200 in financial assistance to 100 SJV families recovering from Harvey.**

**Our 43 participants in 3 Missions (including one High School Mission) to Eagle Pass, TX, repaired a total of 15 homes.**

**Thanks to our volunteer teachers and mentors, 134 students graduated in the ESL program, and 22 Spring Branch ISD students were mentored.**

## **Fresh from our Garden!**

This year, our Community Garden has produced a bumper crop of vegetables, including potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, green beans, cabbages, turnips, and carrots. We even have some cantaloupes, watermelons, figs, and pears.

Our garden is a unique blessing to our parish as most food pantries in the Houston area are not able to offer fresh fruits and vegetables, so we're very thankful to all of our gardeners for making this possible. Parishioner John Little is our Master Gardener who is in charge of planning, planting, and harvesting the garden. He is also happy to share his wealth of gardening knowledge with our parishioners, especially the little ones. Please contact Social Service Ministry if you and your family are interested in learning more about gardening or joining John and his team!





## ***A Night to Remember***

### **Organ Dedication Recital**

September 14, 2018 was a night that everyone in attendance will remember. After all, it was the culmination of years of planning, designing and building that we were able to present our new organ (Austin Opus 2798) in recital. It featured the talent of our own Clayton Roberts who was instrumental in all the details of this organ. The

chosen musical literature was a small sampling of the array of colors and textures this beautiful instrument could produce by a talented and creative musician such as Clayton.

This very special recital was just the beginning of more such musical events we were blessed to have last year here at St. John Vianney: A beautiful recital featuring SJV organist, Michael Ging; an Organ and Brass Concert featuring Clayton Roberts and Michael Ging, Organists, and The Houston Brass Quintet; and the ECHO's Masterwork Concert featuring Clayton Roberts and the Young Artist Concerto Competition Winner.

Our Austin Organ, Opus 2798 is unique in that all of the divisions are double enclosed (two sets of shades) which means that his range of volume can be glorious when all three divisions are opened to the impressive tenderness when all boxes and both sets of shades are closed. It is a design that is not seen often in organ building, especially with the Austin organs.



### **Austin Organ, Opus 2798**

The Church organ was constructed by Austin Organs, Inc. of Hartford, Connecticut and installed in the fall of 2017.

This instrument contains 3,620 pipes grouped in five divisions: Great, Swell, Choir, Solo, and Pedal.

97% of the organ is enclosed in boxes with shades that open and close, giving the organist complete dynamic control of each division.

Located in the mechanical room behind the choir area is the 10-horsepower, dual-pressure blower, which provides wind for the organ.



# Thanks for your Support!



## ***SJV Charities***

2018 - 2019

- **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)
- **Memorial Assistance Ministries** (Emergency Services)
- **Habitat for Humanity** (Housing)
- **Interfaith Ministries | Meals on Wheels** (Food Services)
- **Our Daily Bread** (Food Services)
- **Catholic Charities** (Emergency Services)
- **Servants of the Pierced Hearts** (Religious)
- **Cenacle Retreat House** (Religious)
- **Foundation for Life** (Healthcare)
- **Houston Coalition for Life** (Healthcare)

### Stewardship:

Special thanks to our sponsors, committee members, our staff, over 1,600 volunteers, and countless attendees who participated in our 2018 Fall Bazaar.

The bazaar had a total earnings of \$272,974.00. 100% of all proceeds benefited our parish charities.

In addition to this, we also dedicate monies from our regular income to support other parishes and charitable entities through subsidies and financial gifts.

Many benefit from our sacrificial stewardship. A great witness for Living Faith, Changing Lives & Making a Difference!

- **Spring Branch Community Health Center** (Healthcare)
- **San Jose Clinic** (Healthcare)
- **St. Peter Claver Church** (Parish)
- **St. Francis of Assisi Church** (Parish)
- **Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory High School** (Catholic Education)
- **St. John XXIII College Preparatory** (Catholic Education)
- **St. John Paul II School** (Catholic Education)
- **St. Jerome School** (Catholic Education)
- **Incarnate Word Academy** (Catholic Education)
- **Queen of Peace School** (Catholic Education)
- **FOCUS | Fellowship of Catholic University Students** (Catholic Education)
- **University of St. Thomas | School of Theology** (Catholic Education)
- **University of St. Thomas Parish Scholarship Program** (Catholic Education)

## Finance Report

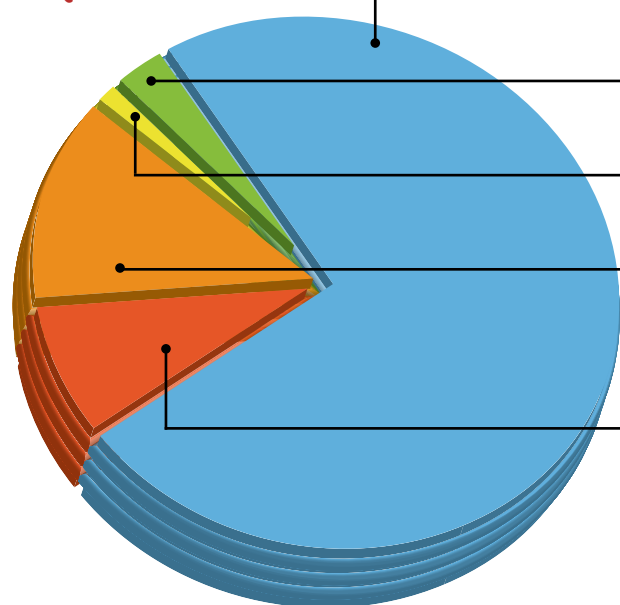
### Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)

For Fiscal Year 2019 total revenues were \$6,665,351 and total expenses were \$5,682,864 resulting in a net gain of \$982,487. For Fiscal Year 2020 we are projecting an approximate **7.6% decrease in revenue**. Projected decrease is attributed to the continued traffic congestion due to construction on Memorial Drive and unstable economic conditions. We are projecting an approximate **9.5% increase in overall expenses**. This is attributed to the increase in healthcare insurance, property insurance and hiring additional staff for Youth Formation. The projected revenue and expense figures will result in a **net loss of \$69,200 for FY 2020** if all variables hold true.

Contributions for Hurricane Harvey Relief and grants given are considered extraordinary and are not included in this report.

Description	2018-2019 Budget	2018-2019 Actual	2019-2020 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contributions	4,483,900.00	4,923,623.00	4,634,200.00
Special Donations	150,000.00	208,341.00	150,000.00
Other Income: DSF/Interest/Rental	27,400.00	120,755.00	31,400.00
Fees/Tuition/Registrations	878,300.00	868,721.00	917,400.00
Social Ministries	360,400.00	543,911.00	424,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>5,900,000.00</b>	<b>6,665,351.00</b>	<b>6,157,000.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
General Parish	1,043,000.00	940,328.00	995,600.00
Pastoral Clergy & Rectory	137,400.00	134,447.00	141,900.00
Youth Formation	898,805.00	859,532.00	1,043,245.00
Adult Formation/Pastoral Care	296,600.00	284,842.00	304,400.00
Liturgy/Art/Music	517,105.00	527,170.00	560,400.00
Parish Life/Summer Camp	563,900.00	534,987.00	618,800.00
Social Ministries	440,600.00	412,028.00	493,200.00
Parish Administration/IT	790,950.00	773,525.00	797,847.00
Plant Operations	1,157,140.00	1,164,874.00	1,215,808.00
Capital Improvements	282,000.00	51,130.00	55,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>6,127,500.00</b>	<b>5,682,864.00</b>	<b>6,226,200.00</b>
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(227,500.00)</b>	<b>982,488.00</b>	<b>(69,200.00)</b>

## Income 2018-2019



**Contributions 4,923,623.00 73.9%**

Sundays and Holy Days

**Special Donations 208,341.00 3.1%**

Stock Donations, Special Donations

**Other Income 120,755.00 1.8%**

Interest, DSF Rebate, Rental

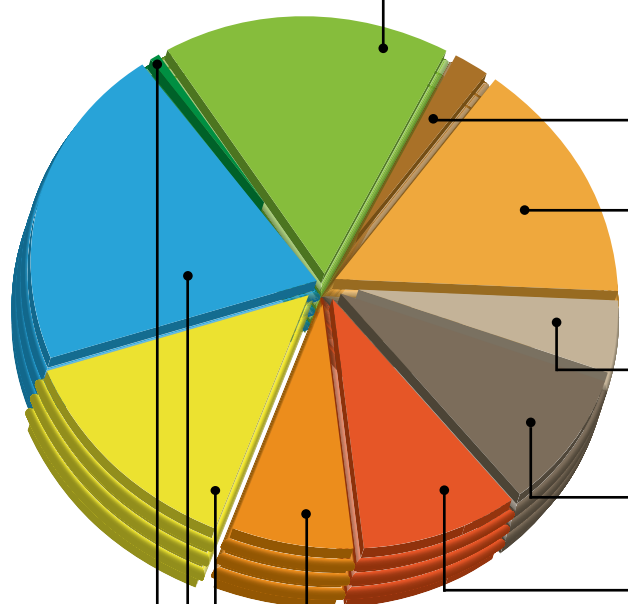
**Fees/Tuition/Registrations 868,721.00 13%**

CCE, Confirmation, Retreats, Summer Programs, YCP, Wedding Fees, Parish Life Events, Adult Formation, Youth and Young Adults Ministries

**Social Ministries 543,911.00 8.2%**

Emergency Services, Food Pantry, Joseph's Coat, Gabriel Project

## Expense 2018-2019



**General Parish 940,328.00 16.5%**

Diocesan Tax, Charitable Contributions (Sister Parishes, Retreat Houses), Building Fund Tax, Gift Tax, Disaster Reserve, Interest Expense

**Pastoral Clergy & Rectory 134,447.00 2.4%**

Support for Priests (Salaries, Housing, Rectory Expenses)

**Youth Formation 859,532.00 15.1%**

Religious Education for Children, Junior High and Senior High Events, Nursery, Young Children Program (YCP), Young Adults Ministry

**Adult Formation/Pastoral Care 284,842.00 5.0%**

RCIA, Bible Studies, Adult Programs, Baptism Classes, Marriage Preparation, Grief Ministry, etc.

**Liturgy/Art/Music 527,170.00 9.3%**

Music Ministry, Church Décor, Vestments, Missalettes

**Parish Life/Summer Camp 534,987.00 9.4%**

Special Events, Dinners, Summer Camp

**Social Ministries 412,028.00 7.3%**

Emergency Services, Gabriel Project, Food Pantry, Joseph's Coat

**Parish Administration/IT 773,525.00 13.6%**

Office Staff, Supplies, Equipment, IT, Administrative Support

**Plant Operations 1,164,874.00 20.5%**

Maintenance, Repairs, Utilities, Liability, Property Insurance

**Capital Improvements 51,130.00 0.9%**

Upgrades and Renovations to Grounds and Buildings

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY  

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CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston*

625 Nottingham Oaks Trail. Houston, TX 77079-6234  
Phone: 281.497.1500 | Fax: 281.584.2024

[www.stjohnvianney.org](http://www.stjohnvianney.org)