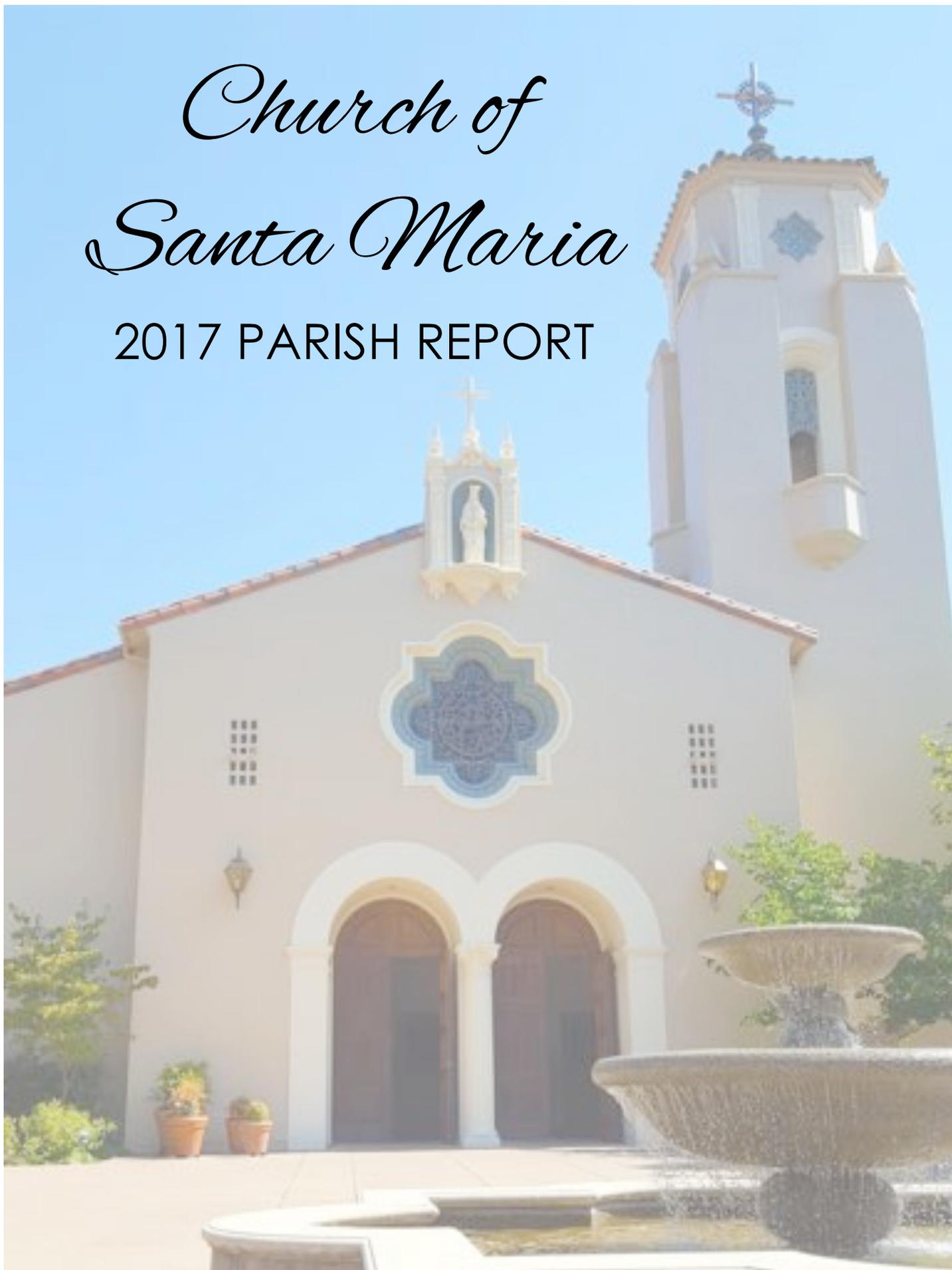


*Church of
Santa Maria*

2017 PARISH REPORT



March 2018

Dear Parishioners,

With this letter I present the annual Parish Report. It gives you a partial, but important, snapshot of the ministries and activities of the parish this past year, as well as of some of our plans for the coming year. It has been prepared and reviewed by the parish staff, committees, and Finance Council. It portrays one way for us to give an accounting of our stewardship.

As you review the report, I think you will be proud of how much we have accomplished together. I thank the staff, the various committees and parish organizations, and the many parishioners who, through their financial generosity and the generosity of their time, make all of this possible.

We have much to be thankful for. We have much that can still be accomplished. However, we must measure everything against the ultimate “measure,” which is whether as a result of all of this we have come closer to Jesus Christ and a deeper understanding and practice of our Catholic Faith. Each of us must personally judge that in accordance with how actively we practice our faith.

I know that many of you are anxious to know our progress in our efforts to “Restore and Renew” our church building. Over the past two years and into 2018 we will have completed all of the less “intrusive” projects in this effort, i.e., exterior painting, reconfiguring the choir area, enlarging and enhancing the Reconciliation chapels, repairing the public address system, interior painting, and a PG&E lighting audit and light replacement.

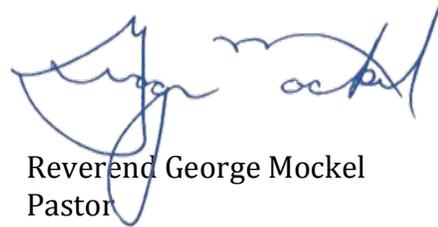
We hope to do the “intrusive” work in 2019. This will include the refinishing of the pews, removal and replacement of the floors, and installation of the new baptismal font. No changes to the choir, organ and piano location, or the floor plan of the sanctuary are contemplated. However, the nature of the work that will need to be done will require us to move Masses to the Parish Hall for some period of time, and thus it requires some long-term planning with regard to liturgies, weddings, etc. The Building Committee is working on this even now, so that a schedule can be developed as soon as possible.



While we have a portion of the funding already for these activities, additional funding will be necessary. If some of you are interested in making a special donation or memorial gift for this effort (e.g., for the Baptismal Font), please contact me. Similarly, many of you have positively commented on the new stone wall beneath the church. It would be nice if we could complete that wall and landscaping the rest of the way! Major gifts will be gratefully accepted.

In gratitude for all we do together, and with trust and confidence in the God who guides us into the future, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend George Mockel
Pastor



Our first time kicking off the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry programs with a BBQ on the plaza



Rock wall terraces below the church landscaped with azaleas, manzanita, and crepe myrtle



Our second annual Bishop's Vineyard Wine Tasting fundraiser in support of Music Ministry was an enjoyable (and fruitful!) evening



All teens preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation are blessed at our Youth Masses, at which they minister and serve through the year



Events that took place in the parish in 2017

- Tony and Megan attended the Steubenville NorCal Youth Conference to seek ideas and inspiration for the Youth Mass
- Wine Tasting with Bishop's Vineyard supporting Music Ministry
- 3rd annual Crab Feed benefitting Youth Ministry, hosted by the Knights of Columbus
- Communal candlelit rosary in October
- Lost Deacon Maurice Custodio
- Hosted the first kick-off BBQ on the plaza for Faith Formation and Youth Ministry families
- Trained and formed the Faith in Action Team (FIAT) for Youth Ministry leadership
- Faith Sharing Groups continued
- Sponsorship of two refugee families with Catholic Charities
- Women's Guild No-Bake Bake Sale and their donation toward our landscaping
- Another successful Christmas Party for parishioners and guests
- Knights of Columbus hosted the Parish Oktoberfest
- Celebrated a Mass of Remembrance for those who lost a loved one in 2017

Improvement projects completed in 2017

- Continued landscaping the new stone wall terraces in front of the school building
- Terraced and landscaped a section of the hill between the church and lower parking lot
- Installed rain gutters on the school building and rectory
- Painted the exterior of the church and the convent chapel
- Upgraded and enlarged two of the confessionals in the church
- Refurbished and tuned the grand piano in the church
- Created a new parish website
- Introduced a full-color Sunday bulletin
- Planted several redwood trees to replace dead Monterey pines
- Repaired and repaved the basketball court (cost split with Orinda Academy, who rents it)

Improvement projects planned for 2018

- Painting the interior of the church and the exterior of the rectory
- Installing new rain gutters on the convent
- Installing heating/cooling systems in two rooms of the rectory
- Completing the new confessionals
- Repairing the public address system in the church
- Finishing the remaining landscaping of terraces below the school building

Sacramental/Ministerial Statistics for 2017

Baptisms	
Infants	7
1-6 years	2
7-17 years	1
Adults	2
Receiving First Eucharist	47
Receiving Confirmation	
14-17 years	20
Adults	3
Weddings	
Catholic	8
Mixed	3
Funerals	21
Sacrament of the Sick	69
Elementary Faith Formation	
Teachers	130
Teachers	19
Middle School Ministry	
Teachers	30
Teachers	4
Confirmation Program	
Teachers	62
Teachers	9

Liturgical Ministers	
Adult Choir	18
Seasonal Choir	28
Children's Choir	15
Teen Choir/Music	10
Ministers of the Word	52
Ministers of Communion	77
Greeters	41
Head Ushers	10
Sacristans	15
Servers	19
Lay Presiders	7
Liturgy Team	9
Children's Liturgy Team	5
Art & Environment Team	8
Stewardship Team	5
Registered Parish Families	1018

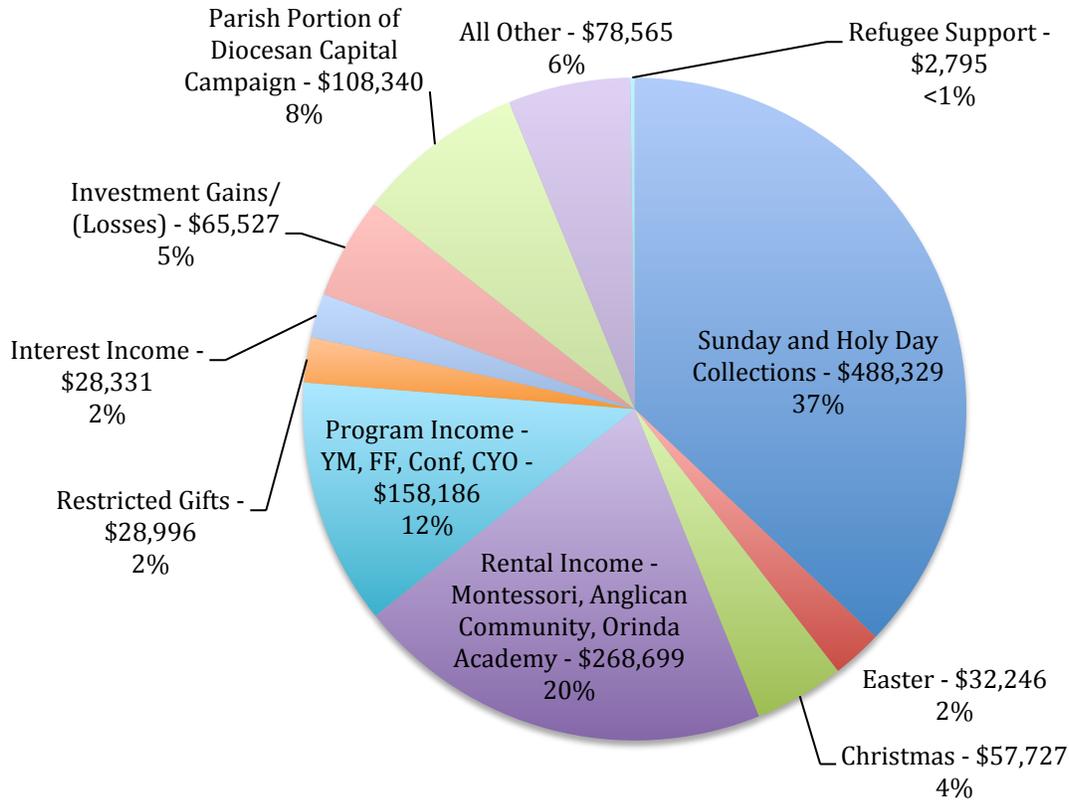
Parish Tithing for 2017

Our parish is committed to tithing 5% of its first collection regular income to organizations outside the parish so we can participate in and tangibly support good works beyond our parish. These organizations are vetted and recommended by the Social Justice Committee.

Claire's House, Catholic Charities of the East Bay - Oakland
Assists exploited and trafficked children with a safe and secure place to stay and long-term care and intensive counseling
St. Mary's Center - Oakland
Serves at-risk seniors and preschoolers through counseling, shelter, nutrition, advocacy, and social support
Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, Garden Park Apartments - Pleasant Hill
Provides permanent, affordable housing and vital support services to homeless and low-income families and individuals
Restorative Justice, Diocese of Oakland
Provides pastoral care for offenders, victims, and families affected by violence

Order of Malta Clinic - Oakland
Provides free health services for the uninsured sick and poor
St. Cornelius Catholic School - Richmond
Supports Catholic education through tuition assistance and educational resources
Refugee Family Assistance
Supports the Reh and Maqsoodi families our parish has co-sponsored with Catholic Charities of the East Bay
A Friendly Place - Oakland
A drop-in center and residence for homeless women
Walk for Life West Coast
Witnesses to the value of life and reaches out to women and families affected by abortion

Sources of Revenue in 2017



Expenses by Major Category in 2017

