

# St. John the Baptist Church

## Report to Commissions Mark Dittman, Parish Business Administrator

January 17, 2017

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1. **One Spirit ~ Many Gifts Sunday Giving Renewal.** To date we have received 575 pledges, representing \$1,010,073 in pledges for 2017 Sunday Giving. Thank you to all for your continuing generosity to St. John the Baptist!

Our Sunday Giving for the first half of the fiscal year (July 1 to December 31), which includes the Christmas collection, is about 2% above budget. That is an encouraging sign for programs and ministries! Thank you for your ongoing generosity to St. John the Baptist! Watch for a financial report, summarizing both revenue and expense, in early February on the first six months of the fiscal year.

2. **2016 Wish List Gifts.** We received several generous responses to our Wish List for 2016. Designated financial gifts were received for several school items, for kiosk screens & software for St. Paul Plaza, some of the enhancement lighting in St. Joseph Hall, and LED lighting in our archive display case. You will see some of these improvements soon!

We also found donors for a new office drop safe and for a new phone system for the parish and school offices. The phone system is a big-ticket item; the donor's generosity for this is nothing short of amazing!

Also, our efforts to find sponsors for new hymnals continue, with our current total collected being in excess of \$13,000. We hope to reach our goal and purchase hymnals by this spring.

3. **Eagle Scout Project.** Aspiring Eagle Scout John Lutterman is planning a project to improve the aesthetics and biosphere of the drainage basin on the west end of our west parking lot. He is working with the City of New Brighton and the parish to create a beautiful space that will complement both Veterans Park and St. John the Baptist. You will witness these improvements early this summer. Thank you, John, for your service to your parish and your community!
4. **The Legacy Committee.** The Legacy Committee, which exists to increase awareness of planned giving to St. John the Baptist, has a new chair, Mark Haidet. Mark, who has worked many years in development, recently retired from the State Fair Foundation.
5. **Welcome & Information Center Staffing.** Several staff members and I are looking at the process of adding new volunteers to increase Welcome Desk coverage.
6. **St. John the Baptist Cemetery Columbaria.** Planning and offsite construction continues. Watch for information soon on presales. We hope to break ground this spring and complete installation in early summer.

Thank you for your service to St. John the Baptist!

Mark Dittman

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