

# St. John the Baptist Church

## Report to Commissions Mark Dittman, Parish Business Administrator

September 19, 2017

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1. **A Financially Sound Year.** Check out the September 17 bulletin for a report on the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. Thanks to your generosity, we ended the year in the black! And, we continue to make significant progress on eliminating our debt.

This fall we will conduct another OSMG Financial Stewardship Renewal. Please watch for your opportunity to commit to our parish's continued financial health. Thank you!

2. **St. John the Baptist Cemetery Columbaria.** The columbaria units are out there! But more than that, they are situated in a beautiful plaza built by our own Don Neeck of Neeck Construction. The project was a great success. The total cost was just over \$249,000. These units will serve our parish families for years to come as a fitting and dignified final resting place for cremated remains. Contact the parish office or our cemetery caretaker Jeff Bauer (651-329-2187) for information about these units or our cemetery.
3. **Summer Projects.** This summer was busy! We completed or progressed on the following projects: school walk-in freezer replacement, school windows on one wall, a courtyard dedication stone, informational monitors in St. Paul Plaza, new lighting in the archive case, a new phone system, chapel air adjustment, bell tower repair planning, sidewalk improvements, and other ongoing maintenance, planning and administrative projects.
4. **Other Projects.** We are also reconfiguring the rectory garage doors and stalls to make it easier for our priests to get their vehicles in and out. (No more manually pulling in those side view mirrors each time!) We discovered in late summer that our church's clerestory windows, which are original to the building (1968), may need replacing sooner rather than later. We had one interior pane shift and break, creating a safety hazard. (It has been removed.) The Administrative Services Commission is studying this issue.
5. **Staff Changes.** Several of our office staff had their duties reviewed and realigned, in order to increase efficiency and effectiveness. I am proud of our staff for the quality of feedback they provided during the planning of these changes and their willingness to adapt to new duties and continue to do their very best in serving the parish.

Another change you may have heard about is that Deacon Mike Martin has retired from his work with us as Director of Maintenance. Deacon Martin was with us for nearly ten years. We are grateful for his service and wish him all the best in his new life! The impact of this change on the department, as well as some other changes, is being planned for now. We hope to hire a new director of maintenance in the near future.

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

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