

IMPACT



REPORT

ST BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

FROM THE PASTOR

FR BOB PENHALLURICK, KHS

As we come to the end of another liturgical year, I am happy to share with you this year's spiritual and financial Impact Report. The details you find herein are but a snapshot of the wonderful vitality and spirituality of our parish. We have been able to accomplish much again this year thanks to you and your willingness to generously give. Every year we trust in God's goodness and the power of the Holy Spirit at work in our midst to grow and deepen our parish ministries. We may not always see the fruits of what we have planted but the seeds are there, and I am confident that they will grow to become a great harvest.

In the coming year we plan to continue to strengthen the ministries we have and to deepen our faith journey together. Your time, talent and treasure is what will make this possible and we hope that you will continue to partner with us on our journey to heaven. Saint Brendan parish stands out in the community not only because we are a large, thriving parish with a big footprint but also because we are known for our generosity and welcoming approach to ministry. Together we can be a beacon of hope to those who "walk in darkness" so that they also hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.



With my thanks and prayers,
Fr Bob

FROM PAROCHIAL VICAR,
FR JACOB STINNETT



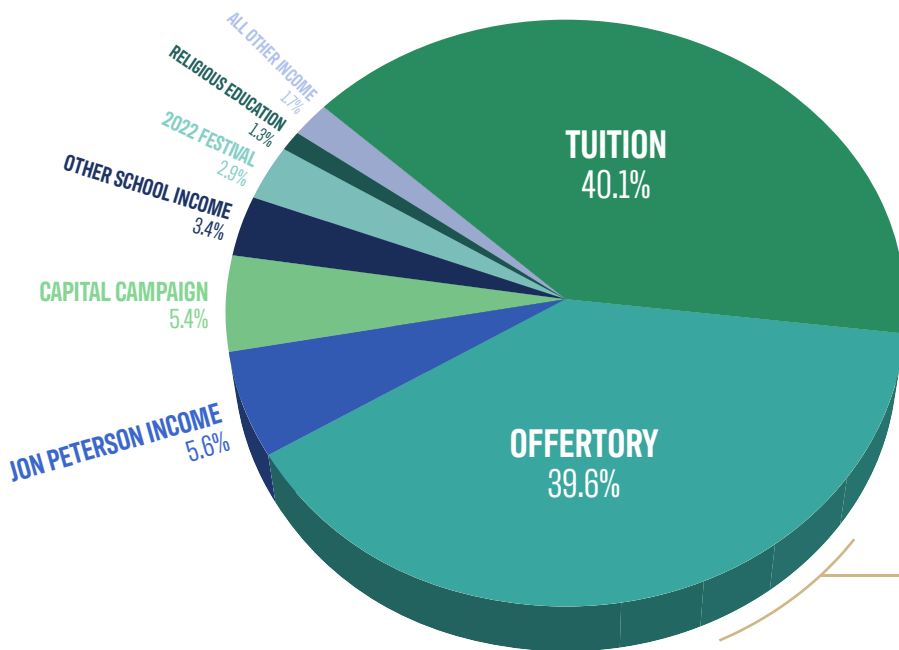
I feel very blessed to be assigned to St Brendan the Navigator. Through the support of Fr Bob, Fr Weldit, and the staff, I've been able to acclimate very quickly to my new home and minister to an incredibly welcoming congregation. It's inspiring to witness so many families present and active in our parish.

Our RCIA enrollment is a wonderfully Biblical 'twelve' this year. We have two catechumens (who have not been baptized) and ten candidates (who were baptized in other Christian faiths). With an average age of 26.5 in the program, we have an encouragingly young flock. I'm also pleased to be meeting with six couples who are at various stages of formation for Holy Matrimony.

Since we have three full-time priests, we are now able to offer Mass twice a day during the week. At the end of July, we added a 6:30AM daily Mass on weekdays in the Adoration Chapel. We are pleased to celebrate with a regular crowd of 20 attendees Monday through Thursday—and a full chapel on Fridays when we're blessed with area high schoolers who stick around for doughnuts with Fr Weldit and myself.

With the diligence of Mr Daniel Bogrette, the new middle school religion teacher, we have dedicated time each month for the middle school to partake in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The students have given positive feedback, and can be seen reading Scripture, praying the Rosary or just talking to Jesus on the altar.

In the new year, I look forward to continuing my God-given vocation as I grow closer to the families across our campus and minister to the needs of this vibrant parish.



St Brendan was blessed to outperform our offertory budget by nearly 16%. This reliable (and much needed) generosity allowed us to outstrip inflation, navigate inclement weather misfortunes in the gathering space, and ultimately arrive in the black. At the conclusion of fiscal year 2022-23, our office was able to disburse a gift of \$5,816 to the Hilliard Food Pantry to mitigate their own disaster expenses caused by a devastating fire.

We received grants from the Catholic Foundation totaling \$21,000 including a \$10,000 upgrade to campus security.

INCOME (07.01.22 – 06.30.23)
\$6,344,930



**FROM PAROCHIAL VICAR,
FR WELDIT ABAY**

It has been ten months since I came to St. Brendan. If God wants to bless you, He sends you to the blessed. Therefore, I am spiritually immersed in this blessed diocese, blessed parish, blessed faithful, blessed staff, and blessed Eritrean community. I'm fortunate to serve alongside Fr Bob and Fr Stinnett — I remember fondly my time with Fr Brown — and I give thanks to God for the priestly mission he's placed before me.

I similarly wish to express my gratitude to The Catholic Foundation. Through a generous grant of \$5,000 this year, my faith community was able to procure supplies, vestments, and liturgical materials vital to proper celebration of the Mass.

This year is a great blessing, especially for the Eritrean Catholic faithful. There is nothing greater than people enjoying their faith and spirituality through their culture, language and liturgy. They deepen their love with God's love and grow closer through Him. When I see them together at the Eucharistic table as children of God, I see the love of God in them, and I give thanks to Him. This year is also a year of new experiences for me, enjoying the heartbeat of the church with two liturgies and gaining great knowledge from my studies of the Latin liturgy. I have many people of faith around me on this journey, and through their love I experience God's love because God has placed His love in people.

**FROM BUSINESS MANAGER,
TOM KOLLAR**

Capital improvements are a large part of maintaining such a significant parish. And every year, our staff navigates the curveballs that life throws at us in an efficient and effective manner. Though, all of this is really made possible by the incredible generosity of our parishioners, driven to maintain our school, worship, and gathering spaces.

Through careful planning, St Brendan's campus endeavoured to repair, replace, and renovate to the tune of \$490,755 over the last year. Some of the larger expenses included asphalt repairs, classroom flooring and lighting, and our choir/organ updates.

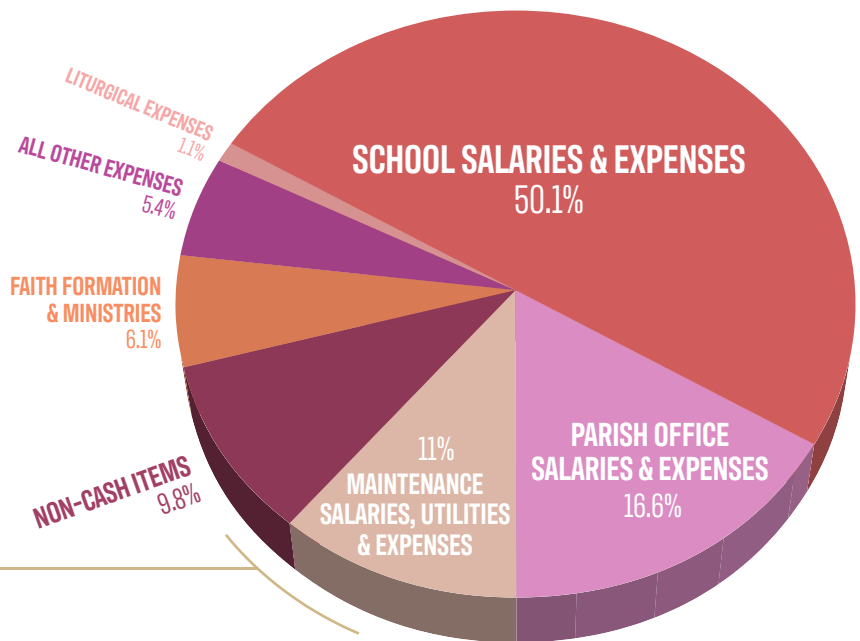
As we look ahead, the projects of tomorrow include sealing the parking lot, renovating the lighting and electrical, and removing the floor transition "bump" in the sanctuary.

With your support and patience, our team will continue to keep the facilities and grounds in tip-top shape.



SECONDARY COLLECTIONS

Parish families stepped up to support 20 add'l initiatives through the parish office or PushPay with gifts totaling **\$80,528!** This inspiring number includes gifts of **\$8,200** to the Women's Care Center and **\$5,879** for Hurricane Ian Relief. And the true charity is so much sweeter as this doesn't include collections or gifts facilitated directly through the recipient organizations. This total also doesn't include BAA, ONE, or Emmaus Road. The generosity of St Brendan was echoed far and wide in fiscal year 22-23! **Thank You!**



EXPENSES (07.01.22 – 06.30.23)

\$5,595,806



FROM DIR. OF EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS, JACOB DORAN

In September, we launched our third year of Family Faith Formation. We're ministering to **325** children and **190** families. We also debuted a "pathway" model this year. Depending on whether a family is new to the program, preparing for a sacrament, or continuing their faith journey, our families are learning about the Gospel message, the statements of the Creed, prayer, the Saints, and the Sacraments. The comment I hear most often from parents is that it feels like they are "knocking the rust off" their Catholic education.

We are also preparing about **115** children to celebrate Reconciliation and Eucharist and another **115** for Confirmation. Most of this preparation is happening at home through parents, who are the primary educators of the faith. We are overjoyed to support parents as they walk with their children through these "stages and all the important moments of Christian life" as the Sacraments are described in the Catechism. This is happening in Family Faith Formation and our Parish School.

FROM HIGH SCHOOL MINISTER, KARA DAY

The Vine high school youth ministry program continues to flourish here at St Brendan. In the 22-23 school year **245 high schoolers** attended the Vine, and already this school year (23-24) we have had **243** attend, so are on track to surpass last year with new teens attending for the first time every single week. We have a **91%** retention rate in teens coming back after their first time.

The Vine is impacting the city at large by reaching teens from **27 different high schools** and **19%** of the teens attending the Vine were not raised Catholic. This is due to our **59 high school leaders** who are in our High School Missionary Formation program where they learn how to share Jesus with their friends. The teens in this program are set up to be life-long missionary disciples who do not fall away from their faith. Our most recent stats show that **94%** of them are still practicing during college, dramatically above the national average.

We had a wonderful Vine Fall Retreat, and we look forward to both our Cranks Creek Winter Mission Trip and Vine Spring Retreat. God continues to bless our youth ministry each day.



FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTER,
AVERY COLMAN

This year, our middle school ministry, The Roots, served roughly **120 middle schoolers**. By providing the children of our faith community with a place to have fun, build relationships with their peers, and encounter Jesus, we have consistently seen **80 kids** returning week after week.

With the help of our **8 Core Team members**, we have been able to provide an opportunity for each child to be known and prayed for by name.

We look forward to next year as we continue to nurture the love of Christ growing in our middle schoolers, expand our Core Team, and reach additional youth.



FROM DIR. OF MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP,
JEN RICE

This past year I was humbled to lead discipleship teams who made a strong impact on prayer, formation, and service in the parish. Our 'Care & Consolation' team supported **48 families** in their time of bereavement through planning and presence at the funerals of loved ones as well as grief support thereafter. **250** homebound or retirement center residents were visited weekly to receive the Eucharist as well as care packages at Christmas. We are actively ministering in **17** independent, assisted living, and nursing facilities.



The 'Missionary Discipleship' team brought the Rescue Project to St Brendan this year thanks in large part to a grant from the Catholic Foundation. **230** participants across three groups were equipped with this experience, then were sent out to spread the message of who Jesus is and His mission. **190** women and men experienced *The Chosen* in small groups to understand and grow their love for Jesus in this Eucharistic Year. Furthermore, Adoration hours have increased to **four days per week** with First Friday perpetual Adoration **each month**. Respect Life Ministry raised a record amount of awareness and money to support pro-life initiatives, care of mothers, end of life care, and those with special needs.

FROM DIR. OF DEVELOPMENT,
BEN ROMAKER

Whether I've been behind a camera, in front of the congregation, writing letters, or designing this Impact Report, I've enjoyed wearing a variety of hats this past year in service to the parish and to my God. Under my 'Development' hat which I acquired in April, our congregation pledged an incredible **\$312,982** towards The Appeal. I cannot overstate my gratitude for the generosity of our parishioners and the experienced guidance of our Appeal Chairman, Kevin Quinn.

As I was excited to share at our first ever **Masses of Gratitude** this year, we paid off the remaining balance of our loan for the ONE Campaign. A beautiful vision of a unified campus was made into a reality, and **we're debt-free to the diocese!**

2023 also saw the realization of the '**Real Presence, Real Future**' restructuring throughout the diocese. St Brendan and St Margaret of Cortona were blessed to experience minimal upheaval. Announced as the only example of **collaborative** parishes throughout the diocese, our two parishes will make a concerted effort to provide a nourishing Catholic community in our region for years to come. I joined the St Margaret staff in April, and have been boosting their signal and growing their preschool program. Enrollment has ballooned to **29** children for next year as new classrooms and teachers are being added.

Increased participation in the **Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund** is my priority in the near term. There is simply no method more efficient in supporting this campus and its school families. I'm confident this time next year I'll be reporting triumphant results and uplifting stories. Please join me in praying for the wellbeing of our parish!

