

November 3, 2020



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would first like to take this opportunity to thank our entire Saint Pius X community for your prayers, support, and encouragement throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. This health crisis has affected all of us in unexpected and unimagined ways.

Several members of our parish family contracted Covid-19 and have all recovered, thanks be to God. Although many of us have not been able to gather together in person, I know we have been intimately united in thought and prayers. I am grateful to the entire staff for their dedication, flexibility, and MAGIS spirit in going the extra distance during this challenging and difficult time. This has been a time of “grace upon grace” as Saint Paul tells us.

As pastor, it is my responsibility to shepherd the spiritual and temporal needs of our parish. I am grateful and cognizant of the apostolic zeal with which my predecessors led our parish from its inception: founding pastor Monsignor Michael Fitzsimon, Monsignor Peter G. Armstrong, Father Jim MacDonald and Father Paul J. Rossi. Their vision and leadership have been the foundation on which we now stand and will continue to build into the future. As we near the end of the calendar year 2020, I wish to report to you the state of finances of our parish.

I want to express my thanks to our Operations Manager Judy Giacometti and Debbie Castelli who oversee the finances of the parish as well as the members of our Parish Finance Council: Tom Cortopassi, Donna Schreiber, Kathy Martell and Stephen Philpott. I also welcome our newest members Joe Martin and Don Gambelin. The Finance Council, which is mandated by Canon Law, advises the pastor on the financial administration of the parish. This mechanism ensures transparency, financial controls, and true collaboration on the part of the pastor and lay faithful.

Thanks to your generosity, a number of significant capital projects have been completed or are in progress, among them the state-of-the-art livestreaming system;



resurfacing of asphalt on the entire campus; and the near completion of our solar paneling.



In the coming months, in collaboration with the Parish Finance Council, we will be speaking on stewardship and our shared responsibility and commitment to the financial health and sustainability of our parish going into the future. I would ask that you take the time to review the financial report. You will see from the report, 2019-2020 has been a challenging year. Our offertory collections have declined, and we cancelled several events including our key parish fundraiser, the annual festival. We cannot continue to grow and remain viable with only a fraction of registered parishioners contributing support. I ask that if you have not given this year and you are able to do so, to please give consideration to a one-time gift or a weekly offertory donation of \$25. If you have given, I ask that you consider increasing your gift. We are so grateful for your generosity. Taken together, these small increases by many will have a large impact on the whole. Our Saint Pius X community would be able to realize many of our parish goals if each of us participated in the stewardship.

As always, I am grateful for the sacrifices many people make to support us and encourage those who have been unable to do so to invest in our shared community of faith. “There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.” [1 Corinthians 12: 4-7].

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Thomas Vital Martin'.

Father Thomas Vital Martin
Pastor