

## **St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception** State of the Parish

Our parish experienced many significant changes, challenges, and new directions over this past fiscal year—July 2022 through June 2023. What follows is an update for all parishioners on our accomplishments, where we are now and laying the groundwork on where we hope to go, following the Holy Spirit.

## **Key Highlights**

- Father Kyle Kilpatrick officially installed as Pastor.
- Parish hired a Parish Manager.
- Phase 2 exterior work on Church completed<sup>1</sup>
- New roof installation on church rectory.
- Acquired Hennessy's Property
- Parishioners achieved 99.8% of the parish CSA giving goal.
- The parish contributed over \$11,000 to various charitable causes in Muskegon.

## worship



Mass Attendance Increased 12%

2021/22: 2460 2022/23: 2778 [Monthly Averages]

## **Current State**

## stewardship



#### **Solid Finances**

Income: \$694,901 Expenses: \$678,702

#### **CSA Parish Contributions**

Parish Goal: \$67,752 99.8% Donated: \$67,676

#### sacraments



- The parish is working on finishing touches on a strategic set of initiatives and priorities that gives us a five year vision for further physical work to be done at the parish, Hennessy's, the rectory, Lourdes Hall (and more), as well as new ministry efforts and opportunities for all ages and faith levels.
- ✓ We enlisted builders and architects to visit Hennessy's and provide us bids on the re-work necessary to meet parish needs.
- A group of parishioners who worship at OLG are working to plan our final Mass there, as well as an open house event for all who attend which celebrates the history of the OLG family, as well as the work the Lord has done through them.
- ✓ We are working with the diocese to create a smooth process for the eventual sale of OLG and the transfer of items to St. Mary's, as well as ways we can welcome our brothers and sisters who worshiped at OLG.

<sup>1</sup> Phase II completed by Grand River Builders (rebuilt brick on main face of church and bell tower, replaced finials, replaced downspouts, replaced some roofing and installed some copper roofing, repaired structural beam in bell tower, tuckpointing on all upper brick work, and reinforcement of trusses interiorly).



# 2022/2023 Parish Milestones



### worship

- An advent prayer and dinner night was hosted at OLG with many in attendance
- Daily adoration was offered during Advent and Lent.
- Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe on her Feast with a significant turnout.
- Overall, there has been an increase in mass attendance since last year.

#### evangelization



- Regular monthly youth group with Father Kyle for High School students.
- High School Youth Group retreat in collaboration with two other parishes.
- Regular Middle School Youth Group meetings.
- Parish Mission during Advent featuring Michael Fonseca with many in attendance.
- Parish Mission Night with Adoration featuring Sr. Maria Teresa of the Sisters of the Renewal, and special address to children.
- Natural Family Planning class for parishioners was offered.
- Planned and began execution of the Blessing of the Bikes event coming in July to reach out to the wider community.
- Parish mission for the Hispanic community with the Sisters of the Most Holy Savior

## charity/outreach

- Hosting of various individuals and groups at the parish from throughout the diocese at the OLG rectory.
- Serving many families through Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets project held at OLG.
- Collaboration with Sacred Heart food pantry to serve families weekly, by allowing them to move into Lourdes Hall
- Sponsored 50 students from our parish attending Muskegon Catholic.
- Over one dozen people now receive communion at home weekly.

## community building

- St. Patrick's Day celebration drawing over 200 participants featuring both Irish and Mexican fare!
- Coffee and donuts restarted successfully on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.
- Several gatherings after the 4pm Saturday night mass at OLG took place and many attended.
- St. Joseph Men's group meetings started monthly.
- Planning and preparations for a women's group to begin in Fall 2023.
- The parish held its second annual parish Pentecost Potluck with many in attendance.

## preparing for the future

- Exterior paint work and tree trimming around the property completed.
- Work completed in Lourdes Hall for modernizing and updates to look and feel, and open the space up.
- Successful transition to the online giving platform, OSV.
- Complete overhaul of the parish website took place giving it a brand new interface.
- Assembly of a parish strategic plan for eventual distribution.
- Cost savings have been achieved by eliminating spending waste and changing certain contracted vendors for the parish.
- Parish aligned policies and procedures according to diocesan guidelines (parish review audit).

