



Bellarmino Chapel

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

20
23



LETTER

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends,

I am very grateful to everyone in our parish community that continues to support the great work of Bellarmine Chapel. You make this work possible and your consistent support is a gift to our community and the wider church. I have always marveled at how generous and responsive this community is to the needs of social mission and evangelization. As you can see in our report, we are continuing to grow and that growth always invites us to new levels of generosity.

It's clear we have moved from COVID recovery into a new phase of our journey as a parish family. The collaborations that we have fostered with St. Xavier Church, Xavier University, and the Jesuit works around the city of Cincinnati will continue to bear fruit for

the years to come.

I'm very proud of the staff that serves our parish family. Supporting and attracting talented staff and ministers is among the most important parts of our budget. The Jesuit Parish Family is lucky to have such dedicated and talented ministers and staff. As I move into my new role at Xavier University, I know you are all in good hands. May God continue to bless you all.

Gratefully in Christ,



Fr. Eric M. Sundrup, S.J.



FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Bellarmine Chapel Finance Committee reviewed our annual report numbers to ensure that they represent an accurate portrait of our parish's finances. This report also includes our FY 2024 budget that has been approved by the Finance Committee.

MEMBERS

- Tom Green (Chair)
- Rick Coomes (Member)
- Rachael Graber (Financial Reviewer)
- Mary Hurlburt (Member)
- Michael Marrero (Secretary)
- Terrence (TT) Stern-Enzi (Member)
- Tom VonderBrink (Member)
- Lisa Woodall (Member)
- Fr. Paul Lickteig, S.J. (Ex Officio, Pastor)
- Kathy Heile (Ex Officio Member)
- Mary Stutler (Ex Officio Member)



FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Pastor and Finance Committee decided to engage a public accounting firm, Clark Schaefer Hackett (CSH), to review the Chapel's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. As part of the review, the Chapel's financial statements are presented on a modified cash basis of accounting, which records revenues when they are received and expenses when they are paid. This is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. (GAAP), which records revenues when earned and accrues expenses when incurred.

To properly present the financial statements on a modified cash basis of accounting, the balance of the Transformation and Immigration Funds on July 1, 2022 were reclassified from liability "dedicated accounts" that had not yet been paid, to "net assets with donor restrictions". This correction resulted in properly recording the Fund's expense of \$140,800, reported in Social Mission/Outreach expense in the statement of functional expenses, when paid during the year ended June 30, 2023. This correction properly recorded the expense in the year paid vs the previous accrued liability and put the Chapel's statement of activities into a shortfall position for the year ended June 30, 2023.



SUMMARY

FY2023

General Administration - Covers the cost of keeping the offices running, including printings, mailings, office equipment, office supplies, professional services, etc. It also covers the cost of professional development for staff.

Salaries & Benefits - This category includes full and part-time staff salaries and benefits (health insurance, 401K, etc.), interns, musicians, etc., across all ministry areas.

Building Rent & Maintenance - We share the chapel with Xavier University (XU) and share the utilities and general maintenance costs. We rent the Parish Center from XU. XU pays for one half of structural maintenance and repairs.

Archdiocesan Assessment - Our income is assessed by the Archdiocese for services and ministries. (Outreach collections and bequests over \$5,000 are excluded from assessment). A few examples of the benefits Bellarmine receives include negotiated health plans, 401K plans, and payroll and HR services.

Ministry & Liturgy - This category covers the chapel's cost of supplies/services (candles, vessels, dry cleaning, etc.), and the cost for our worship and liturgical events: annual Jesuit Works Mass, additional celebrants, prayer services, etc.

Pastoral Care - This category covers the cost for sick, homebound, and bereavement support, elder care, socials, marriage ministry, and funerals.

Social Mission/Outreach - Active Discipleship Days, NEXUS Community Garden and Urban Farm, Embracing God's Creation series, Issue-Based Action Teams, outreach grants, etc., are costs included in this category. It does not include the monies collected for outreach collections, which are tracked and reported separately (see Outreach Collections).

Faith Formation - These costs cover sacramental preparation and support for the faith formation of children, youth, young adults, adults, and seniors through classes, spiritual exercises, service trips, vacation bible school, small faith communities, etc.

INCOME & EXPENSE

STATEMENT

	FY24 Budget	FY23 Actual	FY22 Actual
INCOME			
Offertory Collection	\$1,050,000	\$1,007,250	\$991,188
Other Income	\$113,778	\$94,730	\$96,418
Total Income	\$1,163,778	\$1,101,980	\$1,087,606
EXPENSES			
General Administration	\$79,908	\$74,669	\$125,085
Salary and Benefits	\$802,718	\$669,848	\$592,407
Archdiocesan Assessment	\$91,349	\$94,180	\$87,624
Building Rent and Maintenance	\$64,150	\$57,396	\$46,835
Faith Formation	\$62,536	\$30,870	\$19,751
Liturgy and Music	\$44,873	\$71,607	\$65,421
Pastoral Care	\$11,414	\$9,626	\$4,978
Social Mission / Outreach	\$51,087	\$179,145	\$24,955
Total Expenses	\$1,208,035	\$1,187,341	\$967,056
Reserve (Shortfall)	(\$44,257)	(\$85,361)	\$120,550

FINANCIAL POSITION

STATEMENT

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
ASSETS		
Checking	\$8,095	(\$16,119)
Checking Restricted Funds Due to Outreach Orgs.	\$85,308	\$86,106
Savings	\$5	\$105
Archdiocesan Note	\$990,466	\$1,049,480
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	\$2,199	
Total Assets	\$1,086,073	\$1,119,572
LIABILITIES		
Funds Held for Others	\$85,308	\$86,106
Total Liabilities	\$85,308	\$86,106
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$971,228	\$878,392
With Donor Restrictions	\$29,537	\$155,337
Total Net Assets	\$1,000,765	\$1,033,729

Total Net Assets & Liabilities	\$1,086,073	\$1,119,835
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RESTRICTED FUND

BALANCES

Funds with Donor Restrictions	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Transformation Fund		\$92,476
Immigration Fund		\$48,324
Stock in Youth	\$14,537	\$14,537
Small Chapel Renovation	\$15,000	
Total Restricted Funds	\$29,537	\$155,337



OUTREACH

COLLECTIONS

Collection	FY 23	FY 22
Ash Wed, Central/Eastern European Churches		\$3,731
Bail Project		\$7,436
Casa de Paz		\$2,240
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$1,345	\$2,281
Catholic Relief Services	\$1,046	\$3,658
Christmas Tree Giving	\$403	\$120
Cincinnati Recycling and ReUse Hub	\$4,536	
COVID Fund *		\$3,375
Crayons to Computers	\$6,998	\$4,448
Gardens-Fresh is Better		\$2,454
Gardens-Nexus	\$6,369	\$6,258
Good Friday/Holy Shrines	\$16	
General Outreach	\$2,435	
Habitat for Humanity	\$20,621	\$21,728
HELP Program	\$5,888	\$5,594
Immigration Fund	\$7,085	\$7,260
Jesuit Collection for Ukrainian Refugees	\$6,695	\$7,005
Lighthouse Youth & Family Services	\$6,800	\$6,019
Lydia's House	\$12,386	\$7,551
Marjorie Book Continuing Education	\$2,495	
Mission Sunday		\$454
Missionary Cooperative Appeal **	\$18,449	

Continued on next page.

OUTREACH

COLLECTIONS CONT.

Collection	FY 23	FY 22
Operation Rice Bowl	\$672	\$73
Peter's Pence/Holy Father	\$574	\$100
Pregnancy Care Centers & Agencies	\$2,074	
Religious Retirement Fund	\$2,649	\$4,010
Share the Journey	\$17,405	\$14,472
St. Vincent de Paul	\$100,424	\$33,227
Tikkun Farms	\$2,889	
Thanksgiving Food Bags	\$9,950	\$19,461
Tornado/Hurricane Relief	\$3,083	\$5,246
Xavier Jesuit Academy ***	\$15,984	\$17,522
Total	\$259,271	\$185,723

* COVID dedicated account closed in FY 22

** Both the FY 22 and FY 23 Appeal happened in FY 23

*** Includes money honoring Fr. Eric Sundrup, S.J.





SACRAMENTS

BY THE NUMBERS

60

Infant Baptisms

5

Adults Entered the Church

35

First Communions

12

Confirmations

18

Weddings

19

Funerals

25% 

**Increase in Sunday Mass
attendance from FY22 to FY23**



LOVE IN ACTION

“

A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do.

– Dorothy Day

IT JUST FEELS RIGHT

FR. DAMIAN TORRES-BOTELLO, S.J.
ON HIS ROLE AS NEW PAROCHIAL VICAR



How are things going in your new role?

It feels good. It's a very welcoming community and a community that's excited to be here. There's so much to do, and so many people are involved. That says a lot about this parish. It's a community center for many people, and I love that. That's what church is: a place for sacraments and a place for people to gather, advocate, and help others. Bellarmine is what I think a parish is supposed to be like.

Why are you the right fit to help lead the Bellarmine community?

There was a sense from the Jesuit provincial that this would be a good place for me because I'm very social justice-oriented and very much believe in a welcoming and listening Church. I believe in us being loved sinners. Church is a place for finding connection, peace, and hope. That might be why I'm a good fit. It also just feels like home.

What challenges do you expect to face as the new parochial vicar during this time of transition for the Jesuit Parish Family?

Bellarmino is the mission I was assigned, so my focus is Bellarmine. Any challenges that the Jesuit Parish Family faces will more than likely be internal rather than external, with shared staff, finances, and scheduling. I recently attended an archdiocesan meeting for new parochial vicars about Beacons of Light, and a lot of it already feels like things we've already been doing, but also very Ignatian. There are some transitional things that need to happen, but it looks like the things we've done so far are working.



Through the transition, are there ways Bellarmine can grow its sense of community?

When people walk into Bellarmine Chapel, I want people to know it's a Catholic church. Part of my job is to continue the work of Fr. Eric. I also think there's an opportunity for reconciliation. There may be people who have been hurt in the process. How can we build a space that is for reconciling? Ideally, one's faith should not hurt others. When it does, I think it's the responsibility of the church to reach out and be there when those who are hurt are ready to heal. If we want to be a parish known for its social justice, we need our Catholic faith to guide us there.

Most of all, I want to continue to empower this parish. Priests are temporary. I'm here for however long until I'm reassigned. Parishioners are here all the time; this is their faith community. The priests are the ones who guide the vision of where we're going, but as a means to empower the parish to lead itself.

ECO-SPIRITUALITY

THE EMBRACING GOD'S CREATION SERIES



Inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical on the care for creation, *Laudato Si'*, Bellarmine launched the Embracing God's Creation (EGC) series in September 2022. Now a collaborative effort of all six Jesuit organizations in Cincinnati, the series focuses on immersions, presentations, and prayer experiences grounded in ecological spirituality. The goal of EGC is for everyone who participates to experience God in a new way through connections to nature and one another.

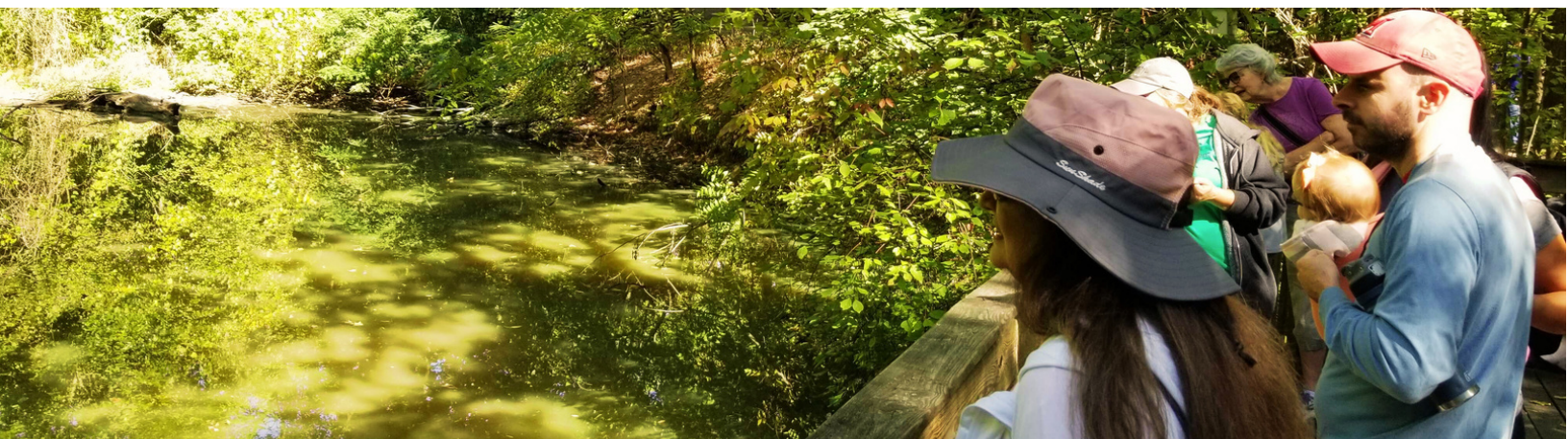
As the Jesuit Parish Family's Director of Sustainability and Social Mission, Tim Severyn is on an EGC planning team along with representatives from the other Jesuit works. "We're operating from the premise that you love what you know, so you have to spend time in nature to fully know, love, and protect it," said Tim. "It starts with a culture shift towards forming a relationship with creation. Pope Francis called this an 'ecological conversion' in *Laudato Si'*, and that's what we're trying to inspire in people."

One of those inspired people is Ty Scott, a parishioner at Bellarmine and St. Xavier Church who regularly attends EGC programs. "The continued exposure to prayer, study, and immersion experiences have been the impetus

for me to follow Pope Francis' quest personally." Events like the Taizé ecological examen, the Earth Day retreat at the Jesuit Spiritual Center, and the immersion trip to Tikkun Farm have offered Ty spiritual direction and greater conviction in his prayer life.

Joint programming has helped bridge the physical gap between Bellarmine and St. X. "It's helping build connections across our Jesuit Parish Family," said Tim. "Our experience in liturgy inspires us to put our faith into action, responding to what Pope Francis calls the cry of the earth, the cry of the poor." An opportunity to expand the original scope of Embracing God's Creation appears in light of this time of transition.

Inspired by one of the Society of Jesus' Universal Apostolic Preferences, Caring for our Common Home, the Embracing God's Creation team continues to plan immersions, presentations, and prayer experiences for the 2023-24. Ty remains energetically involved. "Every aspect of these programs consistently offers so many caring hearts and diverse perspectives, all sharing the primary goal of a committed community and parish family working together."



GIVING BACK

BELLARMINE'S TRANSFORMATION FUND



Bellarmino's Transformation Fund was created prior to the pandemic and funded through the generosity of several donors along with a fundraising campaign. The funds were designated for distribution in the local community. Bellarmine was asked to find ways to offer significant seed money to nonprofit organizations. In late 2022, the fund was presented to three local nonprofits. The Local Parish Advisory Council chose the organizations for their prophetic witness to justice and liberation, and their ability to remove barriers to physical and spiritual human thriving.

The Local Parish Advisory Council created a rubric to determine which organizations would receive a part of the Transformation Fund based on factors such as an organization's connection to the Catholic faith, ability to transform lives, financial sustainability, proximity to Bellarmine Chapel, and opportunities for parish engagement. Several nonprofits were given scores based on these criteria, and three were selected to receive funds.

Xavier Jesuit Academy – \$50k

Xavier Jesuit Academy will use the gift from the Transformational Fund towards creating a faith-filled learning environment for their students. The gift will provide a library of religious texts and learning materials for students and families, culturally uplifting religious artwork, contemporary and historical inspirational Christian images and artifacts, materials for prayer and meditation, student liturgical vestments and materials for worship services, and Catholic religion education curriculum texts and materials. Use of the gift will focus on building up the Catholic, Jesuit, and Christian environment of the school, reflecting the students and community.



Lydia's House – \$25k

Lydia's House provides safe, stable, and supportive housing for women and children in crisis. The donation will go towards an upcoming shelter expansion, which will add an apartment for live-in staff and a dining/multipurpose room large enough for community gatherings. New playground equipment will be added for resident children as well. The gift will help build and sustain the work of Lydia's House, changing the lives of guests and volunteers alike.

Merici Readiness Academy – \$25k

The Merici Readiness Academy is a partnership between St. Ursula Academy and CISE. The program, designed and executed by SUA staff, invites high performing female students from 3 CISE schools to participate in a weeklong, selective high school readiness program in the summer between 6th and 7th and 7th and 8th grade. The focus of the program is on enrichment activities that will develop the necessary skills to be successful in a college prep environment.

Nourished at the table of the Eucharist, we are sent on a mission to make disciples, serve those in need, work for justice, and welcome all with love.



BELLARMINÉ CHAPEL

is a Catholic faith community that strives to live out the teachings and example of Jesus Christ in the spiritual tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola. We seek to be a parish where the Holy Spirit transforms lives in new and creative ways.



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[@bellarminechapel](https://www.instagram.com/bellarmineschapel)