



Saint James Parish

A Catholic Community on the Pilgrimage of Holiness

Stewardship Report 2022-2023

A Message from Msgr. Joe

Thanks to your commitment to stewardship—the generous sharing of your time, talent and treasure—St. James Parish has continued our illustrious tradition of providing the Catholic Community of the Red Bank area, the opportunity of worshipping the God of Jesus Christ, growing in knowledge of our faith throughout the lifespan and to be of service to the gospel of life.

I hope that the information provided over these pages confirms the faithful living out of the mission of our parish community and honestly confronts the opportunities and challenges that we face in supporting this mission.

We continue to put effort into building community and encouraging a greater


participation in the sacramental life of the Church, particularly Sunday Mass. From 2021 to 2022 our average weekly attendance based on the diocesan required count for two weekend in October increased 16% to 842. Emphasis was placed on increasing volunteers as lectors, altar servers, music ministry and eucharistic ministers. Our music ministry has also established a children's choir to encourage family participation. We have also begun adoration each Friday morning. We will continue to encourage this participation as the Church in the United States embarks upon a Eucharistic Revival. Our parish has also participated in the USCCB Jesus and the Eucharist Program. We continue to support com-

munity through monthly gatherings following the Sunday morning masses.

Our parish outreach to the local community with our Food Drives, Our Daily Bread Ministry and Jesse Tree project and support of Jericho House continues to be a powerful witness to our commitment to the gospel of charity.

Once again, thank you for all you do in the way of supporting your parish. We are called to stewardship of the resources and gifts that God entrusted to us for our mission. I ask you as you read this report to prayerfully consider what you can do in support of our community. Each individual gift of time, talent and treasure is evident every day in our liturgies, many ministries and vibrancy of our community. It is my hope that as a family you may reflect on your commitment for the next year. With over 3,000 registered families even a modest increase in contributions and volunteering from each family will have a significant impact. It takes many hands and hearts to carry on Christ's mission. Your sacrifices are greatly appreciated.

Our Parish Mission



*We are here to walk with you
in your relationship with God wherever
you are on life's journey.*

*We invite you to join with us
in the celebration of the sacraments,
prayer, learning and serving so that each
person can grow in discipleship and together
we can witness the Kingdom of God.*

Our Finances

Michael McKee
Business Manager
mmckee@sjredbank.org

Heather Famelio
Parish Accountant/Payroll
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Finance Council
Don Faistl
Michael Collins
Lisa Handy-Noonan
Kevin Murphy
Thomas Musumeci
Charles Petry

The Parish ended fiscal year '22-'23 in almost a breakeven position from operations, and a \$225K overall net surplus (including non-operating revenue) which was a \$256K improvement and a \$340K improvement, respectively, from the prior fiscal year.

Overall net surplus exceeded budget by \$214K. Offertory revenue was up from last fiscal year due primarily to increases in the Christmas collection as well as other holy days. Expenses were reduced by \$212K from last year, mainly due to some major repairs incurred in fiscal year '21-'22, the loss of a facilities employee whose position went unfilled for all of fiscal '22-'23, and the reallocation of the finance department in greater support of the two schools. And there was a large bequest in fiscal '22-'23 that boosted non-operating revenue.

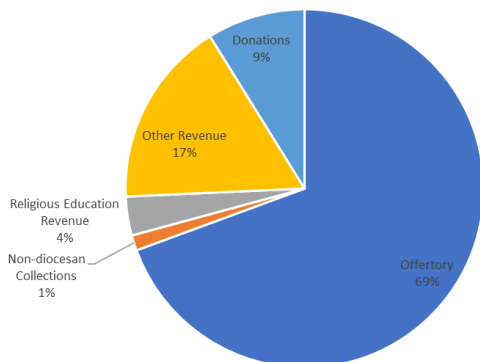
A modest 3.9% increase in operating

Statement of Church Operating Income and Expense			
	Budget FY 23-24	Actual FY 22-23	Actual FY 21-22
Income			
Offertory	900,395	875,490	823,691
Non diocesan collections	19,931	17,500	14,135
Religious Education revenue	40,940	44,178	35,000
Other revenue	236,751	212,729	235,355
Donations	112,332	111,749	109,394
Total Operating Revenue	1,310,349	1,261,646	1,217,575
Parish Operating Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	619,825	580,982	671,720
Bldgs & Grounds/Vehicles	37,594	36,686	188,550
Professional fees	10,967	10,774	30,486
Utilities	108,584	102,283	76,099
Church supplies	252,746	243,299	211,044
Diocese assessment	152,680	130,488	103,226
Property and liability insurance	138,522	103,350	96,389
All other	53,272	54,728	97,138
Total Operating Expenses	1,374,190	1,262,590	1,474,652
Operating surplus (deficit)	(63,841)	(944)	(257,077)
Non-operating revenue			
Investment income	149,069	150,100	137,051
Bequests	15,000	75,844	5,000
Total non-operating revenue	164,069	225,944	142,051
Net surplus (deficit)	100,228	225,000	(115,026)

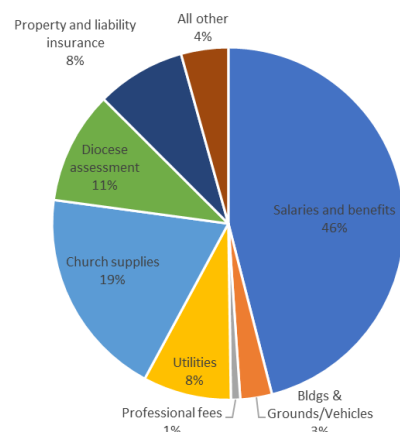
revenue is being budgeted for fiscal '23-'24, with double-digit increases

unfortunately in property & liability insurance, as well as our diocesan as-

Revenue FY 22-23



Expenses FY 22-23



Church Balance Sheet

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	587,538	489,128
Investments	5,211,837	5,240,985
Receivables	415,775	540,889
Total Current Assets	6,215,150	6,271,002
Other Assets		
Property Plant & Equipment	4,080,893	3,795,056
Prepaid expenses	6,360	0
Total Other Assets	4,087,253	3,795,058
TOTAL ASSETS	10,302,401	10,066,058
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payables	4,800	0
Accrued Expenses	15,843	9,300
Total Liabilities	20,643	9,300
Net Assets		
Church Net Assets	10,281,758	10,171,784
Changes to Net Assets	0	(115,026)
Total Net Assets	10,281,758	10,056,758
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	10,302,401	10,066,058

essment. These net changes along with the reduction in bequests budgeted this year are anticipated to result in a decline of \$125K in our net surplus for fiscal '23-'24.

Our light project was finished with new lighting and electrical rewiring which has provided newfound beauty to our already magnificent and historic Church. After a success Summer Pro-

ject in 2022, we were able to purchase new president's chairs for the sanctuary as well as additional matching candlesticks for the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph altars. With the ordination of Deacon Tom we also were able to purchase new matching vestments for the president and deacon in all the liturgical colors. We continue to focus on enhancing our church building by replacing the church doors with new more secure and energy efficient doors. The door near the Blessed Mother Altar will be modified with automatic opening to accommodate those needing special assistance. Making the church more handicap accessible.

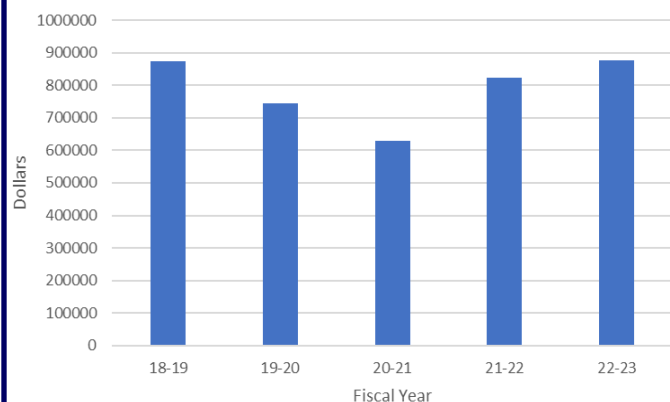
We continue to address maintenance issues with our convent building. At the end of FY 22-23, there were 7 sisters residing in the convent. Three of the sisters are ministering at St. James. We have also painted and installed new carpeting in parts of the rectory.

Finally, we continue to improve security measures for our school communities as enrollment has increased following the pandemic through capital improvements and the hiring of additional staff.

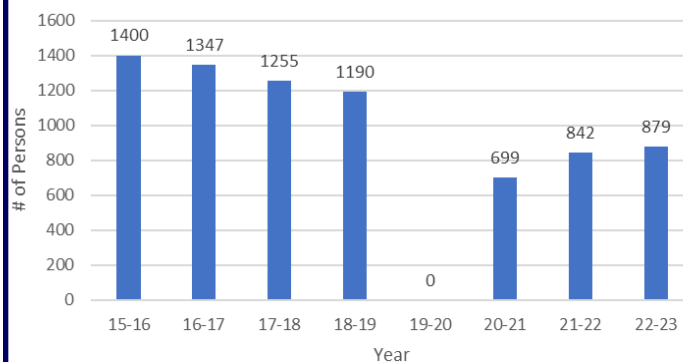
Parish Snapshot July 1, 20212 to June 30, 2023

- ◆ Registered Households: 3,769
- ◆ First Communions: 66
- ◆ Marriages: 44
- ◆ Identifiable Donors: 1,415
- ◆ Confirmations: 85
- ◆ Anointing of the Sick: 240
- ◆ Infant Baptisms: 104
- ◆ Funeral Services: 130

Offertory Collections



Average Mass Attendance October Count



Our Religious Education Program

At the end of the 22-23 School Year, Fillie Duchaine retired from her position as Director of our Religious Education Program after 10 years of faithful and dedicated Service. We hired Lynda Fiorenza who taught Grade 8 Religion and science in the upper grades of our parish elementary school. The St. James Religious Education Program is a weekly in person program serving the children of St. James Parish in grades Kindergarten through 8. Classes are held each Sunday from 9:00 am to 10:15 am. This schedule encourages families to attend the 10:30 Mass directly after religious instruction and helps strengthen their faith formation. Our Sacramental Preparation Program includes the Grade 2 and Grade 8 students of St. James Elementary School as well as the students registered in the Religious Education Program. Our current enrollment is 210. This number is slightly lower than last year's enrollment; however, there is an upward trend in the lower grades.

At Saint James we are a community of believers which includes families in our Religious Education Program and

families whose children are enrolled in Saint James Elementary school. As part of the mission to strengthen this community we are implementing some changes this year with the Confirmation program. In addition to their regular religious instruction, the Confirmation candidates will have several "fun" opportunities to get to know one another. In November we have scheduled a Confirmation Ice-Breaker "Funtastic Games" at Thompson Park, which will include a variety of team building games. In February, the Diocesan Youth Conference is right here at St. James Parish; additionally on February 10th we will be presenting Confirmation "Movie Night" complete with popcorn! The Confirmation Retreat, in March will be at St. Mary Parish in Colts Neck, beginning at 8:30 am and concluding with a Mass with the Confirmation families at 12:30 pm. With the theme "How the Holy Spirit Can Make You a Super-Hero" it should be an engaging, thoughtful, prayerful day.

Our First Reconciliation and First Communion programs are designed to encourage the children and families to

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joyfully participate in all aspects of their faith. Some of the activities planned include several Parent Formation meetings, in which the parents are encouraged to learn more about each sacrament, connect more deeply with their own feelings of faith, and share their experiences as they guide their children in faith. The children will work on "Acts of Random Kindness", and place "Weekly Prayer Cards" with their prayer intention at the altar in our parish prayer basket. Some of the highlights of the program are the First Communion Children's Retreat, in February, which draws together the ancient traditions of the Passover meal and the institution of the Eucharist, and the Parents' Prayer Service, an evening in April specifically for the

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Spotlight: Hospitality Ministry

We believe that the church Jesus founded is a happy church, a community of love, brotherhood and friendship. Let the people of St James not be strangers to one another. Let there be fellowship as we worship together.

How? The members of the hospitality ministry reach out and greet parishioners as they enter the church introducing themselves and asking others their name, welcoming them to St. James Church. Ideally, the church doors should have a greeter at each door, especially the handicap door. They also seek to assist parishioners at the conclusion of Mass. The members are identifiable by wearing their St James Hospitality Badge.

Other responsibilities of the St James Hospitality Committee: is to host First Saturdays Breakfast and Rosary. Another responsibility is to be available for Coffee/Donut/Bagel Sundays. Our responsibility is to prepare the tables

(tablecloths and centerpieces), plate the donuts and bagels, check on the coffee supply and have fellowship with those who attend, and clean up. Finally they may be called upon for other parish needs. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Snow who coordinate our Hospitality Committee at 908-309-1711.



Members of the Hospitality Committee at celebration for Deacon Tom's ordination.

Red Bank Catholic High School

Red Bank Catholic: Where Dreams Soar and Futures are Forged

In the heart of our community stands a venerable institution that has weathered the storms of history and emerged stronger and more vibrant than ever: Red Bank Catholic (RBC). For well over a century, RBC has been a bastion of academic excellence, unwavering faith, and community engagement. Today, as we stand on the precipice of a new era, it is worth celebrating the enduring legacy and the promising future of this esteemed institution.

A Legacy of Excellence: Founded in the late 1800s, Red Bank Catholic has stood as a beacon of learning and faith through some of humanity's most challenging times, including World Wars and pandemics. Its resilience and dedication to providing a high-quality education have become hallmarks of the institution, inspiring generations of students to reach for the stars.

Academic Prowess and Holistic Development: What sets RBC apart is not just its academic rigor but its commitment to the holistic development of its students. With a wide array of pro-

grams, including Dual enrollment classes, Advanced Placement courses, specialized pathways and Capstone opportunities, RBC ensures that every student is equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate an ever-changing world.

Community Engagement and Social Responsibility: Beyond the classroom, RBC students are instilled with a strong sense of social responsibility. Through various outreach programs, charity initiatives, and community service projects, they actively contribute to making the world a better place. Whether it's supporting local food pantries, raising funds for charitable foundations, visiting hospitals and nursing homes, or organizing toy drives, RBC students learn the value of giving back and compassion for others.

Setting New Records: In the pursuit of academic excellence, RBC has shattered records. This past year alone, students have been accepted into hundreds of colleges and universities, a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the exceptional education they have received. What's more,

these talented graduates have been offered an astounding \$38,387,602.00 in scholarships, recognizing not just their academic achievements but their potential to make a difference in the world.

Looking to the Future: In 2022, the establishment of the RB Catholic High School Foundation marked a new chapter in RBC's journey.

*Mr. Robert Abatemarco
President*

*Mrs. Karen Falco
Principal*

*Mr. Michael Ientile
Vice-Principal*

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www.redbankcatholic.org

Facebook - /redbankcatholic

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With a vision to ensure the school's future for the next hundred years, the foundation is a testament to RBC's commitment to evolving with the times while preserving its core values.

Joining Hands for a Bright Tomorrow: As we witness 690 students thriving within its halls and applications for the next freshman class continuing to increase daily, it's evident that RBC continues to be a school of choice for families seeking not just education, but a nurturing environment where young minds, hearts, and souls flourish.

For the 23-24 School Year with an increase in enrollment from 673 to 690 students and to better service the parish and school communities, RBC promoted Mike Ientile to Vice Principal. Mike previously served as Dean of Students, Supervisor of Instruction and Math Teacher. In addition Catherine Scramuzzino was appointed the new Director of Guidance following the retirement of Patricia Hendricks

In addition to staff changes concerning Student Services, RBC also created and promoted, Joseph Montano to the position of Vice President of Operation and Finance. Joe previously served as the Director of Athletics. Buddy Hausman has been promoted from Assistant AD to the position of Director.

(Continued on page 7)



St. James Elementary School

Educating Hearts and Minds for Life

*Mrs. JoAnn Giordano
Principal*

*Mrs. Catherine Golden
Vice-Principal*

*732-741-3363
www.mysaintjames.com*

A Tradition of Academic Excellence



Academic excellence has been a long-standing tradition at Saint James. Serving students in preschool through eighth grade, Saint James guides a student's formative educational process, from the earliest years to young adulthood.

We are proud to announce that our preschool has continued to grow exponentially since its inception. This year's enrollment has increased over the last three years by over fifty percent.

Last years eighth grade class was once again an outstanding group of young men and women, Our graduates were recognized for their outstanding work by receiving acceptances and scholarships to prestigious high schools of their choice.

Saint James is proud to announce that eighty-five percent of our students have chosen to continue their education at Catholic High Schools.



Education in Faith and Service



Saint James has the distinction of being a distinguished PreK3 - 8th grade Catholic School. This model affords us continuity in our academic program. We firmly believe that education is fundamentally a partnership between the family and the school, it also allows us to foster a deep, abiding sense of community.



This year, thanks to parental support, Saint James is instituting a service club for students in grades 3-5.

The Kindness Crew, is based on the belief that learning and service are connected to the intellectual and moral development of each student. Through service, our students will gain a sense of empathy for others, and become contributing members of our communities.

It will also help to develop their teamwork and leadership skills.



Your Invited!

Our school has planned many opportunities for SJS families and the parish community to come together.

Keep an eye out in the church bulletin for upcoming events.

Nov. 13th thru Dec. 2nd - Jingle Bell Jackpot

Dec. 2nd - Christmas Tree lighting

Feb. 4th - Polar Plunge

March 22nd & 23rd - The Adams Family Musical Production

April 14th - 5K Run

June 3rd - Golf Outing



Congratulations Class of 2024

Our 8th Grade students participated in our traditional school pin ceremony on October 4th. The ceremony took place in church with the entire school in attendance. The class of 2024 proudly received their pins blessed by Monsignor Rosie at this special liturgy. The pins signifies their accomplishments and reminds them of their new role as role models and leaders of the student body.

*Class of
2024*



Ministry Spotlight: Lazarus Ministry

The mission of our Lazarus Ministry is to walk with families as they commend their beloved deceased to the Lord. This ministry seeks to offer its support by assisting families at the time of the passing of a loved one with the details of planning a funeral liturgy and planning a yearly remembrance celebrated on the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. It is a goal of this ministry to organize a bereavement support groups for those who have experience the passing of a love one. As the Rite of Christian Burial explains: The faith of the Christian community in the resurrection of the dead brings support and strength to those who suffer the loss of those whom they love. Members of the community should console the mourners with words

of faith and support and with acts of kindness.



Our Religious Education Program

(Continued from page 4)

parents to come together to pray and reflect with thanksgiving on the gift of the sacraments that their children are going to receive.

As we move forward, there are several

goals for the program. The first is to develop a summer program that provides faith formation, but also encourages family participation in parish events throughout the year. Additionally, we are working on developing some "special events" for each grade level, that help build on their faith,

such as a "church scavenger hunt", special informational Mass, and Parent-child faith events. We will also be restructuring our Youth Ministry with the change in staffing.

The goal is that parish families will grow in faith and fellowship.

Red Bank Catholic High School

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RBC also welcomed Kristen Amnott as its new Director of Admissions. Amnott comes to RBC from Saint Dominic Academy in Jersey City, where she spent the past ten years, most recently as the school's Enrollment Manager. These administrative changes have a goal of assuring RBC's financial and enrollment stability through closer

monitoring of the school budget in coordination with the parish business manager and finance council, recruitment, and enrollment processes.

RBC is committed to financial responsibility seeking to provide an excellent Catholic secondary education mindful of family financial obligations. The annual budget for FY 22-23 was \$13.2 million and was balanced. The high school does not receive a direct subsi-

dy from the parish.

Red Bank Catholic is not merely a school; it's a community, a family, and a legacy. It's where traditions meet innovation, where faith meets knowledge, and where dreams take flight. As we move forward, let us celebrate the remarkable journey of Red Bank Catholic and look forward to the promising future it continues to build for generations to come.

Looking Ahead

