

# **ME: GROWING INTO CHRIST INDIVIDUALLY**

**Why am I here?** Ever feel like something's missing? Maybe we're not eating right so there's that growl in our stomach. Perhaps we are not exercising so we feel slow and winded. Maybe we haven't kept contact with friends and neighbors, or we are experiencing a change of lifestyle which allows for more time but less order. Maybe I don't feel like a part of something, or I am really wondering how I can contribute to someone else. Perhaps I have many things but no one with whom to share them. I might be disconnected from my church or my family because of distance or circumstances. What a great year to bring back the balance. And really, that's what "Growing into Christ" is all about! So, why am I here? We are here to know, love and serve God in this life, so that we might be with Him in the next. Well, that leads to the next question.

**What am I to do?** Whenever we want a change in life, we often look to buy something new, or start a new program, or get a new gadget. A change doesn't necessarily mean introducing something new. Sometimes, it means removing something that has crept into our life. Imagine the star balancing on the needle. In order to keep it balanced, all five points need the same weight. If they're not balanced, the star will fall. Get it?! If we can balance those points, we are well on our way to satisfying the first question. If something is missing, we need to get it. If we have too much of something to the detriment of the others, we need to lessen that load. What am I to do? Balance the star by living in our life the following areas: Faith Formation/ Evangelization; Pastoral Care and Outreach; Liturgy and Worship; Stewardship; and Community. So how will that make a difference? Good question!

**How will what I do make a difference?** We will immediately recognize the difference within us, as will others who respond to the changes. The difference we see in others might take time to notice, or we might never know. The fact is that when we change, others must react to us differently. When we are balanced other things seem to fall into place. That is not to say we don't have our ups and downs, but that amidst all of what life throws at us, we will have peace. The reality is that we all have our peaks and valleys. We can have these experiences with a firm grounding in our faith, or not. The difference is obvious. This is a great opportunity to try something new... an experiment if you will. If we try and nothing changes, then we have lost nothing. But what about the alternative? What if something changed in us; and our spouse or family or friends or coworkers reacted differently. And as a result, they too found a balance. The possibilities are endless, because with God all things are possible.

# US: GROWING INTO CHRIST AS A PARISH COMMUNITY

## Community

- Neighborhood Christian Communities
- Knights of Columbus
- Council of Catholic Women
- Festival Committee
- Stephen Ministry
- Processions and Prayer Service in the public forum

## Liturgy and Worship

- 40 hours Devotions
- Pilgrim Statue of the Scourged Christ
- Mass of Remembrance
- Blessing of the Animals
- Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit
- Teaching Mass
- Gregory the Great Mass setting
- Liturgy of the Hours: Advent and Lent
- First Friday Adoration
- Rosary Devotions weeknights
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass

## Faith Formation / Evangelization

- Homilies on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/splagatz0>
- Catholicism Series
- Advent Series and Lenten Series
- Little Rock Scripture Study
- RCIA
- Fall Series for Year of Faith
- Religious Education
- St. Joan of Arc School
- Lifeteen
- Edge

## Pastoral Care and Outreach

- Legion of Mary
- P.O.P. (Parish Outreach Program)
- Consolation and Bereavement
- Stephen Ministry
- Visits to the Homebound
- St. Vincent DePaul/Food Bank
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- "Landings"

## Stewardship

- Capital Campaign
- Planned Giving
- Stewardship of Talent
- Stephen Ministry
- Council of Catholic Women
- Knights of Columbus
- Sponsor-a-Child Program

WORD ON FIRE PICTURE SHOW FILMS  
**CATHOLICIS**



# The Year 2012-13 Of Faith

**GROWING IN OUR FAITH IN AN EFFORT TO EVANGELIZE THE CHURCHED,  
THE UNCHURCHED, AND THE LOST GENERATIONS**

*Over the next year, we will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church building. The building of living stones has existed for much longer. As we begin to renovate the house of God, we should also take some time to renovate our house or “domus.”*

## Why have a large number of Catholics stopped practicing?

Practicing what? We practice something in order to perfect it, or at least get good at it. What’s ironic is that we should be trying to “get good” anyway. Patrick Madrid has a book out entitled, *Search and Rescue*, and in it, he points out ten reasons Catholics leave the faith or non-Catholics are unwilling to join our faith. Fr. Rothan will be speaking on

**Check out the  
Top Ten Reasons  
Catholics Leave the  
Church on Page 2.**

these topics from October until the end of the Church year. The homilies will be presented at Mass, but they will also be available on YouTube (as are all of the homilies preached here at St. Joan of Arc Church). If you subscribe, you will be notified when new videos are uploaded.

In this *Year of Faith*, we must open our minds and hearts to all our faith offers us in an effort to form ourselves into the people God created us to be! The renovation cannot simply occur within the material building we call the church, but must begin within our heart (what the early Christians called the *domus*).



Original construction of St. Joan of Arc Church, ca. 1961.

The *house* must be made of living stones. No one builds a house alone. We hire out some of the work to subcontractors. These are specialists who will do their part to build the house. But if these craftsmen do not know their craft, or are “cutting corners,” or are not invested in the house, then in the end we have a beautiful edifice outwardly, which on the inside is faulty at best.

“Unless the Lord builds the house, in vain do the builders labor.” We must be so careful that the ones we are allowing to help us build *our house* are truly invested in that house. But having the right helpers is not enough, if we are using the wrong materials.

# Our Year

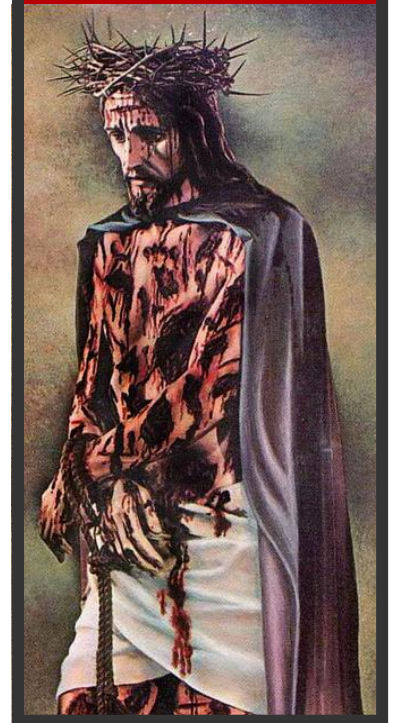
NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> -26<sup>TH</sup> (Cafeteria)



## From Sacrifice To Sacrament

*From the Pilgrim Statue of the Scourged Christ to the exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles...*

SEPT. 14  
TO  
OCT. 13



What a great year to be Catholic! We celebrate the Year of Faith and at the same time the fiftieth anniversary of St. Joan of Arc church- our worship space formed from the people of this community with a generous heart and a spirit which strived to glorify God. As we enter into this year-long celebration (and really a pilgrimage of sorts) we recall not only the sacrifices which brought forth this magnificent edifice, but also the sacrifice for which we offer thanksgiving or in Greek, *Eucharistia*.

At times it might be easy to forget the pain and suffering that our Savior endured for our offenses. We look at the marble crucifix or the tranquil body of Jesus in the tomb and it appears almost painless. Often when one gazes on the pilgrim statue, however, unsettled angst clouds our peace. We almost look away in order not to grimace. We look in disbelief, as if this is a hyperbolic expression of some artist's deep despair. And yet, in the words of John Paul the Great, after viewing *The Passion of the Christ*, "It is, as it was." But, this is not nearly the end of the story.

*He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has life within him.* Eucharistic miracles are what we experience in the Mass

and yet throughout the world the Lord has, at certain times, entered into time and space in order to move hardened hearts.

"Often when one gazes on the pilgrim statue, however, unsettled angst clouds our peace."

These are the Eucharistic miracles for those of us who, like Thomas, must *see* to believe.



*Msgr. Mayan lays the cornerstone, ca. 1962*

*"God rejoices in forgiveness, because forgiveness is the completion of love..."*

*~Benedict XVI*

# Of Faith

## MILESTONES FOR OUR YEAR

9/12 "Parent Life" begins  
9/14 Statue of Scourged Christ arrives  
9/11 & 13 Tue./ Thurs. Catholicism Program  
9/26 Forty Days for Life begins  
9/30-10/2 Eucharistic Devotions (40 hours)  
10/11 Year of Faith begins  
10/14 Mass of Healing  
11/1 All Saints Day  
11/2 Mass of Remembrance  
11/25 Eucharistic Miracles Display  
12/1 Breakfast in Bethlehem  
12/2 Teaching Masses (all Masses)  
12/8 Immaculate Conception  
**12/7,14,21 Advent Adult Education Series**  
12/16 Parish Penance Service  
1/25 March for Life  
1/27-2/1 Catholic Schools Week  
**Fridays during Lent: Passion Narratives**  
**"Soup and Stations"**  
3/10 Parish Penance Service  
3/24 Passion Sunday  
4/6 Communion Retreat  
4/20 Confirmation Retreat  
5/4 First Communion  
**5/30/13 St. Joan of Arc Feast**

## A Great Way to Start

Beginning anything new is tough, but there's hope. It takes longer to break a habit than to make a habit. So how about trying to make a resolution now to do at least one activity every month? It could be a Bible study or a meeting of the minds; it could be a youth event or some liturgical celebration outside of Mass. We start with one thing to try and bring balance (remember the balance?). It will take some planning and time management, but all things are possible for God!



Eucharistic Devotions  
will occur  
**Sunday 9/30**  
**Monday 10/1**  
**Tuesday 10/2**  
**7:00 pm**

## Advent Adult Education Series

**Friday 12/7/12: "Why does the Church pray?" and "How does the Church pray?"** *Sacrosanctum Concilium (The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy)*: This is the first document set forth by the Second Vatican Council in 1963.

**Friday 12/14/12: "Who/What is the Church?" and "What does the Church do?"** *Lumen Gentium (The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church)*: This is the most important document put forth by the Second Vatican Council.

**Friday 12/21/12: "What is the present situation of humanity?" and "What answers does the Church offer?"** *Gaudium et Spes (The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World)*: This is the final document set forth by the Second Vatican Council in 1965.



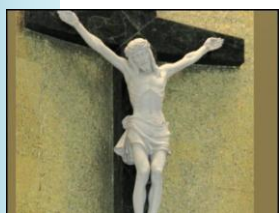
40 Days of Life

Wonderful indeed  
is the Mystery  
of our Faith



YEAR OF FAITH 11 OCT. 2012 – 24 NOV. 2013

# Celebrate Our Past ~ Prepare For Our Future



## Capital Campaign

Due to the generosity of so many of you in the parish and beyond our walls, as of August 15, 2012 we have received \$1,070,000.00 worth of pledges.

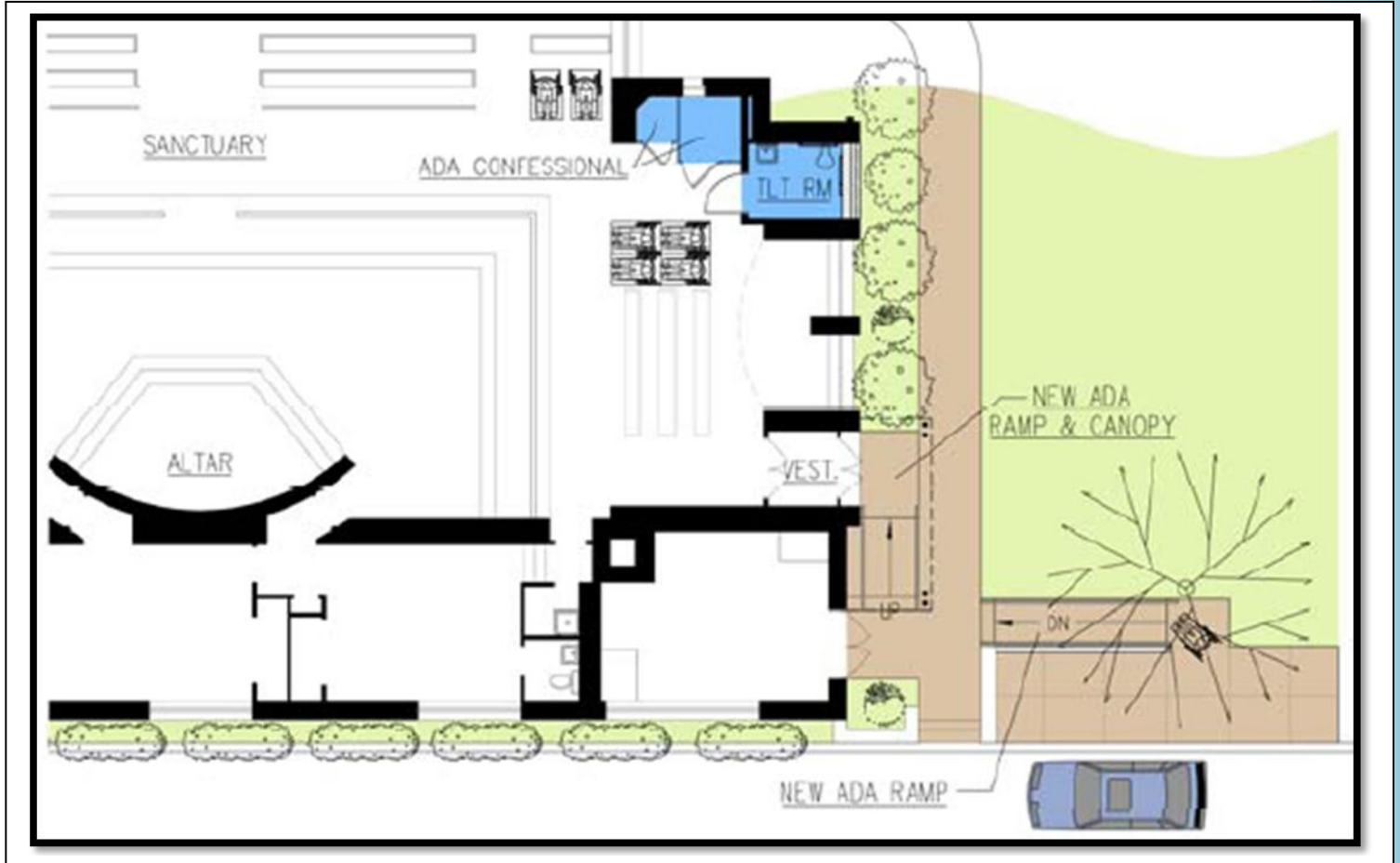
We have \$638,500.00 in cash so we have been able to begin our major projects for the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration of our church building.

Unfortunately, only a portion of parishioners offered anything towards this campaign. If you have not pledged and it is within your means to do so, please consider supporting our Church.



THE MOST REV. George L. Leech, D.D., J.C.D., Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Anthony J. Mayan, pastor of St. Joan of Arc, pose for photographers following the pontifical mass of dedication of the new church. A special mass of St. Joan of Arc was sung by the mixed choir with Dominic Pavone as director of the choir and Miss Regina Pronio as organist, in celebration of the Feast of the Patroness of the Parish. Some 150 priests and 200 sisters were in attendance.

## Pontifical Mass of Dedication Celebrated For New St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church



## Stephen Ministry

Saint Joan of Arc Church recently became involved in Stephen Ministry. This one-to-one caregiving ministry is named for Stephen, one of the first seven laypeople called by the Church to assist the Apostles in caring for others (Saint Stephen eventually was ordained a deacon. You can read his story in Acts 6 and 7). Stephen Ministry is truly “ministry,” that is, service to others, caring for others in Jesus’ name, doing the work that God has called and gifted his children to do. Stephen Ministry Leaders equip laypeople, Stephen Ministers, who will provide

confidential, one-to-one care to individuals in our parish and in our community who are experiencing grief, divorce, loneliness, job loss, hospitalization, and many other life difficulties. The Stephen Minister brings Christ’s presence into the person’s life while also seeing Christ in the other person. It’s a life-changing ministry for both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister.

**Our Stephen Leadership Team is led by:**  
**Fran Robinson,**  
717-583-0852  
**Billie Allan, Facilitator**  
717-641-3031



## How do the Faithful access the Church; how does the Church, access the Faithful?

Just as the various ministries within our church reach out to the people; we also want the people to be able to come to the church. Above is pictured our efforts to make the church accessible to everyone. Thanks to the generosity of many of our parishioners, this vision will be a reality. Look for “dirt to move” in the days ahead. Jesus said “Let the children come to me and do not hinder them.”



### Religious Education Program and St. Joan of Arc Catholic School

St. Joan of Arc Church is committed to supporting parents in their sacred responsibility to nurture the spirituality of their children. On our part, we have an expectation that parents will be actively involved in their child's religious education, attending Sunday liturgy regularly, reviewing material that is sent home, establishing habits of prayer in the home, and discussing their faith openly as to both its blessings and challenges.

### Music Ministry

We are looking for talented musicians and singers, who are at least in High School, to assist in leading the congregation in worship for the 5:30 Life Teen Mass. Please pray about sharing your gifts that God has given you.

### The Life Teen and EDGE Clothing Drive is Coming!

Get prepared to clean out your closets and bring in your unneeded clothing. Life Teen and EDGE will be collecting clothes the weekend of November 10-11 before and after all the masses. Please feel free to bring toiletries (soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash cloths, and combs) for the homeless shelters in Harrisburg as well.

### Caelorum

The first Wednesday of every month from 7-8:30 p.m., we gather in the church for a night of Eucharistic Adoration with some Praise and Worship music. The next Caelorum celebrations will be September 5th, October 3rd, and November 7th. All parishioners are welcome to come, sing, and pray in front of the Most Blessed Sacrament.



Calling all High School Students! Fan the Fire is calling you to a Youth Rally that you will never forget. On Saturday, November 17th at St. Joseph Parish in York.

**Join US!**





# Adults...what about Adults?

Parent Life- Are you a parent of a child in REP, EDGE, Life Teen, or Catholic School and have questions about the Catholic faith? Parent Life is for you!

## R.C.I.A.

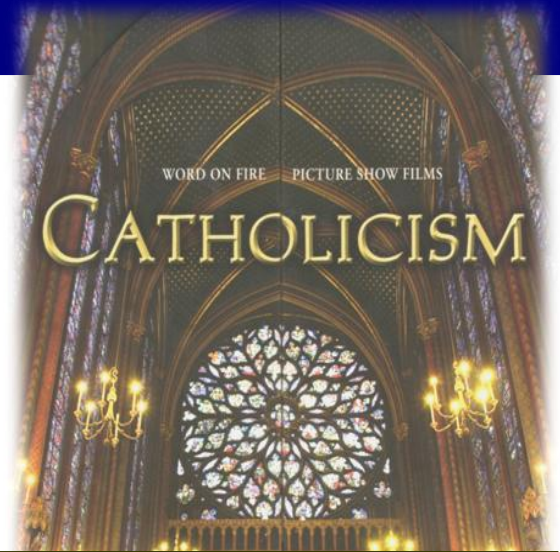
### (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

RCIA is a gradual coming to Christ. It occurs in steps which are arranged to assist the individual journey of each person. The community of faith supports and really encourages the person through prayer, both personal and group common reflection on the Word of God, the study of the Christian tradition, and by living out fully the Christian way of life.

As the first teachers of the Catholic faith, parents are sometimes at a disadvantage when the kids are involved in Religious Education. With up to 20 years removed from their personal time in REP, CCD, or Catholic School, sometimes a refresher course is just what is needed to be able to answer your kids questions in relation with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

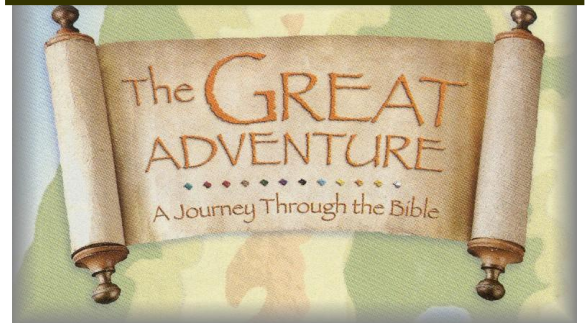
Starting September 12th, *Parent Life* will meet on the second Wednesday of the month from 7-8 pm in Meeting Room C.

If you have any questions, please call John in the Youth Office at 533-1721 or email him at [stjaonofarclifeteen@gmail.com](mailto:stjaonofarclifeteen@gmail.com)



*Catholicism* is a program that breaks open the Catholic Faith in a way that is understandable and enjoyable. This course begins in September.

*The Great Adventure* Bible Study is a great Catholic Bible Study which integrates Sacred Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.



### The Council of Catholic Women and the Knights of Columbus

do much more than cook for breakfasts and raise funds. Check out what you might be able to do through and for these Catholic organizations.



## Little Rock Scripture Study

A Ministry of the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock in Partnership with Liturgical Press

# CCW

## My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

**Are we still hunters and gatherers?** When as a more primitive people we hunted and gathered, there was little time for much else. Once we domesticated animals, learned to plant and harvest our food, and build permanent dwellings, there was finally time to contemplate the greater questions of creation and our place *in* creation. Be that as it may, in our modern age with all the technological aids to make life easier and more efficient, I'm afraid we have devolved into hunter/gatherers once again. We spend our days scurrying about looking, gathering and hoarding. We spend our time hunting the elusive quarry and are focused less on the one who created us and how we can come to know Him.

I have spent much of the last year listening. This was difficult at times because some of the faithful wanted action and in some cases I did as well. In the ancient world the spoken word was important because they believed it entered through the ear and became a part of the person. I have spent this year listening and your thoughts and words have become a part of me, and have helped me to shape what I see as the most important effort we will make in the next several years. Hunters and gatherers lived short busy lives with the short-term goal of survival. We cannot return to the cave or the tent. We must continue to evolve and *grow into Christ*. "We don't like change." This was a message I heard often in the last year. It echoes my own feelings. Most people do not like change. In fact I would venture to say we *hate* it. Change must mean that I am not perfect, and no one wants to be imperfect. In the words of Saint John Neumann: "To live is to change; to live perfectly is to have changed often." As we would say in Spanish, *verdad!* (truly!) I am not speaking to you as one who is the exception. I'm speaking as one of YOU! I struggle like everyone to know what God's will is for me and how I can serve His Church.

This Year of Faith is a perfect starting gate through which to re-enter the race. Unlike other races we are not competing *against* each other, but on the contrary we are obligated to help each other to complete the race. Unlike other races, this contest is against an unseen but very powerful force who will do anything to trip us up! One of the favorite tools of the enemy, and the biggest stumbling blocks placed before us, can be difficulties with the faith. In his book, *Search and Rescue*, Patrick Madrid outlines the top ten reasons why Catholics will leave the faith and non-Catholics are unwilling to consider joining the faith. During the first few weeks of our Year of Faith, I will address these ten reasons in homilies during the Sunday Mass. If you do not to attend that Mass, remember all homilies are on *YouTube*. I have listened. What I have heard is hearts hungering for the truth! The basic truth. Catechesis or teaching the faith is a priority for me. Our faith is so rich and so good and so life-giving. We just do not know our faith. How can we give what we do not have?

One of the reasons Catholics leave or Non-Catholics are unwilling to consider the faith is that they disagree with Catholic doctrine, or what they understand as doctrine. Another reason is that some are angry with the Church's standpoint on moral issues. Which ones? Most often those that are difficult to keep, or the ones that affect those we love. A third point is that some have been scandalized by the church's bad example. We recognize however, that you don't judge something by *those who don't live it*, but by those who do. A number of Catholics have left because they are apathetic, whereas others have deserted the Church because they feel the church has abandoned them. When they needed the Church or her ministers they were unavailable or they perceived that the Church didn't care. Some are just angry with God.

What about non-Catholics who are unwilling to join the faith? Often, the perceptions they have are actually misconceptions about the Catholic Church. Some of these are propagated by Catholics who are ignorant. Some actually have prejudices against the Catholic Church, while for others family is the issue. Some won't enter the Church for fear of their family's rejection, while others having been incessantly pestered and nagged will never enter the Church if for no other reason than spite. Finally, some will feel like they are not being fed spiritually, emotionally, socially, etc. Let's face it: if we don't want to do something, there are plenty of justifications. What about the justifications *FOR* doing something?

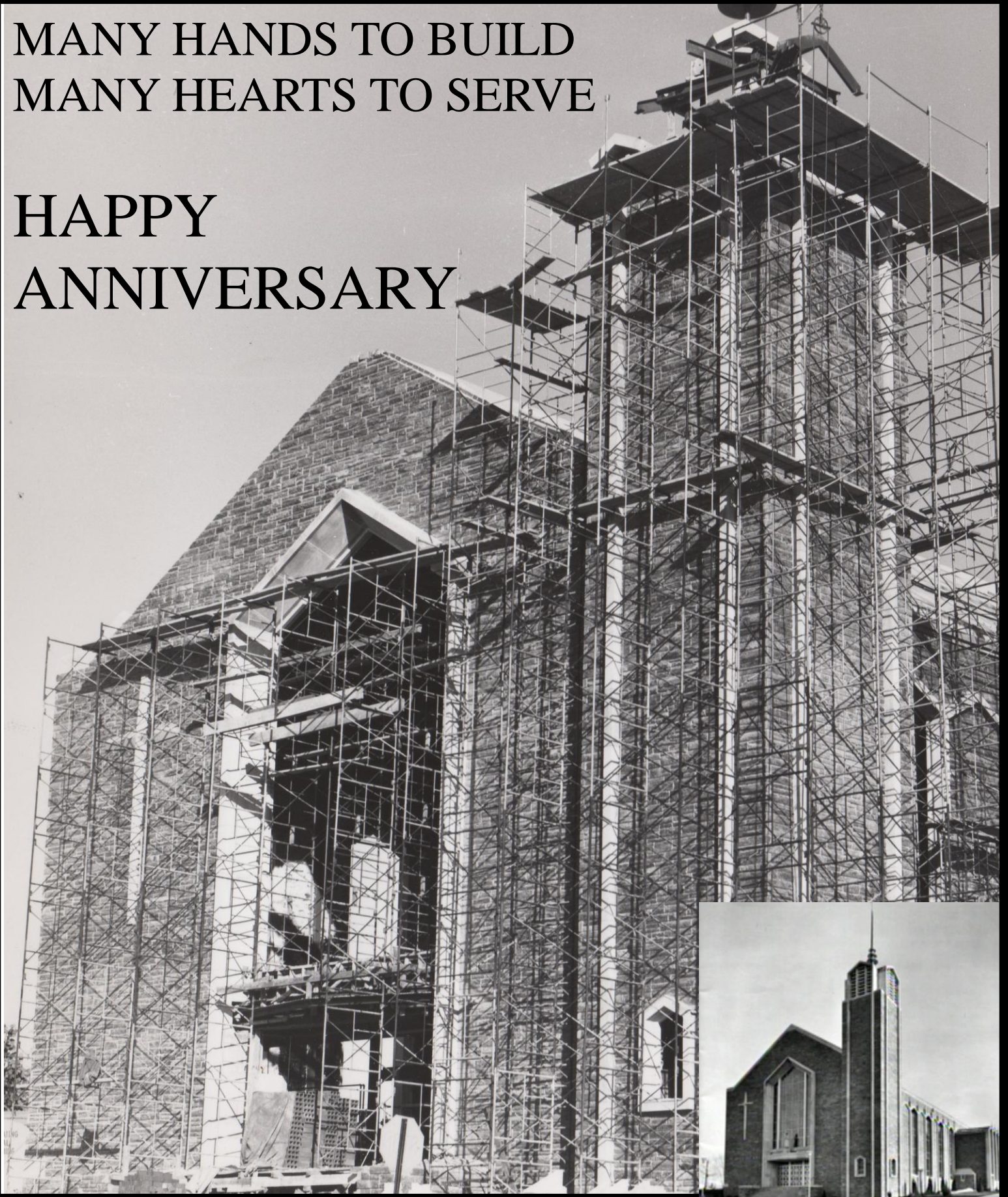
This Year of Faith gives us a great opportunity. Remember the analogy for *Growing into Christ*? There is a Christmas decoration: a star with five points balancing on a pin. To keep the pin balanced, there is a bell at each point of the star. If one bell is missing, the star will fall. If there are two bells on one point, the star will fall. If we do not balance our life spiritually, then how can we expect to stay in the race? Growing into Christ means change, work, planning and intention.

Within these pages are the building blocks we need to succeed. These pages paint a picture of how we can make this Year of Faith, *Our Year of Faith*. There are resources to aid us in *Growing into Christ* individually and as a parish. Various activities are profiled which will be beginning soon or have already begun. Our capital projects are displayed as encouragement for renovating our own lives. You see, we cannot give what we do not have. If we can balance that star on the pin and become the people God desires us to be, then we can go forth and confidently profess the Gospel to the Catholics who are away, and those non-Catholics who are unwilling to consider our faith. Change can be exciting! This change will necessitate a new construction requiring *many hands to build and many hearts to serve*. Are you ready?

50th Anniversary of the Dedication Celebration  
30 May 2012-30 May 2013

MANY HANDS TO BUILD  
MANY HEARTS TO SERVE

HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY



*...Unless the Lord builds the house in vain do the builders labor... ~Psalm 127:1*

# FINANCIAL REPORT



## RECEIPTS

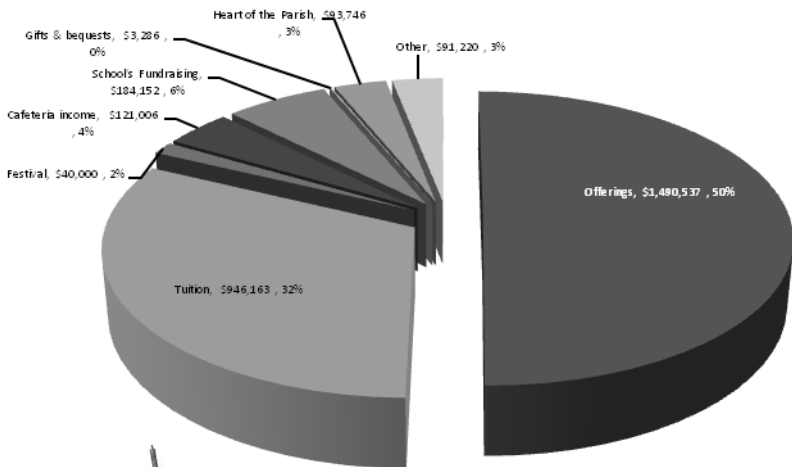
	2012	2011	Inc/(Dec)
Offerings	1,490,537	1,449,492	41,045
Tuition	946,163	867,848	78,315
Festival	40,000	47,500	(7,500)
Cafeteria income	121,006	113,343	7,663
School's Fundraising	184,152	175,582	8,570
Gifts & bequests	3,286	16,500	(13,214)
Heart of the Parish	93,746	86,647	7,099
Other	91,220	65,268	25,952
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,970,110</b>	<b>2,822,180</b>	<b>147,930</b>

## DISBURSEMENTS

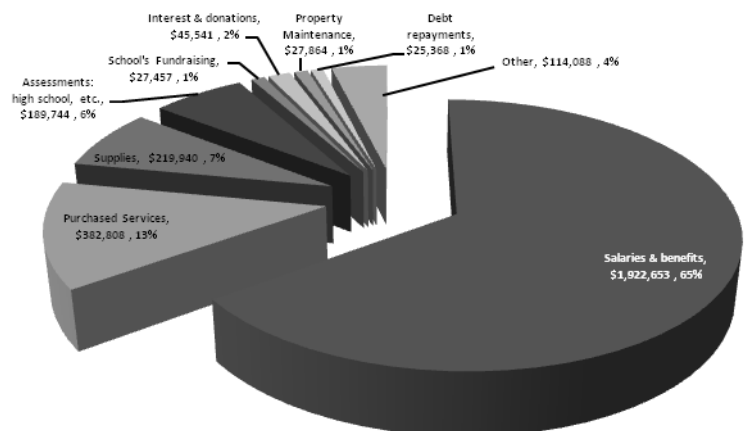
Salaries & benefits	1,922,653	1,724,969	197,684
Purchased Services	382,808	424,090	(41,282)
Supplies	219,940	219,281	659
Assessments: high school, etc.	189,744	193,815	(4,071)
School's Fundraising	27,457	21,179	6,278
Interest & donations	45,541	49,618	(4,077)
Property Maintenance	27,864	41,538	(13,674)
Debt repayments	25,368	25,368	0
Other	114,088	135,324	(21,236)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,955,463</b>	<b>2,835,182</b>	<b>120,281</b>

## INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH

<b>14,647</b>	<b>(13,002)</b>	<b>27,649</b>
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## EXPENSES



## INCOME

