



PRINCE OF PEACE
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

GOD IS RICH

in Mercy

GOD IS RICH IN MERCY

This beautiful proclamation of St. Paul comes in the midst of his awed and awesome reflection on God's goodness to us in his letter to the Ephesians (2:4). Mercy is an important theme in the life of the Church today as it permeates the teachings of Pope Francis. Mercy will be the focus of the special Holy Year of Jubilee beginning December 8, 2015. Mercy is the name and dedication of our Outreach Center (currently under construction). Mercy is the new title for our outreach ministries here as we strive to tie ourselves and our activities more deeply to the heart of God. We are not just doing good for people in need, we are bringing God's own love to them. This is the definition of mercy.

All that we do here at Prince of Peace is a response to God's mercy. He enables, he gifts, he calls, he accomplishes. We respond to his mercy with mercy. Many people serve, contribute, pray. Sadly, many people decline to serve or contribute or even pray. Our call, in God's mercy, is to be here for them as much as for those who support the work of the parish financially, ministerially, prayerfully.

Anyone who comes here hungry receives a bag of groceries. Anyone who calls for a sick loved one, a death in the family, or planning a wedding is assisted directly or helped to find the appropriate person or place. Many people who do not practice their faith contact us when a baby is born, a child is first Communion age or approaching Confirmation time. Again, we try to welcome each one in Jesus' Name and Jesus' mercy, to walk with them and serve them in this critical moment in what could become their faith journey.

We have worked hard this year to become a more welcoming parish and staff. We continue to seek ways and means to make Sunday a more prayerful and powerful celebration. Often we succeed: sometimes we fall short. But the vision is there for us to truly become a community of full, conscious and actively participating Catholic Christians. And as we do that, we cannot help but be caught up in receiving and then sharing the mercy of our Father.

New buildings are under construction for youth, for mercy, for discipleship/worship. New staff and many new volunteer ministers have taken their place at our feet, serving as Jesus called us to do (John 13).

God is rich in mercy! He has blessed us abundantly. THANK YOU to everyone whose prayers, service and financial return to the Lord have helped us to become a more God-like, more merciful parish family.

Father John

Father John



WE ARE PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

For 44 years, Prince of Peace Catholic Community has tried to actively extend a warm welcome to all people who have come to our doorsteps looking for a place of worship, a faith community to call home.

Currently, POP has over 8,600 registered households and continues to be one of the largest, most diverse, multi-cultural Catholic communities in Texas. Our intention is to be a beacon of worship, hope, and service to all — now, and for many years to come.

VISION STATEMENT

Full, conscious and active participation in the life of the Catholic Church.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, as a Catholic faith community, answer God's call to live out the Gospel through Sacramental worship, formation, evangelization and serving those in need.



Dear Fellow Members of Prince of Peace Catholic Community,

This year has been an exciting one for the Pastoral Council and the parish as we continue to see growth in many areas of our community. As our parish continues reaching out to those around us, we reflect on ways to welcome all individuals here and never turn away those in need of spiritual, physical, emotional, or financial nourishment. As the Pastoral Council works to humbly listen and express the desires of the community to our Pastor on a monthly basis, we have heard a continuous call from parishioners to address several key areas:

- We should become more welcoming to all visitors.
- We should provide further support and opportunities for the spiritual enrichment of current members and non-registered participants.
- We need to clearly communicate issues as they arise, so Father John and our staff can quickly and effectively address them.



With these desires in mind, the Pastoral Council has helped support many new initiatives, including the advent of the New Evangelization Ministry, Adult and Children's Evangelization Ministry, and most recently, the Christian Initiation Ministry.

These new ministries are designed to foster growth and meet the spiritual and communal needs of our parish. Each of these ministries will continue to bring fellowship and conversion opportunities to parishioners of all ages, ethnicities, and economic circumstances.

As a new year begins, please let us know how we can be of greater assistance to you. We want to know what Prince of Peace can do to improve your relationship with God, His Church, and your fellow Christians. Thank you to all who continue volunteering and serving in a spirit of mission for our community.

Humbly Yours,
Pastoral Council

PASTORAL COUNCIL is a discerned group of members who serve as parish liaisons and provide counsel to the pastor. Chairperson is Tammy Lee, Co-chairperson, Ryan Armstrong, and members are Tim Thibodeau, Sylvia McMillan, Juan Pena, Bill Rosenbaum, Jose Antonio Betancourt, Nathan Harrison, Laura Hebert, Dave Kreiner (Joint Council Representative), Susan Cline, Stevee Steely, and Justin Waltz.

Contact: pastoralcouncil@pophouston.org

NEW EVANGELIZATION MINISTRY

According to Pew statistics, only 30 percent of Americans who were raised Catholic are still "practicing." The 'New Evangelization' is about realizing the vast majority of our community will not come to us looking for God. We must go where they are and help them discover him. The mission of the New Evangelization Ministry here at Prince of Peace is to foster a culture of encounter with Jesus and help build a community that encourages, corrects and consoles one another. This will be done by creatively seeking and implementing new ways to Evangelize.



CHRISTIAN INITIATION MINISTRY

The new Christian Initiation Ministry is working to meet the needs of our dynamic and growing parish by identifying areas where the Sacraments of Initiation are not being completed. Their mission is to pastorally help individuals and families prepare and receive the Sacraments of Initiation, while helping them to grow in the faith and deepen their relationship with Christ. They are concerned with the formation and catechesis

in both English and Spanish languages with the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation (Adult and Teen), and RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation and RCIA-Adapted for Children).

Through the Sacrament of Baptism this year, we welcomed 564 people into the Catholic Church, 483 received the Sacrament of First Eucharist, and 289 received Confirmation.



ADULT AND CHILDREN'S EVANGELIZATION MINISTRY

Family Faith Formation is now called Adult and Children's Evangelization Ministry. They are introducing exciting new ways for POP families to experience faith formation. In addition to the weekly Faith Formation process, "Come See!," there is a new monthly, formation process, "Families

Alive in Christ," which provides families with the tools and the opportunity to move into an authentic and intentional way of living their faith.

2,446 children received formation here last year.



YOUTH EVANGELIZATION MINISTRY

Junior and Senior High School Youth

Prince of Peace Youth Evangelization Ministry approaches faith formation a bit differently than other Catholic churches. Our newest ministry development this past



The mission of POPYEM is to "Evangelize the youth culture by meeting teens where they are and bringing them into deep communion with Christ, His Church, and one another."



Our summer ministry schedule always includes powerful camps, conferences, and retreats for our teens. Camp Covecrest, a weeklong Catholic youth camp in Georgia, is one spot where our group experiences lots of fun and lots of conversion.

year was the powerful and successful start of "Connect!" Saturdays, where our teens encounter Christ and are formed in the faith with 800 of their closest friends.



One of our Youth Ministers, Matt Regitz, has been a keynote speaker for thousands of youth this past year at events such as the Archdiocesan Youth Rally and the Steubenville West Conference.

BLESSED BEGINNINGS

Blessed Beginnings Preschool & MDO seeks to provide a safe, nurturing, Christ-centered educational environment where children and families feel a sense of support, unity and acceptance. Approximately 150 children attend during the school year and 55 Pre-K children graduated in May, 2015. All of the teachers are trained in Early Childhood Education, CPR & First Aid and attend professional development workshops annually.





WORSHIP

This year, Prince of Peace celebrated five parishioners who received the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Congratulations to Father Jeff Bame, Permanent Deacons Kenneth Henry and Kevin Casciarelli, Transitional Deacon Nicolas Ramirez, and Permanent Deacon Jeff Schmelter.

SPANISH-LANGUAGE MINISTRY

Through the work and growth of our Spanish-Language Ministry, Prince of Peace is able to better serve the Spanish-speaking community of northwest Houston. Some of their many ministries include, ESL classes, Our

Lady of Guadalupe celebrations, Convalidation Group, Bilingual Stations of the Cross, Mission to Guatemala, and the Spanish Young Adult group, "Servorum Dei," which celebrated its 10th anniversary this year.



Through the services provided by the Spanish Ministry and Bonding Against Adversity, more than 250 people from Prince of Peace have received their citizenship



Bilingual Stations of the Cross



Convalidation Group at the Celebration Mass in December, 8 couples received the Sacrament of Matrimony. Fr. Alfonso Delgado Vargas and Deacon Tim Hartnett presided at the celebration.

MERCY MINISTRY

Outreach Ministry continues to grow significantly each year and now helps over 40,000 people annually through work in Respect Life, Prison Retreats, Immigration, Marriage & Family, Mission Work, Employment, Religious Freedom, and more. In order to reflect the love, compassion, and mercy found within this ministry, Outreach will now be known as the Prince of Peace Mercy Ministry, and our new building will be called the Mercy Center.

Last Year, Mercy Ministry Helped

- 23,232 in need of referrals, questions and holiday program assistance
- 17,532 in need of food
- 2,783 in need of emergency financial assistance
- 100 pregnant women in crisis
- 7,200 homeless people
- 2,500 indigenous Mayan people.



Mercy Ministry sent supplies and **\$4,000** to aid victims of devastating flooding.



Thanks to the Gabriel Project, babies like little Griselda, weighing just 2 pounds at birth, receive assistance they need.



POP missionaries offered spiritual formation and delivered **\$10,000** in aid to our brothers and sisters in Guatemala.

WELCOMING ALL WHO THIRST CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As we strive to serve the ever-growing needs of our community, Prince of Peace is now embarking on its next phase of construction, continuing the vision approved by the parish a decade ago. This ambitious, \$11.5 MM project includes a new Discipleship Center, a new Youth Center and a new Mercy Center, along with nearly 200 additional parking spaces.

The capital campaign to support this project was launched in September 2014, with over 30 campaign receptions held to inform parishioners of the plans for the new facilities. By the end of 2014, close to \$6 MM in pledges had been

received from parishioners. Based on this response, the Archdiocese granted formal approval for the project in February 2015. The campaign continues and through September 2015, the total pledges amounted to \$6.5 MM.

Throughout 2015, the POP Building Committee has worked closely with the architects and construction contractor to progress the project through detailed design. The groundbreaking took place on October 24, 2015 and all facilities are scheduled to be complete by the end of 2016. More information about the campaign is available at www.pophouston.org, under "Give" – "Capital Campaign"



St. Andrew Discipleship Center

The discipleship center will provide a large space to gather for youth and children's faith formation, overflow Masses, and other parish events. With its flexible design, this gathering space can be divided into as many as eight large meeting rooms which can be used for various ministry/team meetings, eliminating the need to add another wing of class/meeting rooms to the St. Joseph Center. A full kitchen will support fellowship activities, such as prayer breakfasts and Friday fish fries.



St. Pedro Calungsod Youth Center

The youth center will support our Youth Evangelization Ministry and will help the parish offer increased opportunities for our youth to gather and to grow in their faith. Just as well-educated children are critical to the future of our society, youth that are well-formed in their faith are critical to the future of our Church. The center will include an assembly area, a lounge area, a gameroom, offices and an outdoor patio.



Mercy Center

This new center will support our Mercy Ministry (formerly known as Outreach Ministry). This ministry has shared the Caritas Building with child care, which needs more space for weekend Masses and other parish activities. Both of these ministries have been hoping for many years for a "home of their own" and they will finally get it.

FINANCE COUNCIL LETTER

Prince of Peace Community,

Thank you for your continued support of our growing community. The past few years have been focused on expanding our ministries, and with this growth came many changes. We have seen many new faces around the office as we have worked to better serve the needs of all who come to us.

In the last fiscal year, we had a collections budget of \$89,000 per week, and we ended the year just shy of that budget at \$88,875, or \$53,488 less than budget for the full year. For the coming fiscal year, weekly collections have been budgeted at \$90,000, and we look for your continued support.

We are pleased with the continued success of the Annual Gala Evening and Golf Tournament to support the Mercy Ministry. In 2014, the funds these two events brought in

were used to subsidize the daily operations of the Mercy Ministry, and a portion was transferred into their net asset account to be used for the new facility being built. Blessed Beginnings continues to fund its programs through direct donations and tuition as well.

As we start this new fiscal year, we begin the 3rd phase of our Capital Campaign: the construction of the Mercy Center, St. Andrew Discipleship Center, and the St. Pedro Calungsod Youth Center. These new facilities will allow us to grow and serve even more people in our community.

We pray for the success of the campaign and the continued support of our community as these buildings are completed and filled with ministry.

Prince of Peace
Finance Council



FINANCE COUNCIL is appointed by the pastor to assist him with ensuring the financial and administrative affairs of POP are properly conducted, supervised, and reported. Chair is Erin White, Co-Chair, Paul McGuire, and members are Armando Chincarini, Reed Tinsley, Nicole Grygar, Ralph Ellis, Jr., Justin Hebert, Dave Kreiner (Joint Council Representative), Jim Schulist, Mary Schulist, Edgar Tavares, and Olga Villasenor (financecouncil@pophouston.org)

SOURCES AND DISPOSITIONS OF FUNDS

(in thousands)

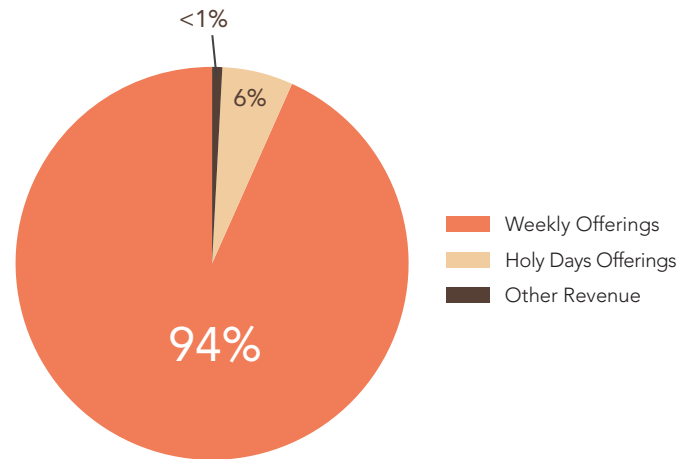
<u>Actual</u>	<u>6/30/15 Budget</u>	<u>6/30/16</u>
Revenue		
Sunday/Holy Day Offering	\$4,607	\$4,770
Other Revenue	24	38
Total Revenue Operations	4,631	4,808
Parish Operations		
Plant Operations/Maintenance	1,246	1,145
Parish Administration	719	585
Pastoral General	393	432
Total Parish Operations	2,358	2,162
Ministries (net of direct revenues)		
Adult & Children's Evangelization	247	175
Christian Initiation	0	217
Worship	422	405
Youth	144	134
Outreach*	0	0*
Pastoral Care	104	96
Community Life	26	0
Evangelization	100	204
Total Ministries	1,043	1,231
Building Debt Service		
	600	600
Diocesan/Other Obligations		
Capital Renewal	120	120
Cathedraticum	451	538
Diocesan Schools/Projects	115	112
DSF Shortfall	0	45
Total Diocesan/Other	686	815
Total Expenditures	4,687	4,808
Net Cash Flow	(56)	0
Recorded Special Gifts 2013-2014		
Diocesan Service Fund	\$423,000	
St. Mary's Seminary	60,963	
Missionary Appeal	22,816	
Disaster Relief Appeal	12,920	
Other Appeals (15)	80,954	
Total Special Gifts	\$600,653	

*Outreach is now 100% self-funded. The donations made directly to Outreach now cover 100% of the expenses to run the program. No additional subsidy is needed out of the weekly collection.

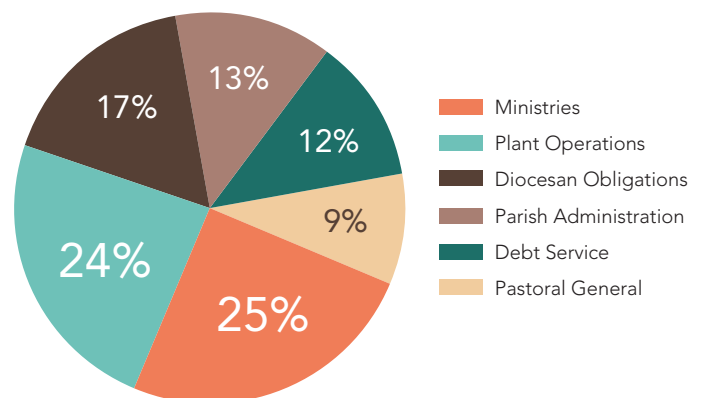
PARISH BUDGET

Fiscal Year Ending
June 30, 2016

Sources of Funds Budgeted for Fiscal Year 2016
Total \$4.8 million



Uses of Funds Budgeted for Fiscal Year 2016
Total \$4.8 million





PRINCE OF PEACE
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

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Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs., 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Fri. - Sun., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

"May the Church be a place of God's Mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live according to the good life of the Gospel."

– Pope Francis