



Celebrating Pastoral and Lay Leadership

In this annual report of parish activity and stewardship of parish resources, we express our esteem for and gratitude to our pastor of six years, Father Larry Christian. In addition to all the individual and family expressions of gratitude presented to Father Larry at his farewell reception, we celebrate the many accomplishments that are now a part of our parish history.

We are grateful to Father Larry for his well-prepared, teaching homilies that both inspired and challenged us. He presided at Sunday liturgies with grace and effective use of silence. He laughed at himself and at us. He led us in prayer and in action.

Father Larry read voraciously—about Scripture interpretation, best practices in parish life, sacramental preparation and processes, the history of liturgical practice, and stewardship/discipleship efforts. And we were the beneficiaries of his reading, study, and reflection.

As Father Larry exercised his often competing responsibilities as Pastor and as Vicar General, he trusted in the lay leadership of the parish. Under his leadership, the staff grew to include a lay administrator, communication director, and adult faith formation director. Discipleship, stewardship, and communications took prominence. Parish organizations grew in number and activity. We reduced the parish debt. We attracted three young men from our parish to seminary education for priesthood. We learned to move beyond our “comfort zones” and welcomed relationships with our Sister Parish communities. We enjoyed collaboration in learning about our Jewish and Muslim neighbors. As he became a better pastor, we became a better faith-filled, parish community.

We thank Father Larry for his leadership in helping all of us to grow in faith, love, and service. We thank him for his robust celebration of our sacramental life. And we

thank him for being shepherd of our growth as a parish community.

We thank Father Servando for his gentle, servant leadership. He became one of us and endeared himself to us through his stories of family and his formation for priesthood. He taught us so much about being humble and kind. His love for everyone enriched and inspired us to appreciate God’s love and mercy. We are grateful for mutual learning!

Father Servando did much of the groundwork for our Sunday Spanish Mass and increased our ministry to the homebound and those in assisted living. We are grateful for his pastoral responses to new needs.

We recognize Dan and Beverly Kasproicz, who were honored with the Lumen Gentium Award. Dan and Beverly shine the light of Christ at St. Francis in many ways through their ministry in RCIA and elementary faith formation, adult and teen ACTS retreats, Beyond Cana marriage retreats, mission trips, liturgical ministries, and spiritual direction.

We thank Julie Mellin for her tireless service through our outreach ministries. Julie is the “heart” of the St. Francis Mobile Loaves & Fishes ministry. Having served as both Core Team Director and Volunteer Coordinator, Julie has ensured that the mission “to provide food, clothing, and dignity to our brothers and sisters in need” remains constant. Julie also serves as a volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity, is an exemplary communicator, and models preaching the gospel in all her actions.

This fiscal year, we celebrated our largest parish festival yet, and it would not have been possible without the steadfast leadership of Irma and Tony Flores. Every year, they make the festival bigger and better than before, attracting more and more people to commemorate our patron, St. Francis of Assisi, and share in the joy of the gospel.



(Top Left): Irma and Tony Flores, (Top Right): Julie Mellin, (Middle): Fr. Larry Christian, (Bottom Left): Fr. Servando Guerrero, (Bottom Right): Beverly and Dan Kasproicz

A Year of Discipleship

Sacraments

Baptisms	135
First Communions	110
Confirmations	103
Weddings	29
Funerals	25

Faith Formation Enrollment

Elementary School	313
Sacrament Preparation	86
Homeschool	31
Middle School	74
Edge Program	40
Life Teen Program	83
College Life	11
Teen Confirmation	62
RCIA	47

Community Growth

New Families	304
Total Families	3,041
Average Mass Attendance	2,213

Dedication



We dedicate this Annual Report to G.E. “Buddy” Mullan, who entered the Communion of Saints in heaven in October 2015. Buddy was a founding member of the St. Francis community who ceaselessly contributed his ideas and vast knowledge of liturgy, art, the RCIA processes, the saints, and the history of the parish. He was a friend, mentor, and companion to many who were searching for God. We thank him for the stained glass windows in our chapels, for the rich stories that make up our parish history, for the design elements in our sanctuary, for the pilgrimages of Art and Faith—for all of his efforts that enlarged our capacity to know, love, and serve God. We miss you, and we celebrate your lasting gifts to our parish community.

A Note About This Report

This annual report highlights parish data from the 2016 Fiscal Year, which spans from July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016. Download this report online at www.sfsat.org/2016Report. Stay connected to parish news and updates throughout the year with the Sunday bulletin, Friday e-newsletter, the parish newsletter, website, and social media accounts:

www.sfsat.org
facebook.com/sfsatx
twitter.com/sfsat
instagram.com/sfsat
 SFA YouTube Channel



We Celebrate Our Identity as a Parish



In 2012 and 2013, Bill Simon and the team at Parish Catalyst studied 244 thriving Catholic parishes to determine what made them exceptional. The study results were published in 2016 in *Great Catholic Parishes: A Living Mosaic*. This study found all the parishes shared four foundational practices that led to a profound sense of belonging within their parish communities and a deepening commitment to discipleship. Each parish:

1. *Shares leadership* by being very intentional about hiring talented lay staff who work with collaborative clergy to direct the community;
2. *Fosters spiritual maturity and plans for discipleship* by providing a variety of formation opportunities, recognizing their parishioners are at different stages of spiritual development;
3. *Excels on Sundays* by dedicating significant time, energy, and money to liturgical celebrations where parishioners and seekers alike find both a sense of belonging and a motivational call; and
4. *Intentionally evangelizes* by challenging insiders to look outward and by providing service programs, social events, global mission opportunities, and pastoral care at key sacramental moments that focus on inviting outsiders into a deeper relationship with Christ and the Church.

While St. Francis of Assisi was not one of the parishes in the study, we are confident that our parish community gives exemplary evidence of living the four foundational practices described in *Great Catholic Parishes*.

SHARING LEADERSHIP

- Added Larry Perry to staff as Director of Faith Formation Ministries
- Instituted Big Room Planning to provide for collaboration with organization and ministry leaders in advancing the parish mission
- Identified pastoral priorities through participative processes
- Initiated Young Adult Ministry
- Celebrated the achievements and expressed gratitude to Fr. Larry and Fr. Servando through online tributes
- Continued staff development on MBTI at work, in ministry, and in prayer and Critical Issues in Ministry at Oblate School of Theology
- Identified leaders and provided training for ACTS Spiritual Companions, adult and teen ACTS retreat directors, and Life Teen core
- Attended Southwest Liturgical Conference, Los Angeles Religious Education Congress, International Catholic Stewardship Conference, and National Pastoral Musicians Convention
- Mentored five seminarians in RCIA and other faith formation processes



EXCELLING ON SUNDAYS

- Welcomed visitors and new parishioners through introductions at Mass, quarterly luncheon gatherings, and personalized mail and publications
- Celebrated baptisms, first communions, and confirmations at Sunday liturgies
- Created a pictorial directory to enlarge our recognition of parishioners and increase our feeling of belonging to the parish community
- Planned preaching themes and music selection and created worship aids
- Increased Children's Liturgy of the Word to two Sunday Masses
- Trained new liturgical ministers to be readers, Eucharistic ministers, and hospitality
- Sponsored Social Sunday and Pancake Breakfast to provide family social activities twice a month
- Celebrated our patron, St. Francis, at the largest parish festival to date
- Invited parish member participation in organizational, outreach, and service opportunities
- Welcomed record attendance at Christmas and Easter
- Included handbells in more Sunday liturgies



FOSTERING SPIRITUAL MATURITY AND DISCIPLESHIP

- Created Year of Mercy activities and resources including the construction of Doors of Mercy, Tree of Mercy, and parish Advent mission on the topic of mercy
- Welcomed 47 adults and children into our parish through RCIA
- Confirmed our biggest class of teen candidates we have had in the past 12 years
- Added a Spanish language Mass on Thursday evening
- Dedicated new Stations of the Cross using deep reflection on the passion, death, and resurrection experience of Jesus
- Distributed 1,000 copies of *Rediscover Jesus* for study and reflection during Lent
- Expanded formation for sacramental marriage through retreats and directed engaged couples to complete sacraments of initiation
- Sponsored two Bible studies
- Fostered continued learning through study and reflection on *The 21 Undeniable Secrets of Marriage*
- Promoted two parish pilgrimages of Art and Faith to Italy and Turkey
- Established six new Small Church Communities (SCC)
- Increased participation in Vacation Bible School and Elementary Faith Formation
- Installed stained glass windows, enhancing our liturgical environment
- Retained children and teens in faith formation after first communion and confirmation
- Increased our adult faith formation opportunities and enrollment
- Provided two Taizé prayer experiences to help us grow in contemplative prayer
- Expanded confession times
- Sponsored ENDOW, Lord, Teach Me to Pray, Women in the Spirit, Centering Prayer, and Men's Spirituality



EVANGELIZING INTENTIONALLY

- Promoted and celebrated the accomplishments and parish participation in Mobile Loaves & Fishes, St. Vincent de Paul, Habitat for Humanity, Living Water International, Teen Mission Trip
- Fostered relationships with members of our Sister Parishes, Immaculate Conception and St. Timothy's, through a "pulpit exchange," quarterly meetings to explore common issues, collaboration in Casino Nite, shared teaming on an ACTS retreat
- Increased our use of social media to invite participation and evangelization—increased presence on Facebook, redesigned the Friday Discipleship email push
- Invited CYO and the Scouts into greater visibility and participation in parish life
- Hosted diocesan ordination of priests to promote vocations
- Developed and distributed parish communication and marketing policies
- Collaborated with and hosted teens from Dallas at FISH camp
- Excelled in meeting parish goal in the Archbishop's Annual Appeal for the fifth year in a row



In Giving We Receive

Annual Financial Summary

Income	\$2,412,124.06
Expenses	\$2,409,936.91
Balance	\$2,187.15*

Income Report

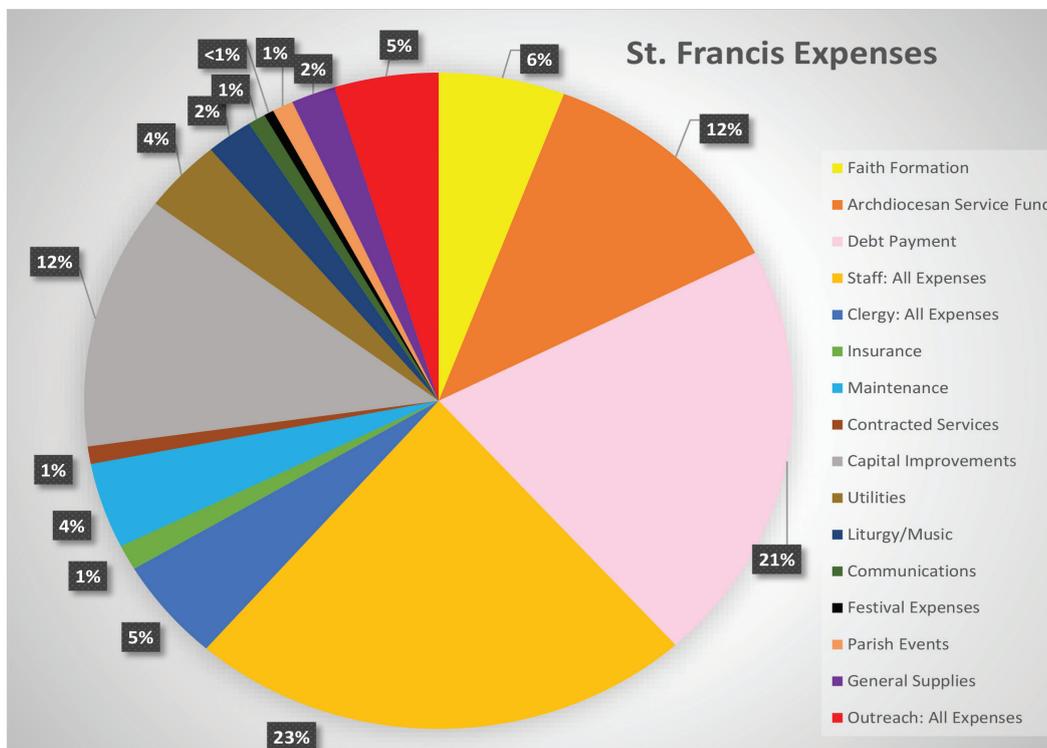
Offertory	\$1,980,788.34
Debt Reduction	\$106,294.92
Faith Formation	\$102,929.59
Archbishop's Appeal Rebate	\$1,471.84
Hall & Room Rental	\$10,545.00
Annual Parish Festival	\$99,614.68
Music & Liturgy	\$4,207.23
Other Donations: Weddings, Funerals, etc.	\$30,950.00
Other Income: Mass Intentions, Sanctuary Candle, HEB Cards, Property Sale	\$75,322.46
Total Income	\$2,412,124.06

Expense Report

Faith Formation	\$138,656.15
Archdiocesan Services Fund	\$284,544.00
Debt Payment	\$501,180.50
Staff Salary/Insurance/Benefits	\$554,932.34
Clergy (2): All Expenses	\$122,063.20
Insurance: Property and Liability	\$30,044.70
Maintenance	\$101,559.22
Contracted Services	\$20,900.01
Fixed Assets (Capital Improvements)	\$300,990.10
Utilities	\$87,077.08
Liturgy/Music	\$51,482.60
Communications	\$19,246.53
Festival Expenses	\$10,890.35
General Supplies	\$48,945.65
Grants to the Poor/Sister Parish Support	\$114,312.03
Total Expenses	\$2,409,936.91

*When funds are available, additional monies are applied toward debt reduction. Finance Council policy insures a healthy checking account to cover unforeseen incidental costs that may occur for facility repairs.

Expense Percentage Chart



Outreach Income Totals

Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$116,119.58
Mobile Loaves and Fishes	\$77,449.00
Living Water International	\$14,736.68
Habitat for Humanity	\$32,195.35
2nd Collections to Archdiocese	\$107,560.19
Archbishop's Appeal	\$146,100.22
Total Outreach	\$378,041.44

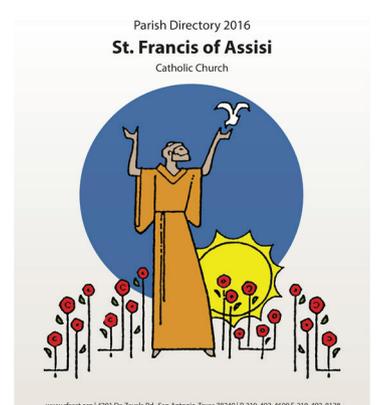
Contributors and Registered Families**

Annual Amount	#	%
≤ \$100	252	20.5%
\$101–\$500	313	25.4%
\$501–\$1,000	230	18.7%
\$1,001–\$2,000	198	16.1%
\$2,001–\$3,000	91	7.4%
\$3,001–\$5,000	74	6%
\$5,001–\$7,500	43	3.5%
\$7,501–\$10,000	11	0.89%
\$10,001–Above	18	1.5%
Total Families	1,230	99.99%

**Cash donations are not identifiable if envelopes or online giving is not used. Some donations are one-time contributions from visitors.



2016 Parish Directory



This fiscal year, we distributed our first parish pictorial directory in eight years. We still have copies available, so please stop by the office to pick yours up today.

(Top): Members of the St. Francis of Assisi Young Adult Ministry after one of their bimonthly meetings
 (Middle): Children's Liturgy of the Word in the Day Chapel with the new stained glass windows designed by Buddy Mullan

Improving Our Shared Home

Church

- Repaired leaks in the Sanctuary's ceiling
- Installed new stained glass windows designed by G.E. Mullan in the Day Chapel
- Installed new Stations of the Cross designed by G.E. Mullan in the Sanctuary
- Adjusted door pulls on outer doors

Henke Hall

- Cleaned and waxed floors

Parish Office

- Added convenience door to the conference room

Rectory

- Performed extensive landscaping
- Made repairs to the garage ceiling
- Replaced air handler for AC and hot water heater



Overall Campus

- Purchased container for use by CYO for storage
- Treated Henke Hall and the Faith Formation building for pest control and established ongoing maintenance contract
- Repaired major plumbing problem
- Signed agreement to upgrade our phones and data through fiber optic with a telecommunications company
- Completed installation of LED lighting in church, parish office, San Damiano, and Faith Formation buildings
- Performed yearly arboreal maintenance
- Replaced/repared various door handles and locks
- Added new and improved campus signage

St. Francis Receives National Shout-Out

Our parish received a special shout-out in the national news! Fr. Rick LaBrecque, a retired priest from South Carolina, visited our parish and praised us in his interview with Traci Badalucco for the *National Catholic Reporter*, which was posted on nconline.org on June 20, 2016. Fr. LaBrecque said the following in his interview:

"Just recently I had to go to San Antonio. [My niece and her husband's] second son was having his first Communion, and I was invited to go. So I went down and went to their parish. I walked into that place, and it was almost like there was an atmosphere that, 'This is a good place.' People greeted me at the door, [and] you walked inside and felt, 'I feel at home here.'

[The pastor] was the last person to leave church. He was there for anybody who wanted to chat or had some important question. You didn't feel there was any rush to get out or anything. I left there and I said to my niece, 'If anyone were to ask me where can I go and see a parish [where] the promise of Vatican II has been completely realized, I'd send them to St. Francis of Assisi in San Antonio.' It was just an overwhelmingly powerful experience."



Who is a Parishioner?

In the light of our parish commitment to the stewardship way of life, we define an active parishioner as one who:

1. Has completed and submitted a parish registration form via online registration or printed form turned in to the office.
2. Participates regularly in the liturgical life of the parish.
3. Supports the parish mission by completing and fulfilling an annual commitment of growing spiritually, participating in parish life by offering service, and contributing financially to the parish through sharing of gifts.



(Top): Parishioners enjoy St. Francis' Fat Tuesday celebration on February 9, 2016 (Left): A St. Francis CYO athlete wins a race at a track meet (Above): Parishioners walk through St. Francis' Holy Doors of Mercy on December 8, 2015 (Below): St. Francis festival volunteers pose with the Spurs Coyote on October 4, 2015

Thanks for Your Participation

Thank you to the faithful, generous supporters of our St. Francis community. Your participation enables our wonderful ministries of service and love to continue. Your stewardship of time, talent, and treasure provides for spiritual formation and enrichment, ministry training and enhancement, facilities maintenance and improvement, and competent staffing for a growing parish. If you are not involved, we invite you to participate in our vibrant community. Find your way with our GPS: Give, Pray, Serve.

WE GIVE

As you continue your stewardship journey, prayerfully consider the many ways in which you are blessed. If you decide that you want to participate in giving, there are several ways you can give to St. Francis of Assisi.

1. *Online Giving* (Our Preferred Method)
2. Weekly or Monthly Envelopes
3. Deferred and Planned Giving: Bequests in wills, stocks, bonds, life insurance, etc.



Signing up for Online Giving is simple: Scan this QR Code with your phone, click on the Create New Account tab, and complete registration.



WE PRAY

We offer liturgies, retreats, religious education for children and teens, continued faith education for adults, marriage formation and enrichment programs, Bible studies, counseling, and the list goes on, literally, on page 9 of our weekly bulletin. We also offer preparation for sacraments with information on page 8 of our bulletin.

WE SERVE

We understand everyone serves in a different way, each with unique gifts driven by passion for what they do. We offer multiple ways in which you can serve, ranging from ministries in liturgy, religious education, and social outreach to campus gardening, prayer quilting, and visiting the sick. See page 9 of our bulletin for opportunities.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
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