



# SAINT LUKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Our parish serves the needs of the community in many different ways.  
We offer preparation for sacraments, education for children, youth and adults,  
comfort to the sick and dying and to their families, as well as spiritual and social activities.*

## Annual Report to the Parish July 1, 2005 ~ June 30, 2006

### *Letter from our Administrator*

October 2006

My Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Luke:

In presenting you with the Parish Financial Report for Fiscal 2005-2006, I first of all want to thank Gail Castro, who is responsible for this report, for the annual budget and for all the financial accounting throughout the year. She has done a tremendous job again this year.

Secondly, I want to thank the members of the Parish Finance Council. It is their responsibility to oversee the parish income and spending as well as the monthly financial reports. They also report directly to you on a quarterly basis. They have done an excellent job again.

Finally, and most importantly, I want to thank all of you. In this unsettled economy, you have been generous in your donations to the many special collections taken during the year, especially the Skip-a-Meal collection and disaster relief.

All the news is not good, however. For the second year in a row, we ended the year with a negative Net Income. The reason for this is that our Sunday collections for the past year have been down again, and although we have found ways to trim some costs, our everyday operating costs continue to rise. As we have reported in the bulletins each week, we have not come close to what we need weekly to meet our budget goals. Also, we are still significantly short of our Annual Appeal goal. Last year, we had to take \$11,000 from our ordinary income to complete our assessment. This year, we are standing at a deficit of \$13,412! YOU can close this gap, so that we do not have to make it up from our already sagging income.

Despite the negatives, I am confident that you, the parishioners of St. Luke, will continue to support your parish financially, as well as with your time and talent; and that 2006-2007 will be a better year for all of us.

Gratefully in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Jonathan G. Paala  
Administrator

### *History*

In January of 1969, Father Robert G. Stadler, then a teacher at Serra High School in San Mateo, was approached by a group of Catholic Foster City residents. They were interested in forming a Catholic faith community in the budding city of Foster City.

After six months of planning, on June 29th, this small community came together for the first time to celebrate Mass at Central Park (Leo Ryan) in Foster City. At the conclusion of worship that day, the newly formed Catholic community was welcomed by the people of Island United Church. They were invited to share with Island United the facilities at Hillbarn Theater, eventually moving to Bowditch Middle School's multi-purpose room.

It was in 1970 that the community was officially recognized as a parish and given the name St. Luke. During the next six years, a home was purchased in Foster City to serve as a rectory, Religious Education center and as a meeting place. A Parish Council (1971) was formed and plans got underway to build a church center. The Archdiocese of San Francisco met with Father Bob and Parish Council members many times to look at and approve the plans of the structure that is now known as St. Luke.

On April 14, 1976, Holy Saturday night, the people gathered together as a community to worship for the first time in the completed building. In June of that same year, the then archbishop of San Francisco, the Most Reverend Joseph Thomas McGucken dedicated the church.

In the years following that first Mass, the building and the community has grown. Today, it is the spiritual home to over 850 families and has added a community center room, a number of classrooms and has increased the size of the kitchen.

The community of St. Luke are thankful to the fine leadership of Father Robert Stadler (Fr. Bob, 1969-1997), Father Edward Murray (Fr. Ed, 1997-1998) and to the present day pastor, Fr. John Penebsky (Fr. Jack). We are also most grateful to those volunteers of the early years. It is through their dedication and hard work that we are where we are today. We deeply appreciate those who took up the torch of leadership after the pioneers and continue to volunteer today. The Church is only as good and as strong as the people who attend. If we were to spell CH\_ \_ CH, what is missing? **UR!**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Prepared by St. Luke Finance Council

Presented by Rev. Jonathan Paala

Gail Castro

Brian Hamilton

Bob Morehead, Chairperson

Connie Ulasewicz

Butch Unson

Our Finance Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month, at 7:30 pm, here at the church unless otherwise specified. The meetings are open to all parishioners.

Please use your donation envelopes regularly and take advantage of receiving a charitable donation receipt each February. If you would prefer the ease of a monthly donation by credit card, call the Parish Office. These donors also receive a yearly receipt.

## Summary

Our financial picture is not rosy this year. Our income from collections and fund raising stayed about the same as last year, which is significantly below our budget – under what we need to operate on an even keel. Fortunately, we received a generous bequest, which is earmarked for improvements to our computer system and our facility. We also sent to the Archdiocese ONLY \$10,992 from our General Fund to complete our assessment of the Annual Appeal. That is about \$2,000 more than last year. During the same period, we experienced quite a rise in **ordinary** expenses, by about \$44,000. This is a result of increased costs all across the board. Personnel costs increased, mainly because our benefits cost rose. Our educational costs increased partly because we added more hours for Youth Ministry, but mostly because we came into conformance with the Archdiocese for our program materials. Unfortunately, this year we had to spend \$9,500 on major repairs to our handicapped bathroom. In spite of the \$17,935 income from rent received from the adult school, which uses our building during the week, we were unable to meet our budget. We **NEED** your increased commitment to the Sunday collection. Thanks to your continued generosity to the Building Fund collection each first Sunday of the month, we continue to preserve our aging sites.

This year, the Annual Appeal goal set by the Archdiocese of San Francisco is \$66,000. We still need over \$13,000 to meet that goal. The Archdiocese will receive \$66,000 from us, whether our parishioners donate it through their own gifts or it is taken from the **shrinking** bank account of St. Luke.

**St. Luke Catholic Church**  
**The Annual Parish Financial Report**  
**Cash Flow Comparison Year to Year**  
**Years July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005 and July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Collections & Offerings	340,109	341,284
Archdiocesan Annual Appeal	-8,181	-10,992
Development/Fund Raisers (net receipts)		
eScrip	2,168	2,129
Parish Building Fund	25,756	29,277
Other Parish Fund Raisers	10,154	9,684
Educational Programs & Sacramental Fees	22,468	23,983
Rental Income	17,795	17,935
Bequests	-0-	7,349
Other Income	1,949	3,112
Total Receipts	<u>412,218</u>	<u>428,094</u>
 <b>Expenses</b>		
General Operating Expenses	71,244	73,626
Educational & Sacramental Programs	75,175	88,708
Personnel (Salaries, Taxes, Pension, Medical)	166,115	177,737
Facilities (Utilities, Equipment and Taxes)	61,018	69,221
Major Improvements	474	9,503
Total Ordinary Expenses	<u>374,027</u>	<u>418,795</u>
Mortgage Principal	39,631	41,117
Total Expenses	<u>413,657</u>	<u>459,912</u>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>	 <b>-\$1,439</b>	 <b>-\$31,818</b>

## Pastoral Council

The **Parish** Council was founded in 1971. In its long history, it has undergone some reorganization and was renamed **Pastoral** Council. The council serves as an advisory board to the pastor in all matters concerning the Parish of St. Luke, working very closely with our pastor in many aspects to continue our growth and viability as a faith community. The council meets on the third Monday of the month here at the church at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. The meetings are announced in the Sunday bulletin.

## Finance Council

Founded in 1993, the Council is an advisory body to the pastor and operates under the guidelines established by the Archdiocese of San Francisco and in accordance with Canon Law. St. Luke Finance Council is primarily responsible for monitoring all of the financial operations of our parish. The Finance Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month, at 7:30 pm, here at the church unless otherwise specified. The meetings are open to all parishioners.

## Fundraisers

In addition to our regular Sunday and feast day collections, we have had three other means of fundraising. Our monthly Building Fund collection brings in almost \$29,500.00 a year to help maintain and improve the buildings. Our eScrip program, which earned us less than \$2,200.00 this past year, has only about one hundred participants registered from this parish. This program has experienced a steady decline and we do not know why. So many merchants participate that it is a very EASY way for us to raise money for the parish, and at no cost to the parishioner. If you have any ideas, please let us know. Our fantastic Crab Feed netted us about \$8,100.

Hope springs eternal and the Finance Council is seeking ways in which to “build a better mouse trap” for raising added funds to offset the deficit in the annual budget. **ANY IDEAS** (and volunteers) are welcome! Please see one of the Finance Council members.

## Youth Ministry ~ DYI

Our Youth Ministry program attracts our teens to a year-round program. The spiritual education facet includes two years of Confirmation preparation classes on Thursday evenings. There are retreats and leadership training events during the year. Various social and outreach activities are planned with the cooperation of a core team of youth leaders and the adult advisors. The youth meet usually on Sunday evenings after the 5:00 pm Mass. They are also involved in fundraising activities, the Thanksgiving food drive and outreach to the homeless of San Mateo and San Francisco. In years past, our youth with their adult leaders have gone on mission trips, to build homes for the poor or provide services to poverty-stricken areas.

## Adult Education

There are various programs offered throughout the year to promote a further education or enrichment of our faith for adults. For example, during the seasons of Advent and Lent, there are evenings designed for reflection and prayer.

**Faith Formation Group** ~ The group meets on Tuesdays nights at 7:00, here at St. Luke. As this “year” begins, they will be studying the Bible through a 24 week video course that promises to will transform your knowledge of the Bible. The course is called “**The Great Adventure Bible Timeline.**” There is a study kit (\$45) includes a binder with questions and responses, a chart and workbook. Call Deacon Paul for more information 349-3090.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults ~ RCIA** is a process of preparation for those who are not baptized and wish to become Catholic; for those who have been baptized in another Christian church and wish to become Catholic; and, for those baptized in the Catholic Church who wish to complete their initiation by receiving the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. Please contact Sue Rathjen at the Parish Office, 345-6660 for further information and registration.

**Women’s Bible Study** ~ There is an ongoing study group for women that meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 am, 1388 Halibut Street. Each year the group has taken either a specific book of the Bible or a theme/subject to research. Newcomers are always most welcome. Join this great group of interesting and faith-filled women as they explore the Word of God. All a person needs is a Bible (If you do not have one, one will be provided.) For more information call Sue in the parish office ~ 345-6660.

## Religious Education

Our Religious Education program reaches out to between 300 and 350 children giving them a solid foundation in the basics of our faith. Classes are offered for pre K through middle school students. The Pre K/K meetings on Sunday mornings; all other classes are on Wednesdays. In conjunction with regular classes, our children are prepared for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Our enrollment continues to grow each year as we welcome new families into our parish. We especially welcome those who would like to offer their time and talent to teach or aide in the classroom.

## Men’s Prayer Group

A small group of St. Luke men meet for an hour at 7:00 am, on the first and third Wednesday of the month for prayer and Scripture discussion. All are welcome. For more information, please call Dan James @650-574-3835.

## Web Site

If you have a question about St. Luke, the answer may be found at: [www.saintlukefc.org](http://www.saintlukefc.org)

## **Liturgy Committee**

Through the work of our Liturgy Committee, (meetings to which all are most welcome are announced in the Sunday bulletin) we hope to expand our understanding of our Sunday Scripture readings and our liturgies. There is an ongoing process of training lectors, Eucharistic ministers and altar servers. Those interested in any of these ministries may inquire at the Parish Office.

## **Altar Linens**

At each Mass several white cloths (purificators) are used to wipe the cup after each person receives, plus a larger white cloth (corporal) and the finger towel the priest uses to dry his hands. These need to be laundered weekly and we have a few volunteers who do this. The more volunteers we have the fewer times during the year each person would be assigned.

## **Legion of Mary**

In our parish, the Legion of Mary provides many services: Communion visitations, contacting our neighbors—letting them know we are here, providing educational and devotional goods for the parish and keeping the parish at large in their prayers. They meet on Saturday mornings at 9:00.

There is a *Junior Legion of Mary* for the youth. Their meeting follows the Legion of Mary meeting on Saturdays.

## **Music Ministry**

We have a number of groups that offer their time and talent to the worshipping community. There is some form of music at all the weekend Masses except for the 7:30 Sunday morning Mass. All of the music groups would welcome newcomers to their ranks. If you are interested in joining one of them, please introduce yourself before or after the Mass.

## **Sandwiches on Sunday**

St. Luke's outreach to our community and beyond includes Sandwiches on Sunday. On the fourth Sunday of the month, a group gathers in the church kitchen after the 7:30 Mass to make 100 to 150 bag lunches. These meals are then taken to Samaritan Family Kitchen in San Mateo to be distributed to the hungry. If there is a fifth Saturday or Sunday in a month, SOS also supply the lunches for those days. The group would welcome more volunteers.

## **Labor of Love**

*You* can join the this newly formed committee "Labor of Love" for an all day beautification event. Help spiff up our property. At our last event this past summer, 77 energetic people accomplished a mountain of work. We have lots of projects planned and are willing to listen to your ideas for others. Be sure to watch the bulletin for the next fun event!

## **Separated and Divorced Catholics**

Would you like support while you travel the road through separation and divorce? The Archdiocese of San Francisco offers help for the journey. The Separated and Divorced Catholics of the Archdiocese of San Francisco (SDCASF) has an ongoing support group that meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 7:30 pm, in the parish hall of St. Stephen Parish, SF (near Stonestown). There is also one in Pacifica at St. Peter Parish, 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month @ 7:30 pm in the "Cave" in the Religious Ed building. Call our parishioner Gail @ 650-591-8452 for more information.

## **St. Vincent de Paul Society**

The St. Vincent de Paul conference here at St. Luke encourages all to get involved in the important work they do. They meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:00 pm, here at the church. Come and see how you can help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ. 573-5370

## **Outreach**

St. Luke's outreach to our community and beyond includes Sandwiches on Sunday where we make and deliver 100 bag lunches for the hungry, up to 3 times a month. We have a Skip-A-Meal collection once a month by which we support Catholic Worker House, Samaritan Family Kitchen, our local chapter of St. Vincent de Paul, Project Gabriel, Sandwiches On Sunday and Sister Angela's African Missions. Throughout the year, we distributed almost \$19,000 that you have so generously donated.

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

The Eucharist was eloquently described by the late John Paul II as the greatest mystery of love, the heart of the world, our most precious possession, inexhaustible source of holiness, and food for our journey. The Eucharist is where Jesus' heart meets the needs of the world on a daily basis. Because we celebrate the Eucharist every Sunday, repetition can dull our appreciation for this awesome mystery. We can deepen our love and understanding of this wonderful gift by taking time regularly to adore Jesus in the Eucharist. A special opportunity for adoration is available every Thursday of the year with a few exceptions and the First Fridays of the month. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 am, followed by all day exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction at 7:30 pm. Spend some quiet time in prayer and reflection in the presence of the Lord. A visitation sign-up sheet is available in the chapel. Please sign up.

**EACH OF THESE MINISTRIES WELCOME NEWCOMERS. PLEASE GIVE THE PARISH OFFICE A CALL AT 345-6660. WE WILL BE MOST HAPPY TO HELP YOU FIND THE RIGHT PERSON TO CONTACT.**