



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

September 2014

— The Sandovals — *Keeping God, Family and Faith at the Center*

When the Sandovals hop into the car, it often feels and sounds like Vacation Bible School.

“The kids have a really great time at Vacation Bible School – VBS,” Melissa Sandoval says. “My daughter, Mariana, has gone to VBS for two years and my son, Daniel, for one. It has helped them grow so much in their faith, and encouraged them to ask spiritual questions. VBS has also allowed them to make friends at church, as well. After it is over, they get to bring CDs home with songs they have learned at VBS on them. They just love them! When we get into the car, they ask me to put them on.”

When it comes to VBS, Mariana and Daniel aren’t the only ones who enjoy it, however. Melissa also loves helping out wherever she can as a volunteer.

“It is so neat to see all of the kids get excited about their faith over the summer!” she says.

For the Sandovals, listening to Christian music and getting involved in our parish VBS program are just some of the many ways they show their love for God. Melissa and her husband, Saul, have been parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish for about six years. A while after they joined, Melissa opened her heart to the stewardship call in a remarkable way, and she began volunteering at the parish as much as she



could. In addition to helping out at VBS, Melissa now serves as a catechist for the Religious Education program and as a teacher for the Children’s Liturgy of the Word. Saul is very supportive of Melissa giving her time to the parish, and helps her however he can in light of his busy work schedule.

“One year, I indicated my interest in helping out with children’s ministries on my stewardship renewal (commitment card), and then forgot all about it,” Melissa says. “A while later, Religious Education Director Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer called me and asked me if I still wanted to volunteer. I said ‘yes,’ and have been doing it ever since. I am definitely glad that I got into it! I really like working with kids and I have kids myself, so I figured that helping out


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*“So whether you eat or drink, or
whatever you do, do everything for
the glory of God.”*

-1 Cor 10:31

LABOR DAY:

A Stewardship Point of View

Each Labor Day, most of us enjoy relaxing and having a good time with friends and family. And of course, who doesn't like a day off? But as we celebrate the unofficial “last day of summer,” we rarely take the time to think about the origins and meaning of Labor Day. And what does the holiday mean to us as workers of the Catholic faith?

Labor Day is a creation of the labor movement, and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes an annual acknowledgment of the many contributions that workers have made to the strength and prosperity of our country. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated in New York City on Sept. 5, 1882, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union.

As devoted Catholics continually searching for the best way to follow Christ in our daily lives, it is good for us to consider the spiritual significance of Labor Day.

We are all co-workers in the Lord's vineyard, called to the noble mission of serving God and others. When we are working at our individual places of employment, we can always do a diligent and honest job, no matter what it takes. When serving in parish ministries, we can be punctual, kind, generous, and faithful to the teachings of the Church. When at home with our families, we can teach our children how to work hard and feel proud of a job well done. We can also take the time to thank those who work hard on our behalf. And when we acknowledge the hard work performed by mail carriers, and retail and food service workers, we can make an effort to give those who serve us a pat on the back, and show our respect for God's gift of work in our lives.

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta encouraged the faithful to “do small things with great love.” This month, as we celebrate Labor Day, try driving to work with a rejuvenated, grateful attitude. You can also love God as you work hard at your job, allowing joy to come into your heart. You will experience your labor as something that increases your dignity as a person, and as something that disciplines your being – thus sanctifying your soul for the glory of your Creator.

St. Joseph, patron of workers, pray for us!

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A Letter From Our Pastor

Meeting Our Parish's Needs as a Community

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In this month's parish newsletter is our annual financial report. As your pastor, I want to be as transparent as I can about parish financial matters. Part of that effort is to publish a clear and inclusive annual report each year. Our fiscal year ends on June 30. Our intent is to mail to every household by late summer a summary of the year ending and an insight into the year ahead.

Given I became your pastor on June 11, I obviously was not involved with last year's spending. The upcoming year's budget was established prior to my arrival. I have, however, reviewed the budget and expected expenses and am committed to our financial plan for 2014-15. As you review last year's budget, there are a few items I want to call to your attention. Our income was skewed from an infusion of dollars from a parishioner's bequest. Those dollars were used to offset annual operating expenses. We also moved dollars from the "Preserving Our Treasures" account to fund new windows, a roof and tuck pointing in the Lee Pastoral Center. Another budget nuance — the diocese requires that we include endowment income in our ordinary operating income, artificially inflating our parish operating income. As we ended the year, it appears that we broke even. Without the bequest



income of \$66,000, our parish income would have fallen short of expenses.

We need to realize that we cannot depend on that type of windfall every year. Our Finance Committee and parish staff will be working hard to ensure we manage our monies while providing a faith-filled experience in our parish.

Part of the transparency of this year's financial report is inclusion of the parish accounts that reflect our financial reserves. If you look closely, you will see most of our savings are in our parish endowment — about \$602,000. This is money that we are not free to spend. Our endowment is a long-term investment made up of bequests from various parishioners. While we are able to use the income off this investment, we will leave the principle alone to ensure future income. You will notice that our other

liquid assets are not large. We need to be careful how we use them, and this means we have to be good stewards with the dollars we receive from you. It also means that we have to find new income every year if we are going to be able to pay our bills. Our parish expenses, like your expenses, go up every year. There are only so many costs we can control.

I would like to thank the parishioners who have been supportive of Sacred Heart over the past year, and I would like to encourage everyone to help us meet our financial goals in the upcoming year. I hope that you will make Sacred Heart a major benefactor of your charity. I challenge you to think of another charitable institution besides your parish that touches your life in so many profound ways from week to week. We want to expand our ability to serve you, but that can only happen with your donations of your time, talent and treasure. Please pray that Lord will provide for our needs in the coming year as He has for the last 100 years.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Fr. Mark DeSutter". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fr. Mark DeSutter

**SACRED HEART PARISH
MOLINE, ILLINOIS
Income and Expenses for 12 months ending June 30, 2014**

	YE 2013 Actual	Year End June 30,2014			2015 Budget
		Budget	Actual	Difference	
INCOME					
Ordinary Income	1,099,618	1,166,895	1,108,081	(58,814)	1,076,925.00
Blessings Gift Shop	3,540	2,500	4,785	2,285	2,000.00
Extraordinary Income	55,277	32,100	43,221	11,121	47,400.00
Unrealized Gain on Endowment	8,722	-	88,714	88,714	-
Bequests	1,018,490	-	63,022	63,022	-
TOTAL REVENUE	2,185,647	1,201,495	1,307,823	106,328	1,126,325.00
EXPENSES					
Parish Administration	349,838	369,327	392,597	(23,270)	378,000.00
Supplies, Equipment & Services	53,474	56,580	46,156	10,424	49,950.00
Insurance - Property	30,762	30,000	29,829	171	30,250.00
Support of Seton & Alleman	419,535	419,535	408,229	11,306	411,000.00
Parish Religious Education	44,701	43,622	50,100	(6,478)	40,582.39
LITURGY/SPIRITUAL LIFE	67,219	67,763	71,878	(4,115)	70,425.00
Parish Organizations	12,359	13,875	16,295	(2,420)	12,300.00
BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	65,296	64,250	60,984	3,266	60,930.00
Utilities	53,803	54,755	61,284	(6,529)	58,200.00
Capital Improvements	95,530	25,000	288,315	(263,315)	15,000.00
Interest/ Principal on Debt	39,070	35,750	35,750	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,231,587	1,180,457	1,461,417	(280,960)	1,126,637.39
Payment on Longterm Debt	100,280				
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSE	853,780	21,038	(153,594)		(312)

“For it is in giving that we receive.”

- St. Francis of Assisi

Finance Report

JUNE 30TH FINANCIAL POSITION HIGHLIGHTS

ASSETS

CASH	
General Checking	26,255.59
Blessings	12,117.56
Preserving Our Treasures	99,120.59
	<u>137,493.74</u>
DEDICATED (RESTRICTED) FUNDS	
Food Pantry	2,034.77
Family to Family/Tuition	28,531.80
Memorial	50,090.19
	<u>80,656.76</u>
ENDOWMENT	
Elizabeth Ann Seton	796,800.60
Subsequent transaction	(194,903.85)
	<u>601,896.75</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>820,047.25</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	20,001.34
ADA Payable	26,582.40

CAPITAL PROJECTS BREAKDOWN

Roofing	67,858.00
Tuckpointing	120,510.60
Window	70,759.14
Kitchen Remodel Culemans	6,498.20
Handicap Rail Replacement	4,038.60
Repair to Parking Lot	2,200.00
Repair to walls Culemans	11,986.00
Other	4,463.98
Total Capital expended	288,314.52

Sacred Heart Parishioners,

We first want to thank all who contributed to our parish this year. Each contribution provided for the many gifts of faith received at Sacred Heart.

On the adjacent pages of this newsletter are three charts that summarize our parish financials – year-to-year budget, parish financial assets, and a summary of improvements to our parish facilities. We encourage you to review each of them to get an insight into the financial health of our parish.

In Capital Projects, you can see that improvements were made to the Lee Pastoral Center, Culemans Hall and the church. We will continue to make required repairs to our properties and invest in the services that bring value to our parishioners. We will also begin developing a multi-year parish facilities plan that will serve as input into our long-term financial plan.

Our parish works to maintain a balanced budget, spending only the monies we have. Fr. DeSutter has indicated his continued support of that approach. In looking at the 2015 budget, you will see we have made adjustments in order to keep expenses aligned with our projected income. As we progress through the next 12 months, we will continue to take the steps to wisely use the financial resources you have given our parish.

In the months ahead, we will begin an ongoing parish “Wish List.” We will use this as a way to communicate specific needs that you may like to fund – needs that go beyond our Sunday envelopes. In order to ensure a steady flow of parish income this fall, we will be promoting online giving and automatic deductions as a means to support giving of your parish contribution.

As the fiscal year ended, Sacred Heart Parish paid off our debt obligation on the Seton Middle School Building. Please keep in mind, Seton School needs our support to retire the last \$200,000 of the debt. We were assisted by parishioners who continued their legacy of giving with bequests at their time of passing. Each memorial and bequest reflects faith in the future of our parish from those who have gone before us. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thank you again for your support of Sacred Heart. Please continue to think of your parish when you find the opportunity to share your gifts.

Sacred Heart Finance Council

Mass Reverence and Etiquette



For many of us, when we are invited to a wedding, one of our first considerations is “what am I going to wear?” We wouldn’t think of showing up at a formal event in our workout clothes. How many of us search for just the right outfit to wear to our annual office party or on a date? Compare that to how much thought we put into what we wear to Mass on Sunday.

How we dress for an occasion indicates the importance that we place upon that particular celebration. At Mass, we encounter God through the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Dressing appropriately for Mass is one way that we show respect both for God and for our faith family. And this respect is important at all Masses – no matter what time of day or night.

Think about what you are teaching your children when you all wear your “Sunday clothes” to Mass. You are

reminding them that Mass is a special celebration. After all, we are going to Jesus’ house.

Some people may quickly point out that Mass shouldn’t be a fashion show – a place to show off your finery – and they are right! We also know that some parishioners come to Mass on their way home from work, and they certainly should not feel embarrassed about arriving at Mass in their work clothes. And no one should ever stay away from Mass because of simplicity of clothing.

But one rule should apply in all instances – our attire at Mass should always be modest. Our clothing should never distract others from what we are gathered together to celebrate – the life, death and resurrection of our Lord.

The celebration of Mass is always a holy occasion and thus should be treated in the most holy manner – in body, mind and spirit.

Bereavement Committee Lends a Listening Ear

Offering support to those who have lost loved ones is important, especially from the Catholic perspective of helping all those in need. Through Sacred Heart's Bereavement Committee, the parish is able to lend a listening ear and give both emotional and spiritual support.

A lifelong parishioner, ministry coordinator Martina Werner has a very personal connection to the ministry.

"My mother started it when she was a parish nurse, along with another nurse," she says. "She also mentioned it to Salem Lutheran, and started a ministry where people from both churches would come."

Martina first got involved in bereavement ministry when she lost her husband in 1995.

"Back then, they called it 'Grief Group,'" Martina says. "I didn't go initially, but then I met someone at the hospital where my husband had his bone marrow transplant. Her husband had passed away, and she asked if I could go with her. I did, and it was great. I got a lot out of it."

After experiencing the support that bereavement ministry can provide for those who are grieving, Martina wanted to reach out to those in her own community and offer the same kind of help. When her job transferred her temporarily to Wisconsin, she joined the Bereavement Committee at a parish there; after moving back to Moline, she took over the parish's current ministry in October 2013.

The Bereavement Committee offers different kinds of services depending on the situation of each person who needs help. If needed, the committee can organize a meeting in a group setting where people can sit together, talk and share. The committee can also call a person or meet with them one-on-one, just to give them someone to talk to.

"We just let them know that we are here for them, and ask if they'd like to talk," Martina says. "Here at Sacred Heart, they also have two memorial Masses each year, and they send out flyers about the committee around those times. Last year, I went to the Masses and mingled and talked to people there. We just want them to know that we are here, and we are available – even if it's just someone that says, 'Can we meet for coffee so



we can talk?' We want them to know that they can give us a call at any time."

For Martina, spiritual support over the years has been just as meaningful as emotional support.

"It was very difficult for me – I was married for 21 and a half years, and then I was alone," she says. "But I got through it – things happen, and I go to church and I say the Rosary and that gets me through things."

Martina emphasizes that the main purpose of the committee is simply to be available – since people grieve in different ways, they may decide that they are ready to talk at different times.

"We all go through the different stages in grieving," Martina says. "It's not something you can force people into doing if they aren't ready. They have to be the ones who want to go. But if you can have one person who actually says, 'I understand,' then they're going to go through the process with someone there to walk you through it, to hold your hand."

"If you have a listening ear, a lot of times it's not what you say – it's what you do," she continues. "If someone can just talk, say what they want to say without being judged, and have someone hand them a Kleenex if they need it – that's all you need to do. Just let them talk, and you listen."

The Bereavement Committee is always looking for volunteers to lend a listening ear. If you'd like to help out, or if you would like someone to talk to, please contact Martina Werner at 309-269-5921 or dartmom3@yahoo.com.



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Catholic Church

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Mass Times

Sundays: 7, 9, 11 a.m.
Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.
Daily Masses (M-F): 6:30, 8:30 a.m.
Saturday Morning: 8:30 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday: 3 to 4 p.m.
and by appointment, call 762-2362

Eucharistic Adoration (St. Francis Chapel)

Wednesday: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
First Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



The Sandovals *continued from front cover*

with children’s ministries was the best fit for me. I really like to help children and talk with them. It is important that children hear about the Catholic faith from people other than just their parents. The more they hear about it and see it lived out, the more they will do it themselves.”

In fact, one of Melissa’s main motivations for helping out at church is to model faithful stewardship to her children.

“One of the reasons I started thinking about volunteering is that I want my children to do it themselves,” Melissa says. “A lot of people feel they are so busy, they don’t have time to do anything. But once you do it, it is definitely worth it!”

Most importantly, Saul and Melissa strive to live out the stewardship vision in their home, day-in and day-out. Almost every night, they pray night prayers together. They often read from a children’s Bible and do some of the special activities suggested in it. Saul and Melissa also enjoy walking alongside Mariana as she remains actively involved in the Little Flowers Group at Sacred Heart.

“She really likes to do the program’s virtue-based activities, such as reading saint stories and doing good deeds,” Melissa says. “She has really grown to like the Little Flowers Group and she wants to do it again next year.”

Let us keep the Sandovals in our prayers as they strive to keep God, faith and family at the center of their lives.

“I really like working with kids and I have kids myself, so I figured that helping out with children’s ministries was the best fit for me. I really like to help children and talk with them. It is important that children hear about the Catholic faith from people other than just their parents. The more they hear about it and see it lived out, the more they will do it themselves.”

– Melissa Sandoval