

St. Bernardine Catholic Church  
**Year-End Financial Report**

1 July 2022 thru 30 June 2023

This report covers St. Bernardine’s financial operations for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23), which began on 1 July 2022 and ended on 30 June 2023. Members of the Finance Committee during that time were Adrienne Alberts, Lendora Cleveland, Rashad Holloway, Nancy Howard (*chair*), Michael Lewis, Ernest Powe, and Danielle Robertson. The parish Corporators were Dolores Dixon and David Wainwright.

In FY23, St. Bernardine’s continued to pursue goals set by *A New Pentecost*, with our Mass attendance rising, our ministries expanding, and parishioners contributing annually more than they had in each of the preceding ten years except one. For a video depiction of the parish’s accomplishments, visit our website, [www.stbernardinechurch.org](http://www.stbernardinechurch.org), and click on “St. Bernardine Mission Video.”

## **I. Operating Income**

*Offertory.* The most significant source of income for the parish is the offertory – or first collection – at Mass. Unfortunately, our offertory decreased 11% from the previous year. We were still able to meet our obligations, but a steady decline in offertory is a concern.

*Special Collections, Gifts, Fees, etc.* The parish relies on other sources of income, such as fundraisers, outside gifts, and ministry fees. Those sources of income increased by nearly one-third from the previous year.

*Other.* Support for our outreach programs (e.g., Christmas Baskets, energy and rental assistance) and tuition assistance to parish families sending their children to Catholic School also declined about 16%. Fortunately, savings from outreach income in previous years allowed us to meet the surge in requests for financial assistance received in FY23.

***We are grateful to our parishioners for their financial support of our church family. We could not minister without it.***

## **II. Operating Expenses**

*Personnel.* Although personnel costs (which include salary, health insurance, pension, and other employment benefits and taxes) increased over the previous

**FY22 vs FY23 Financial Report**

July 1 thru June 30

**Operating Income & Expenses**

	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY23</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Offertory Collections	\$677,497	\$601,941
Special Collections, Gifts, Fundraisers, etc.	64,805	85,402
Poor Box Collections	58,582	49,088
Archdiocesan Collections	13,090	9,594
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$813,974</b>	<b>\$746,025</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel	\$305,874	\$312,821
Facilities, excl. capital exp. (below)	157,332	136,842
Ministry, Administration & Other Expenses	112,814	112,702
Outreach & Tuition Assistance	85,072	102,475
Paid Cathedraticum	62,000	63,000
Archdiocesan Collections Remitted	9,571	11,244
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$732,663</b>	<b>\$739,084</b>
<b>Total Operating Surplus (Deficit):</b>	<b>\$81,311</b>	<b>\$6,941</b>

**Capital Income & Expenses**

<b>Income</b>		
Destined Under the Dome	\$57,309	\$189,973
Non-Operating Income, excl. Dest Und Dome	(1,935)	17,715
Grants & Restricted Gifts	7,466	53,488
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$62,840</b>	<b>\$261,176</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Church Restrooms		\$2,000
Roof Repairs	1,468	
Bell Tower Repairs	224,360	
DUD2.0 Campaign Expenses		23,707
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$225,828</b>	<b>\$25,707</b>
<b>Total Capital Surplus (Deficit):</b>	<b>(\$162,988)</b>	<b>\$235,469</b>

fiscal year, they held steady at 42% of each year’s budget. Our staff is modestly paid, and they work hard to provide critical services to our parish.

*Facilities.* Maintaining our buildings is the parish’s second largest expense and constitutes 21% of our budget. This portion of our operating budget includes utilities, insurance, and ordinary maintenance and repairs; it does not include major construction.

*Ministry & Administration, Outreach & Tuition Assistance.* Our program expenses increased 9% over FY22, and most of that went to financial and tuition assistance for families. As government subsidies from COVID dried up, we received unprecedented levels of requests for financial assistance. Although outreach savings from previous years allowed us to spend \$53,000 more than we brought in, our resources are limited, and we hope that we can continue to provide significant assistance in the future.

*Cathedraticum.* All parishes support the Archdiocese of Baltimore and the services it provides by paying a “tax” known as the *cathedraticum*. This year, we paid \$63,000 toward a tax assessment of over \$90,000.

### III. Capital Income & Expenses

On 1 July 2022, the parish extended its capital campaign for another three years under the title of **Destined Under the Dome 2.0**. We set a total goal of \$450,000, which is expected to be applied to installing new restrooms in the church, new windows in the rectory, and a new roof on the parish center. In the first year alone, we raised nearly \$190,000, placing us ahead of schedule.

The primary capital expense this past fiscal year was the cost of running the campaign (consultant fee, printing & mailing costs, etc.). That will change for the current year, as we expect to begin construction of the church restrooms.

The parish also received a special gift of \$50,000, which we will use to initiate a community education program (see below).

### IV. Outlook

In-person Mass attendance in FY23 (on average 198) surpassed live online participation (on average 167) for the first time since COVID. Combined, in-person and (live) online participation now surpasses pre-COVID attendance. That figure doesn't include the number of views we receive within ten days of live-streaming our Masses (an average of 583 views). Weekday Mass participation has increased from an average of six participants (who used to gather in the rectory dining room) before COVID to over 40 participants online and in-person (who now gather in the Parish Center Chapel).

Although our offertory income declined over \$75,000 this past year, when combined with the \$190,000 raised in our capital campaign, parishioners gave more to the parish in FY23 than they did in each of the previous ten years except one. Unfortunately, monies raised in the capital campaign cannot be used to pay operating expenses (salaries, ordinary maintenance, programming), which continue to rise as our ministry expands.

Consequently, we don't need parishioners to give more to the parish as much as we need them to shift their giving from DUD2.0 to offertory. This fall, we will conduct a stewardship drive asking parishioners to do just that – namely, by cutting their contributions to DUD2.0 in half and adding that half to their offertory gifts.

So, for example, if a parishioner has been giving \$20/week to offertory and \$20/week to DUD2.0, we'll ask them to shift their donation to \$30/week to offertory and \$10/week to DUD2.0. We'll release parishioners' pledges to DUD2.0 while we try to stabilize our offertory.

**FY24 Operating Budget**  
1 July 2023 thru 30 June 2024

**Income**

Offertory Collections	\$697,000
Special Collections, Gifts, Fundraisers, etc.	63,520
Poor Box Collections	50,500
Archdiocesan Collections	10,000
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$821,020</b>

**Expenses**

Personnel	\$363,246
Facilities, excl. capital exp. (below)	162,755
Ministry, Administration & Other Expenses	125,625
Outreach & Tuition Assistance	85,350
Estimated Cathedraticum	96,458
Archdiocesan Collections Remitted	10,000
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$843,434</b>

**Total Operating Deficit: (\$22,414)**

**FY24 Capital Budget**

**Income & Savings**

Destined Under the Dome 2.0 Income	\$95,000
Non-Operating Income, excl. DUD 2.0	13,050
<b>Total Income &amp; Savings:</b>	<b>\$108,050</b>

**Expenses**

Parish Capital Projects	125,000
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

**Total Capital Deficit: (\$16,950)**

Our budget continues to focus on the three priorities of *A New Pentecost*: worship, evangelization, and community engagement. We have entered a partnership with the University of Maryland Medical Center to provide community education and workforce development programs to the neighborhood. We'll fund these programs by using a \$50,000 gift in memory of Andrew Short to establish the Andrew Short Center for Education and a New Direction (ASCEND).

In time, ASCEND is expected to include 1) a workforce development program; 2) a digital literacy class; 3) GED classes; 4) our Saturday Youth Gatherings; and 5) an annual multi-week summer camp.

We have budgeted \$125,000 for the installation of new church

restrooms, although we do not yet have a solid estimate of the cost. Funds to pay for that will come from DUD2.0.

Any deficit in our operating or capital budget will be covered by savings.

We are proud and grateful that God has blessed us, as we seek “to know and love God and to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to ourselves and others through our example of a community expressing love and service.”

Thank you for your generosity. And may God bless you for all that you do.

***To God be the glory!***