

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

The month of June is full of Sunday feasts: Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and Corpus Christi. We conclude the Easter season on Pentecost as we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church. Please plan to join us after the 10:30 a.m. mass for a parish cookout at the Dyakiw residence – there's more information and a potluck sign-up link later in this issue of *The Herald*. If you've ever attended our parish cookouts, you know that you're in for a good time.



Our Sunday feasts continue with Trinity Sunday, a day designated to ponder the fullness of God's personhood, and Corpus Christi, a day designated to ponder our Lord's real presence in the Eucharist. These feast days are steeped in deep and rich theological revelation, worthy of celebrating because they reveal to us *who* God is. They show us God's desire to be in relationship with us: by sending his Holy Spirit, by revealing his full nature, and by offering himself in the holy sacrifice of the mass.



On Trinity Sunday, our choir will offer a choral mass setting: Palestrina's *Missa Brevis*. It will be a worship-enriching musical treat, and just in time, as Erik Clayton and many of our choir members will be traveling to Europe for a State College High School choral tour. Not long after Erik's return, I too will be out of the country attending a conference in Oxford, England, taking a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, and spending some time of rest and church tourism in London. I will be away from Sunday, June 26 (evening) until Saturday, July 9.

If you're in need of pastoral assistance during my absence, please be in touch with Deacon Alex Dyakiw. Father Kevin Barron will celebrate mass on Sunday, July 3, which is also his final Sunday with us serving as assisting clergy. Father Kevin has been with

us since Fall of 2021, first serving as a deacon intern and then generously accepting my invitation to serve here once a month during his final year of employment at Penn State. While I will miss having Father Kevin with us every month, I know his ministry will strengthen ours as he serves as half-time priest at Saint Luke's, Altoona, and the Diocesan associate for Shaped by Faith. And don't worry, we will see Father Kevin back at Saint John's, serving as guest preacher once or twice a year; I made him promise that he will return! We will celebrate and give thanks for Father Kevin's time at Saint John's during coffee hour on **Sunday, July 3**.

As you read this, I'm sure that your air conditioners are running and fans are blowing. Thanks be to God for central air in the church! I know that summer is a perfect time to get away and visit family and friends, and I hope that you will take advantage of this. As we enter the summer heat, a much slower and relaxing time in the life of the Church, I look forward to seeing you on Sundays, at coffee hour on the Rectory porch, and around town. You will be in my prayers during my travels to England, especially since I plan to visit a church a day for daily mass and my previously mentioned hobby of Anglo-Catholic church tourism. Oh, the life of a priest!

May the risen Christ who has passed into the heavens clothe you with power from on high!

Ascension blessings, ~Father Carlos †



FROM THE DEACON'S PERCH

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.” ~ Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

My Dear Friends,

I didn't want to start my newsletter this way, but in the wake of the recent tragedies, I am reflecting on the past when many have been persecuted for taking a stand on race, ideals, human rights, war, basic needs, etc. But recently it's been just about **hatred**. Until we realize some mindset changes about the second amendment—and let me be clear about this, ***I am not advocating taking that constitutional right away***—nothing will change. But *times* have changed. We have moved from the muzzle-loading method to modern high-capacity weapons that can be used not to kill game, but human beings. They can be purchased by anyone 18 years and older, no matter their mental state, without a background check in some states.

Until our leaders listen to 85-95% of the public opinion who are in favor of changing gun laws, all we have left is prayer. As the apostle Paul stated in 1 Thessalonians, “Pray without ceasing.” Like many others, I continue to pray for our national and local leaders to understand that we need change.

May was one of St. John’s busiest months that I can remember. We had a very successful fundraiser for the Ukraine, with the corned beef breakfast, pancakes, and eggs. Thank you to all who helped to cook, serve, clean, and participate. We collected \$1500, and it all went to the Ukraine. Thrivent Ministry has helped us with many projects with a \$250 grant. I would like to thank Peggy Jackson for working with Thrivent to provide the grants for us in our various fundraisers.

The Monday night men’s group will be finishing another book on spiritual development, and we will begin a new book in June. We invite anyone who is interested to join our study. We always pray for the empty chair in the midst of us.

Centre Care has opened again to volunteers and family, so I will resume visiting and will be on call for emergencies. We have restarted the Liturgy of the Word on the third Thursday of the month. A big thanks to Deb Cree for providing music at each month’s service. The residents have welcomed my preaching but

begged me not to sing 😊. God bless them and their desire to attend services.

On May 27 we dedicated a new Veterans Memorial to our resident veterans and families at Centre Care. We had an honor guard and 21-gun salute. The young man pictured in the Marine uniform is also the head cook at Centre Care.



After my many calls to the County Prison, the warden said that maybe I can begin offering life recovery classes again in June as soon as the COVID numbers stay below a certain level. Please pray for this ministry to continue. I meet many released citizens, and they all say how the program has helped them to begin anew and to ease into community recovery programs.

Our church family continues to provide “Out Of The Cold” with meals at least a few times



a month with the help of the Deacon's Discretionary Fund. There is an offering envelope for June; your help is appreciated with that program at OOTC.

We are helping some Centre Care employees with gas cards for those who live in Lock Haven, Penns Valley, and the surrounding area. I can't help but feel upset when people have to choose between dinner and gasoline.

Planet Fitness is offering free access during June, July, and August for youth under 18.



They must have a parent or guardian with them. They can also sign up for the chance to receive a \$5000 scholarship. This is a great opportunity to

beat some of the summer heat and get some exercise.

On Sunday, June 5, we will have a church picnic at our home. Please try to attend and

spend time with your church family; it's a great time to gather after all this absence and COVID separation.

May God be with you all this summer to rest and enjoy creation. ~Dcn. Alex †

PENTECOST PARISH COOKOUT
Sunday, June 5 | 11:45 a.m.



The Day of Pentecost is observed on the 50th and final day of the Easter season. We will celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues upon the disciples, which appeared to them as flames resting over their heads. Following the 10:30 a.m. mass (approximately 11:45 a.m.), a parish cookout will be held in the backyard of Deacon Alex and Ellen Dyakiw's house (337 E. Curtin Street).

Many slots are available, so if you're interested in contributing a side dish, dessert, or appetizer for our cookout, please sign-up using the link:

<https://www.mealtrain.com/potlucks/q5vwql>

Please remember to bring your own picnic blanket or lawn chair(s).

PRESIDING BISHOP CURRY'S VISIT TO DIOCPA
Saturday, June 11, at 10:30 a.m.



On Saturday, June 11, the Diocese will host a Worship Celebration at 10:30 a.m. at the Zembo Shrine Auditorium, Harrisburg, PA. The Zembo is located at 2801 N 3rd St #2, Harrisburg, PA 17110. Following the celebration, a boxed lunch will be provided. This event is free to the public, but pre-registration is required:
<https://bit.ly/38SGmDN>

The doors will open and activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Diocese is providing a free coach bus leaving from St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, State College, at 8:00 a.m.

FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The month of May was busy and exciting for our youngest parishioners. After a year of monthly classes, eight members our youth group and one adult received Confirmation

on Saturday, May 14. Fundraising by our youth group benefited two programs: Out of the Cold and PAWS animal shelter.



Our younger children made flowers to decorate for the Ukrainian fund-raising breakfast. They also potted small house plants for the congregation to take home on Rogation Sunday.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ALTAR GUILD!



Since Easter, the Altar Guild has been hard at work bringing our church brass back to its glory days. As you might imagine, this has taken countless hours, many bottles of specialty cleaner, and a lot of love and elbow grease. There are still a few more big pieces to go. Many thanks to all who have helped. Enjoy all the shiny brass!



PB & J (AND CEREAL) COLLECTION RESUMES

In prior years we have collected jars of peanut butter (and sunflower butter) and jelly for the food bank in preparation for the school summer recess. This year we will add



cereal to the appeal. A large percentage of Bellefonte Elementary students receive free breakfast and lunch at the school, so your donations will help their parents to provide those meals at home.



AROUND THE PARISH FAMILY TABLE



On April 29 and 30, **Finn Quigley** and the rest of the PVAHS Rambotics Club



competed in the 17th Annual BotsIQ Finals Competition at Cal U of PA for two days of double elimination competition. Their team and their Bot, "Almost Exact," won the Rookie Team Award.

HELP STILL NEEDED: COFFEE HOUR



We have enjoyed several coffee hour gatherings in the past months. As you can see by the photo, all have been well-attended and obviously enjoyed by the participants.

Now for the “Help Wanted” part 😊: While we post the link to sign up for hosting every month, the same few names continuously appear on the list. If you have been enjoying this time of fellowship (and food), won’t you step up to help? We need volunteers to set up, serve beverages, and clean up afterwards. ALL items are provided by the church, so *you don’t need to prepare anything*. You can also speak to Trish Weidemann, Deb Cree, or Carol Fyfe for guidance on the logistics of hosting. To sign up, please visit our sign-up link, <https://bit.ly/3um2fBp>, use the sheet in the back of the church, or contact the parish office. Thank you for your help!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Heidi	Eminhizer	June 12
Blanche	Raymond	June 13
James	Green	June 17
Adela	Germano	June 21



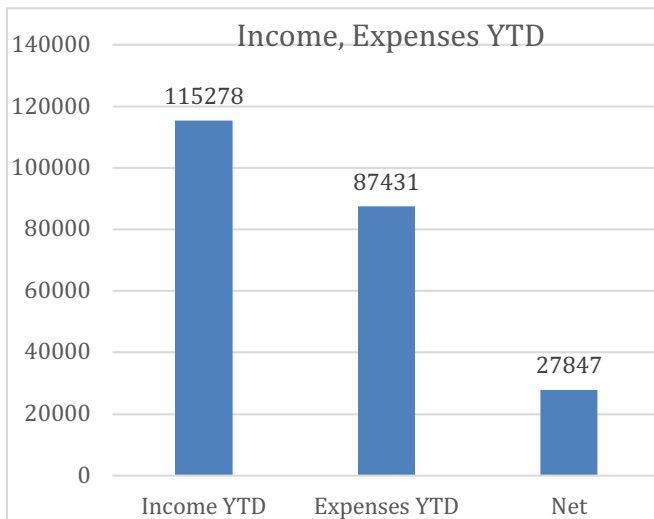
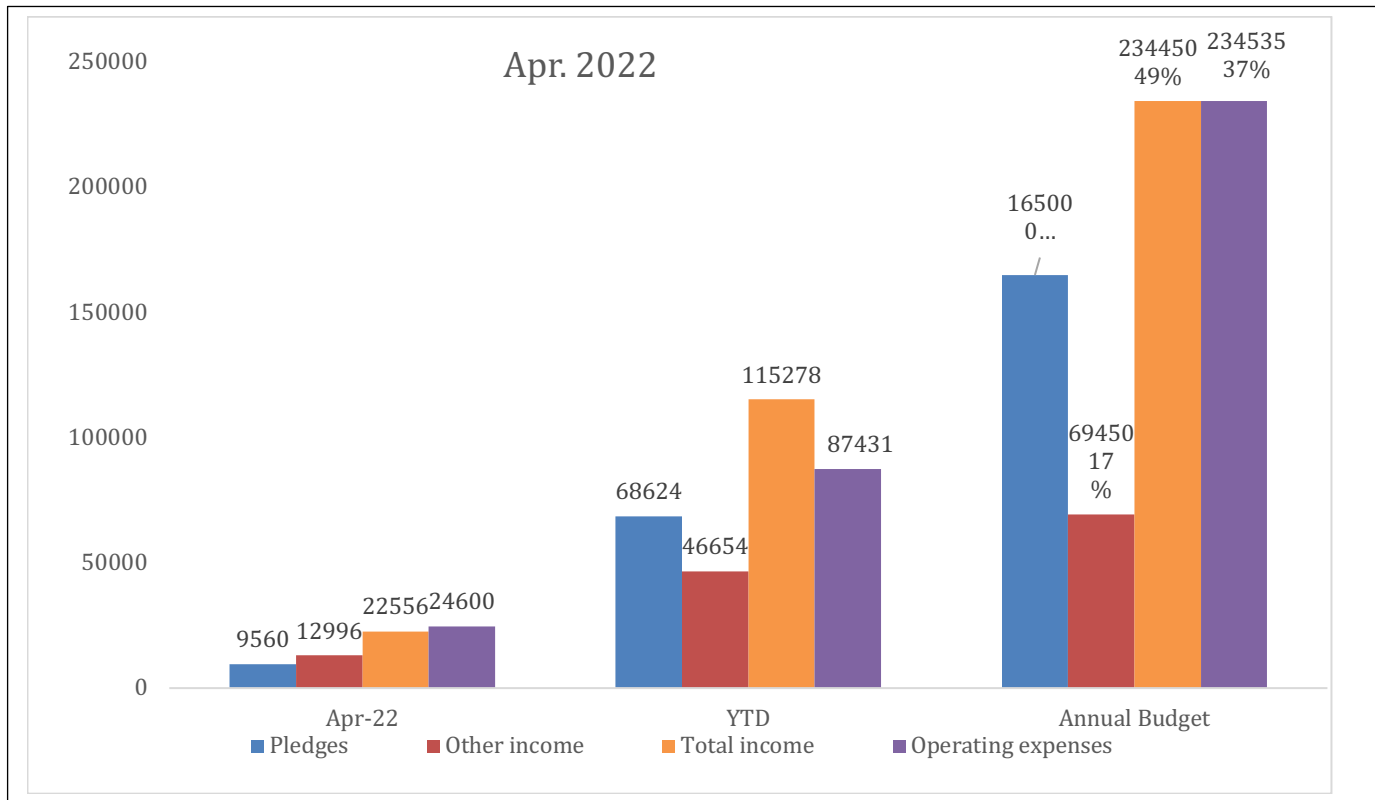
VESTRY NEWS

- Full Easter season
 - Confirmation service had 55 in attendance.
 - Special mention to Ellen Dyakiw; if not for Ellen, none of this would have happened.
- Children/Youth Formation
 - Entering a phase of discernment.
 - Father Carlos has some ideas, but will discuss with Ellen first.
- Shaped by Faith
 - Entering the phase of applying for grants.
 - Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be in the Diocese June 10-12.
 - Buses will be available to shuttle to Harrisburg for the service on the 11th.
 - Bishop will be in Bellefonte June 10 (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.).
- New seminarian news
 - Kevin Lowe has asked to do his internship with us.
 - A small committee of about 4-5 members is needed to provide feedback.
 - We will pay him \$1K for a year; 10 hours of work a week.
 - Starts in August/September; 3 Sundays a month.
- Ongoing Projects
 - Floor Update: June 13th is working date.
- Columbarium
 - Price is \$2K higher than originally thought. Cost is now \$27K due to increasing costs.
 - Lead time is by end of year.
 - May promote “sale” of niches in the new year/begin promoting during annual meeting in January.
 - Design drawing was shared with vestry. Moving the kneeler to create more space, color matching of wood.
 - Majority of monies (\$25K) will come from money market account; remainder will be taken from reserves.
 - Chart giving examples of cost was shared with vestry. Showed cremation services as of today are \$2,800.
 - Suggestions of selling units, investing upfront.
 - Where would money go? No earmarking, just go into bank account.
- Picture Directory
 - Current church management system, Breeze, has capabilities to create a picture directory.
 - Peggy Jackson and Deb Cree will work on taking pictures after the services. Download to computer, then data will be linked to parishioner records.



FINANCIAL:

	Apr-22	YTD	Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Pledges	9560	68624	165000	42%
Other income	12996	46654	69450	67%
Total income	22556	115278	234450	49%
Operating expenses	24600	87431	234535	37%
Net	-2044	27847		-1%



Expenses		
Income YTD	YTD	Net
115278	87431	27847

Numbers do not include investments, savings, or checking acct. balance.

Vestry Members: Larry Roberson (Sr. Warden), Matt Perkins (Jr. Warden), Liz Helms, Carol Fyfe, Debra Cree, Susan Christy, Peggy Jackson, Thomas Quigley, David King, Charlotte Zmyslo