

The Eminent Financial Concerns Facing St. Martin

Each year we struggle to stay current with the basic expenses that allow us to remain as the parish of St. Martin. If the current downward income trend continues we will be forced to close our doors, no longer able to accomplish the work of Christ's church in this community. The August, 2016, Treasurer's Report to date shows our pledge income in deficit -\$16,491.69. Our total contributions, to date, are in deficit -\$15,101.84. On top of this reality are the short term concerns of our aging building and fire code compliances.

We will soon be required to address the following building concerns. They are:

- Sewall repair- upwards to \$106,000.00
- Kitchen stove fire suppression unit- \$3,500.00-\$13,800.00 (required by fire code)
- Church building fire alarm system- \$24,998.00 (required by fire code)
- Church power distribution box-\$12,000.00

Other repairs and renovations that are needed:

- ADA compliance in all buildings
- Church sound system
- Replacement of carpet in church and chapel
- Rewiring of church building and new light fixtures
- Refurbishment of bathrooms in church building and office

The Benefit of New Facilities Creates Greater Ministry Purpose and Expression

With the renovation, or reconstruction, of our facilities the above concerns will be resolved. Each of our facilities will be constructed to meet all building codes and offer to us and our community enhanced spaces for worship and ministry. The following are ideas for new facilities:

The church Nave

can be utilized for multi-purpose use while maintaining the solemnity of a holy worship space. With the removal of pews and the inclusion of cathedral chairs and hard surfaced floors, the interior of the building will accommodate a variety of worship expressions for parish and community groups. It will also become an excellent setting for community concerts, fine art displays, theatre and other parish and community gatherings. The addition of a Labyrinth in the Nave will allow for individuals and groups to regularly gather for prayer while walking its path. (Picture of Labyrinth) labyrinth, Duncan Conference Center, Delray Beach



The Parish Hall

will be completely modernized to accommodate a minimum of 200 persons. The kitchen will be outfitted with new commercial appliances, refrigeration and sinks. Bathrooms for women and men will replace our current facilities. The building's east wall will include glass doors which will exit onto a patio deck on the waterway. Our new facility will better serve our current church and community groups. It will also enhance our ability to use this space for community gatherings, generating a continued revenue source.

The ministry and administrative spaces

will be newly constructed allowing for Sunday School rooms, choir and other ministry rooms and administrative spaces.

The church grounds

will provide a meditation garden, playground for the children and a deck along the Intra-coastal Waterway. Boat dock space for day use will be added which may be utilized by parishioners on Sundays, or other events. The City of Pompano Beach will work with us to construct a pavilion underneath the west bridge expanse for access to the north side of Atlantic Blvd.

City of Pompano Beach Coalition to the Homeless

Fr. Bernie has been asked by Mayor Lamar Fisher to organize the first meeting of the Coalition to the Homeless for the city of Pompano Beach. Area clergy, Broward Sheriff's Office representatives, community and city leaders are scheduled to meet at St. Martin on Tuesday, October 5th, 2:00pm. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss how we as a coalition may address the ever growing concern of homelessness. If you are interested in joining with us, please contact Fr. Bernie at the parish office.



Why We Love Our Choir

1. **Choirs support good congregational singing.** A choir demonstrates that the voice of the congregation is primary, not secondary. It encourages them to join in by lifting their voices, without overpowering them with a wall of amplification.
2. **Their visual presence is an encouragement to the congregation.** We are there to be together, to worship God with each other, to be community. When we look up and see our choir looking back at us, we're reminded that we're not alone, that we're there to be part of a very special communion. And, of course, it's all in practice for when we join that great heavenly praise team chorus around the very throne of our Creator/Redeemer God, the Object of our worship.
3. **Choirs make a broader repertoire available for a worship service.** With a good arrangement, choirs can sing selections from practically any genre, from classical, to folk, to world music, bringing a richness to our worship.
4. **They can offer more difficult and complex music than is possible for the greater congregation.** Besides leading in times of corporate singing, since choirs have the benefit of outside rehearsal time, they can offer up musical praises on behalf of the congregation that would otherwise not be possible.
5. **Choirs help singers develop and improve their musical gifts.** Christians are a singing people. Church choirs provide a free musical education, and help to refine the abilities of amateur musicians who might not otherwise have the opportunity.
6. **Participation in choir ministry can be an avenue for introducing outsiders to the church and the Christian faith.** Many, many people have come into a church by way of a choral ensemble, Choirs can help keep people connected to the faith.
7. **The choral process reflects the mission of the universal church.** Participating in a church choir teaches Christians how to work together sacrificially for the common good of the group, just as the church is to follow the model of our Servant-Savior and give sacrificially for the good of Christ's kingdom.
8. **Our choir is an open, welcoming, and diverse group.**
9. **They add creative artistry and beauty to a worship service.**

Please consider joining the St Martin Choir, under the direction of Dr. Joseph Line. You do not have to read music. Great Advent and Christmas music to sing!