

ST. BARNABAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Father Guy Roberts

Thank You! Thank You to all of you, my Brothers and Sisters at St. Barnabas, for making 2023 A.D. a great year. Most people know that the letters B.C. mean, “before Christ.” But not as many know that A.D. is the abbreviation for “anno domini,” which means, “the year of our Lord.” Every year is consecrated to our Lord Jesus Christ, who made time itself holy by His coming into the world as one of us. Every year we walk through the entire life-cycle of Jesus, from the expectation of His coming during Advent, to His birth at Christmas, to His work of preaching and healing, to His suffering, death, and resurrection, and return to the Father in Heaven. And, every year, the saving work of our Savior happens in each parish throughout the world. This past year, St. Barnabas parish was faithfully engaged in the work of our Lord Jesus in so many ways.

Last Spring, we introduced the new Pastoral Vision for St. Barnabas. This vision looks out five years into the future to determine what our Lord is calling us to accomplish. The plan then looks at three years out, to see what we need to do in that time to achieve our five-year goals. Our plan is designed so that each calendar year, we move the goal-post out another twelve months, so that we are perpetually looking out three and five years into the future. In this way, our pastoral vision is always new and evolving, as we are guided by the Holy Spirit.

While our pastoral vision is constantly adapting with

the needs of our parish and of those we serve, our mission statement remains the same. Our mission statement is not one we invented at St. Barnabas. Instead, it is the very mission given to us by our Lord Jesus, recorded at the end of Matthew’s Gospel:



“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

The commission to “go” means that we are sent forth, not in our own name, but in the name of Jesus, with His own authority and power.

“Make Disciples” is done in two ways: baptizing and teaching (that is, by the Sacraments and catechesis). The third part of our mission statement is to “know:” to know that Jesus is with us, in our midst, and in the work we do. Jesus never leaves us alone. Jesus is with us at St. Barnabas, not only in our church building, but in each of our hearts. Therefore, we make Jesus present wherever we go.

Gallup (yes, the organization behind many polls) was a part of our pastoral visioning process. It was guided by Rev. Al Winsman, who helps parishes identify their strengths and their areas of needed growth. One of the things Rev. Winsman and our parish lay-leaders identified was the need for greater “engagement” in the parish. Parish Engagement is not the same thing as parish involvement. Involvement is about what people “do” in the parish. Engagement is how people “feel” about their parish. It includes such things as stewardship, participation at Mass and parish events, serving in parish ministries, and an overall feeling of belonging to the parish family, and feeling proud of the work we do in the name of our Lord. So, 2024 will see the introduction of a Parish Engagement Committee, which will assist and facilitate engagement among parish ministries and members of our parish family.

Three results of parish stewardship from 2023 are the coming installation of a new HVAC system for our church. The old heating and air-conditioning system has lasted well beyond its years. The new one will provide better climate control for greater comfort during Mass. The second major renovation will be the reconstruction of our athletic field. The field has long needed re-grading to make it safe for our athletes. It will be moved a bit further to the north, and enclosed with a fence for safety. The utility poles which once crossed through the space will be removed and relocated. This project was headed up by the men's club, which financed it through your donations and participation in the annual Casino Night. Finally, the PTO has graciously paid for the installation of energy-efficient lights throughout our school and parish office center. Not only will these lights brighten up our classrooms and office space, but they will also save us money and energy in the years to come.



Our music ministry continues to develop in many great ways, enhancing and facilitating participation in worship, as we praise our Lord and enter more deeply into divine mystery. Our youth ministry also saw tremendous growth in 2023. Several of our young people attended NCCY this past Fall, and our youth will also be leading our parish this Spring in observing the world-wide Eucharistic Revival. There will be Tri-Parish events, shared by St. Barnabas with Our Lady of the Greenwood, and St. Rose in Franklin. And, we also look forward to the ordination of our seminarian, Liam Hosty, to the transitional diaconate in April. Liam will be ordained at St. Barnabas Church by Archbishop Thompson. Details will be announced in coming weeks.



As our vital statistics will show elsewhere in this report, 2023 was a great year for St. Barnabas in so many ways. Personally, I am thankful to be your pastor. July of 2023 was the completion of my second year at St. Barnabas, and I am grateful for all the support you have shown me. I am blessed to serve a parish with such energy and enthusiasm for continuing the work of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. We thank Him for the blessings of 2023, as we look forward to many more blessings in this New Year.

Grace and peace to you all!

Fr. Roberts



PASTORAL VISION

Our Mission Statement

The “Great Commission,” given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ:

“Then Jesus approached and said to them, ‘All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.’”

Matthew 28:18-20

Following the Gallup Membership Engagement Survey 25 done in 2022, the Parish Pastoral Council met to create a pastoral vision as it relates to our mission and the survey results. This pastoral vision was distributed to the parish. It outlines action goals for our parish.

- Go and call, invite, and welcome people, and assist them in finding their place in our St. Barnabas parish family and becoming engaged in the parish.
- Accompany, prepare, and encourage one another in deepening our relationship with God through worship, the Sacraments, and prayer.
- Teach, guide, and help one another in formation as lifelong disciples.
- Engage parishioners in embracing the mission of Jesus through works of service, which show God’s love for all people.
- Practice intentional stewardship of our resources for the sake of fulfilling our mission (financial, facilities, human).



This vision encompasses goals in five different areas:

- **HOSPITALITY**
- **PRAYER**
- **FORMATION**
- **SERVICE**
- **STEWARDSHIP**

The full vision can be found on the parish website under the “About” header, click “Our Mission and Vision”

SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT

Jesus with Us

At St. Barnabas parish, we know that Jesus is with us. We have many opportunities for parishioners to enrich their spirituality and grow in community with each other, enabling us to grow stronger in our individual faith and stronger together, united as the body of Christ.



- 1356 Registered Families
- 3507 Parishioners (approximately)
- 40 New Families
- 481 Parish School Students
- 54 First Communions
- 67 Faith Formation Students
- 9 RCIA Participants
- 120 Vacation Bible School Participants
- 71 Confirmations
- 286 Adorers
- 84 Altar Servers
- 9 Marriages
- 35 Burials
- 39 Women's Retreat attendees
- 25 Men's Retreat attendees
- 13 Women's Welcome Retreat attendees
- 14 Men's Welcome Retreat attendees



In 2023, Father Guy Roberts led a 4 part Lenten Series on the Book of John and a 4 part Fall Series on Carmelite Spirituality. The Catholicism 101 Series with various speakers allowed participants to learn about specific church teachings. A Grandparent Workshop was held for those wanting to learn about sharing their faith with their grandchildren. The Small Church Communities, organized discussion groups that met weekly to view and discuss *The Chosen*, a biblical TV series. There are many more opportunities to nurture one's faith here at St. Barnabas. We are blessed by daily Mass, monthly Holy Hours, the Candlelight Rosary in the courtyard during the month of October, an Adoration Chapel, and an annual Men's retreat and Women's retreat as well as Welcome retreats for men and women.

SPIRITUAL ENGAGEMENT

Go Therefore and Make Disciples

St. Barnabas Parish is committed to being a stewardship parish. We embrace the meaning that all we have as individuals, as families and as a parish is a gift from God. We share our time, talents, and treasure with others through outreach ministries and mission trips, spreading God's love to all of His people.



Faithfully engaged in the work of our Lord Jesus

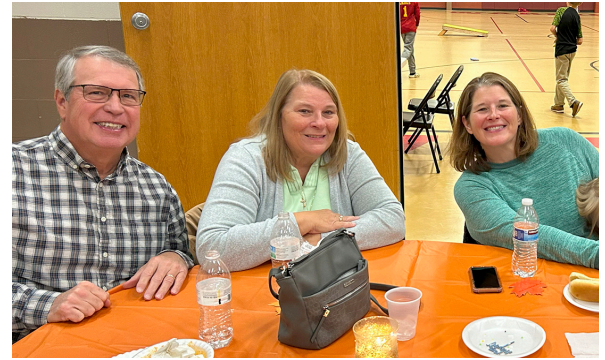
In 2023, our parishioners put their faith into action by making meals for the homeless through HOOP, doing service projects with Little Helping Hands ministry, donating their time and food to St. Anthony and Holy Trinity Food Pantry, tending the garden that benefits the food pantry, serving at the Cathedral soup kitchen, knitting blankets for those experiencing illness, buying gifts for the Holy Family Shelter Christmas Giving Tree and Gabriel Project Giving tree, going on Mission trips in New Mexico, Keam's Canyon, and Tijuana, supporting the Kairos Prison Ministry, providing and serving funeral meals, coaching youth in CYO sports, and giving of their treasure to support many different causes outside of our parish.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Fostering Fellowship

Not only do we come together as the body of Christ in worship and service, but we are also engaged in our many events throughout the year. Some of those include our annual fish fry, the parish picnic at German Park, the Chili supper sponsored by the PTO, the men's club casino night and golf outing, Chin community events, scouts pancake breakfast, tai chi, trunk or treat, the father/son breakfast, Women of Worship events, Small Church Communities dinner, youth ministry events, coffee and donuts, the Ministry Leader dinner and much more.



Growing Together as the Body of Christ

35	Ministry Leader Dinner attendees
100	Small Church Communities Dinner attendees
32	New participants in Small Church Community groups
536	Casino Night attendees
\$108,000	Donated by Men's Club for the field project
\$2,363,000	Fiscal Year June 22-23 Tithing
\$15,000	FY June 22-23 Tithing above budget



LOOKING TO OUR FUTURE

FEBRUARY 14
Ash Wednesday

MARCH 2024
Covenant Renewal
(Pledging of time, talent, and treasure)

MARCH 24
Palm Sunday, Holy Week Begins

MARCH 30
Easter Vigil
with Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

MARCH 31
Easter Sunday

APRIL 7
Divine Mercy Sunday

MAY 5
St. Barnabas hosting Tri-Parish Retreat

MAY 11
First Communion

MAY 19
St. Rose of Lima hosting Tri-Parish Retreat

MAY 23
Last Day of School for St. Barnabas

JUNE 2
Corpus Christi Procession
OLG hosting Tri-Parish Retreat

JUNE 17-20
Vacation Bible School

JULY 17-21
National Eucharistic Revival
at Lucas Oil Stadium

AUGUST 7
First day of School for St. Barnabas

DECEMBER 1
First Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 25
Christmas

