October 2019                                                                                                                       Volume 19, No. 4

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ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

Mary, Queen of Peace
August:  
Margaret Price

Margaret and her family have been parishioners at Mary, Queen of Peace for many years, and she has learned the joy of good stewardship from her family.

Margaret has been a great help to the FourTwelve youth group, and when she is home from college, she still comes by to help. “I love giving my time to Mary, Queen of Peace parish because I believe that service is an essential part of our Catholic faith and through service we display and learn about self sacrificial love.

“I believe that service helps us to better understand the kind of love that Jesus has for us.” Thank you, Margaret!

Good stewardship was on display at the Ministry Fair in August. Ashleigh Ladner, above, met with some young adults. For information on young adults, email: mqpyoungadults@gmail.com

Our Steward of the Month program highlights parishioners who recognize God's goodness and share their God-given gifts with the parish community.

If you have a nominee for Steward of the Month, an unsung hero in our parish, please email Karen Baker at: kbaker@maryqueenofpeace.org

September:  
Mia and Ava Cresap

Mia and Ava Cresap were our very young stewards of the month for September. The girls have been working hard selling hair ties to raise money to build homes for the poor in Haiti through Food for the Poor.

So far, they have made enough to build three homes and are working on another!

These good stewards are students at Mary, Queen of Peace Catholic School and are learning the joy of serving the poor through their teachers and parents, Doug and Renee Cresap.

Asked why they love serving others, Mia said that "everyone deserves a home" and "Jesus wants us to help the poor."

Ava said that "Jesus calls us to help the poor and when we do, we make him happy."

Amen and thank you to Mia and Ava for showing us how to love our neighbors.

October:  
Claire Conn and Kari Doyle

Claire Conn and Kari Doyle served as co-chairs for our Fleur de Fall on October 19. Mary, Queen of Peace is grateful for their dedication and hard work, not only for our fundraiser but also for the many ways they love and serve the Lord at MQP.

Claire and her husband, Wiley, serve as ushers and greeters at Mass, while Kari is very involved at the school, is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and is parish nurse along with Brandi Talamo. Her husband, Gerard, is also an usher.

“What an honor to be awarded steward of the month for the month of October. It is always a joy to be working for Jesus,” Claire said. “I share my gifts with MQP because I feel I have been so blessed throughout my life and have so much to be thankful for. This is just a small way of giving back. Getting involved with my parish has brought so much joy to me and has brought so many more new friendships into my life than I ever imagined. I feel so blessed to be co-chairing Fleur de Fall this year.”

Kari agreed, adding that she loves being a part of Mary, Queen of Peace Church and School: “I enjoy serving others.

“Volunteering is a way for me to give generously of my time and talents to the church and school.”

MQP is grateful for good stewards such as Claire and Kari.
Last Easter, Dynamic Parish asked parishioners: “Why do you love being Catholic?” And “What are your hopes for the future of the Church?” Here are some of the answers!

Kelly Giewat: I love the rituals and prayers that I can come back to when I am in need of comfort. They help me to connect and feel close to God, even when I know what to pray in those difficult moments. The Rosary and our devotion to Mary helps me to connect with Christ as a MOTHER, as well as a disciple, and that deepens my connection to God.

Sharon Bostwick: I love the Gospel readings at Mass, and how the Old Testament and New are woven together. Then the homily usually wraps it all up together. I love Mass...

Wayne Savoy: It is the Church that Jesus started personally!

Amy Schega: I love being Catholic, because Catholicism speaks truth. It doesn’t make shallow promises of prosperity if you just think positive. Rather, it promises that we will indeed suffer in this life, but with God, we can do the impossible. We can overcome and even endure suffering with joy. It also does not bow or bend to the wills of society. The truth is the truth.

Amy Berger: I love the rich tradition, the blessing of the Eucharist, the solemnity of the Mass, the love of the community and the promise of Our Father.

John LaVanway: I was raised Catholic and value my upbringing in the Catholic culture.

Christine Morrison: I love being Catholic because of the communion of saints.

Robert C. Amort: Because I know that it is the one and only that has been set by Christ and Peter as the true Church. At the risk of sounding condescending, I believe that through the Catholic Church I am riding the ship that is going to dock in port vs the other divergent Christian faiths who, if following the teachings of Christ, will indeed make it to port, but not until they have boarded a dingy from their respective ships, anchored offshore, and rowed into that same port.

Kay Meyers: Because of the Eucharist. I cannot imagine not being able to receive the Body and Blood of Our Lord. Other religions might have community, fellowship, care of the poor, etc. but Catholics are the only ones who have the privilege of receiving the Real Presence in the Eucharist.

Name Withheld: I love being Catholic because it means my husband and I are able to receive the Body of Christ every day! What an awesome privilege and a luxury! Add to that the blessing of daily hearing the Scriptures proclaimed and receiving a reflection offered by our priest challenging us to be the best version of ourselves. I appreciate the tradition of the Sacraments, marking so many milestones in the life of a Catholic. The seasons surrounding our worship - Advent, Lent, Ordinary Time. The beautiful liturgies of Christmas and Easter! The opportunity to be able to enter into a confessional aware of my weaknesses and regrets, and walk out grateful for God’s merciful love and forgiveness. I appreciate the opportunities to serve through the church ministries, and to be a part of the bigger whole, making a difference in the community and making a difference in the lives of a Third World Catholic community halfway around the globe.

Carol Bollinger: Pray and community.

Name Withheld: I love being Catholic because nowhere else will you find Blessed Mary, the Holy Saints of God, and the true Eucharist.

Name Withheld: It is who I am and no matter how far I have traveled in my life, I have had a connection: a family. It is not the Church facility, not the priest, but it is my faith in a religion that I believe in and have shared with all the people whom I have loved.
Dynamic Parish: Why I Love Being Catholic

Why I ❤️ Being Catholic

From previous page

_Name Withheld_: I am part of a large family, sharing God’s love for us.

_Lynn Restel_: The Trinity is one of the reasons I love being Catholic. We love and pray to one God in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I pray to all and know that God hears my prayers.

_JoAnn Beach_: Being a Catholic is who I am. It is my identity, it defines me, it loves me, it refreshes me, it brings all things in my life into balance. It is where I always want to be. It is my home.

_Mary Jane Becker_: I love being Catholic for many reasons, but first of all, because the Catholic church has the Holy Eucharist and the six other sacraments. Additionally, the Benedictine and Dominican sisters and priests nurtured my faith as a young person and today Father John, Msgr. Bill, Father Jared, and Sister Marina continue to do so. And we have a wonderful faith community.

_Name Withheld_: I’m a cradle Catholic. I’ve visited other churches, out of curiosity, but wasn’t comfortable anywhere else - so I stay with what I’m familiar & comfortable with.

_Name Withheld_: I love spending time in the presence of like-minded loving, giving, caring people. There are lots of good people in the world, but when you find an involved Catholic giving of themselves for the good of others, there is no better feeling.

_Marsha Davis_: I love the universality of the Catholic Church. We can go anywhere in the world and feel at home because the Mass is the same everywhere. Even if the language is different we can still follow along with the service and partake of the Eucharist.

_Carl Guichard_: I’m on the winning team. We praise and worship God the correct way through his written word of the Book of Revelations via the Holy Mass.

_Name Withheld_: I love the traditions and rich history of the Catholic Church.

_Name Withheld_: The rich biblical truth that supports our faith. The security that Jesus Christ left divine authority with Peter and that apostolic foundation with a Pope.

_Name Withheld_: I love receiving the body and blood of Christ.

_Kate Wilhelm Hubbert_: I know that God has a plan for me and that he will use me to be a vehicle for service to others in their time of need to refocus them on Christ and how he alone can help them overcome any challenge in life. I also feel at home at any Catholic Church and Mass I attend.

_Name Withheld_: I love being Catholic because this is the Church Jesus created. The tradition is rich. I live the Bible every time I walk into Mass. Catholicism brings reverence to the honor we have for Jesus. I love the familiarity of being Catholic in that I can walk into any Church and understand the service.

_Michael Collura_: Over the years I have questioned most Catholic teachings. I have found all can be proven in scripture and historical evidence. In the process I have come to know the LORD in very personal way. We as Catholics can attend Mass anywhere in the world and know what is happening(even in other languages). The real presence of JESUS in the EUCHARIST supported by Church Authority. That about says it all.

_Name Withheld_: Because it’s the one true Church started by Christ. There is no other. And when put in context of the world it gives hope and a way of life that can lead to heaven.

_Jan Lugtenbuhl_: Being an active member of the Universal Church offers blessings, graces and responsibilities, which are extended to the community and society. Being Catholic is an integral aspect of my spirit and character.
WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE?

Kelly Giewat: That we can change the world for the better and lead more people to Christ.

Andrew DeVille: I want to rekindle the passion and zeal I had for my faith when I was in college. I want that fire to pass on to my children.

Sharon Bostwick: I hope to grow in my faith. It is a journey and I want to learn and understand more, by participation and prayer. I do pray for people and for reconciliation.

Wayne Savoy: For many more people to convert to Catholicism.

Amy Schega: I hope that my children will carry on this beautiful faith to their children.

Amy Berger: That people who have left the church for any reason can realize that the devil wants that to happen and they return to the church to make it whole again.

John LaVanway: (1) That the Church embrace modern norms of inclusion to include women and to find ways to reconcile with nontraditional gender affiliations. Jesus embraced people of differences; the Church and its conservative members are resistant to do so. (2) That the Bishops in America, in each Diocese, be proactive and aggressive about addressing administrative hiding of clerical sexual abuse and turn over administrators who do hide abusers. Protect not thy image; do what’s right for the flock.

Christine Morrison: Attending the beautiful liturgy of Word and sacrament

Robert C. Amort: That all my children, immediate and extended family and friends will truly learn of the joy of being Catholic. Of becoming active and meaningful members of the Roman Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Finally that I may be given the wisdom to know God’s will.

Kay Meyers: That the Church continue to be inclusive and open to all people

Name Withheld: I hope to be able to continue proclaiming the Word at Mass well into my 90’s! And one day, when my life has run its course, to have my funeral Mass at MQP surrounded by the beautiful community I have come to know and love.

Carol Bollinger: To be a more loving person

Name Withheld: My hopes are that our children will realize the importance of God in their lives and many of those lost to our faith will come back.

Name Withheld: That governments around the world would govern according to God’s will.

Lynn Restel: I hope that we teach the little children about Jesus as early as we can and keep up programs that encourage them to learn more and stay involved with the church. I hope that we continue to hold on to the teachings of our faith that guide us in our everyday life while passing down our traditions to a new generation of Catholics.

JoAnn Beach: My Hope for the Catholic Church is that the Holy Spirit will inspire those God has chosen, to lead our Catholic Church to a new Awakening of God Plans for All Mankind to live together as God has planned with love, happiness and helping of one and other.

Mary Jane Becker: That I end up in heaven!

Marsha Davis: My hopes are for peace within the church with no further turmoil.

Carl Guichard: For the conversion of Muslims through our Blessed Mother Mary in my lifetime. She is the ONLY woman mentioned in their book, and it’s for a reason.

Kate Wilhelm Hubbert: That God will continue to assist me to assist others and family members to embrace their faith whenever the are faced with life’s challenges.

Michael Collura: That we can overcome our weaknesses and become the Church JESUS intended. A Church truly animated and guided by the HOLY SPIRIT visible to all,
Thumbs-up To FourTwelve!

Our FourTwelve youth group is going strong! High school youth night is every Wednesday and middle school/junior high (5th-7th grades) takes place on the second to last Thursday of each month. For more info on FourTwelve, contact Dylan Mitchell: dmitchell@maryqueenofpeace.org
Over the past year, we’ve been growing strong as a faith community—we’ve continued to open hearts to the poor in our community and in Haiti, assisted victims of hurricanes and floods, formed hundreds of children and adults in the faith, enlivened our youth and young adult ministries, partnered with Dynamic Catholic as a Dynamic Parish and—most importantly—tried to become a place where everyone can encounter Jesus and witness with joy.

In the following pages, you will get a financial picture of our parish community. Behind the numbers is the story of Mary, Queen of Peace Catholic Church, a compassionate and generous community.

Many thanks to all of you who make MQP a vibrant Catholic parish. As we continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, may we always keep Jesus Christ at the center of all we do.

"Let it be done to me according to your word."

LUKE 1:38
Annual Report: 2018-2019

TOTAL INCOME: $1,970,070.95

- Ordinary Income: $1,731,839.90
- Extraordinary Income: $238,231.05

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $1,748,925.27

- Personnel/Parish Expenses/Assessments: $1,568,456.86
- Capital Expenditures: $180,468.41
Ordinary Income: $1,731,839.90

Extraordinary Income: $238,231.05
Personnel/Parish Expenses/Assessments:
$1,568,456.86

- Personnel: $445,742.07
- Sanctuary Expense: $36,687.73
- Office Costs: $39,362.69
- Household Expenses: $14,260.17
- Utilities: $91,222.85
- Janitorial Supplies & Services: $49,396.13
- Auto Expenses: $14,400
- Ordinary Repairs & Contracts: $55,897.69
- Miscellaneous Expense: $140,415.76
- Religious Education: $50,528.31 (Not including personnel)
- School Support: $208,867.54
- Insurance: $59,585
- Archdiocesan Assessment: $293,470
- Clarion Herald: $17,525.60
- Contracted services: $12,185
- Music ministry: $8,312.87 (Not including personnel)
- Youth ministry: $20,597.45 (Not including personnel)
We were very busy at the end of the past fiscal year—installing new screens for the projectors we purchased in February; repairing a chiller unit at the school; and installing a new security camera and locking system for the school, Parish Center, and church. The security system was installed for the safety of our children and all on our campus. Meanwhile, we have used our new screens and projectors for school Masses and Confirmation classes, and we’re looking at new ways to use technology to evangelize.
As a parish dedicated to good stewardship, Mary, Queen of Peace Catholic Church sets aside 4 percent of our contributions in a tithing account.

In the fiscal year 2018-2019, Fr. John and the Tithing Committee disbursed $33,765 to help the Women’s New Life center, assist with hurricane relief in Florida, purchase Thanksgiving turkeys for the poor in New Orleans, and help build a chapel in Haiti.

In addition, our partnership with St. Benoit in Desources, Haiti, continues to flourish. Msgr. Wildor Pierre’s annual trip was canceled in early October due to political unrest in the country, but we hope to reschedule his visit soon and will keep you updated on a collection for our brothers and sisters.

Haiti Partnership: $93,981

- Haiti second collection: $27,435
- Night in Haiti: $29,198
- Other donations: $37,347.50

*Tithing disbursements 2018-2019: $33,765
*$100,000 pending for Covenant House and hurricane relief in Panama City, Florida.

Join our email list!
TEXT MARYQUEENOFPEACE TO 22828
Where we’re going

Mary, Queen of Peace strives to be a welcoming home for all who come here to encounter Christ.

As we think of our future, our Pastoral Council will be working with the archdiocese to help implement priorities from the synod. These include becoming a more welcoming parish, inviting all ages to embrace Christ in their homes and families, and reaching out to youth and young adults.

In November, we are also kicking off year two of our partnership with Dynamic Catholic. We will focus on our lives of prayer. Be sure to watch the bulletin for opportunities.

If you have any ideas contact Fr. John at jtran@arch-no.org.

"how can i repay the Lord for his goodness to me?"
PSALM 116:12
The Catholic Daughters of the Americas say thank you to all who supported their bake sale recently! Mary, Queen of Peace is grateful to have the Catholic Daughters in our parish to love and serve the Lord.

**Volunteer Award**

Mary, Queen of Peace received the Group Volunteer of the Year Award from the Louisiana Nursing Home Association Sept. 3 for the work of our dedicated volunteers and clergy. Pictured with LNHA Executive Director Mark Berger are Elizabeth Bellipanni (20-year volunteer) Robert Smyczynski (10 years), Deacon Eddy Beckendorf and Fr John Tran.

**Pastoral Council**

Fr. John installed the new Pastoral Council during the vigil Mass on August 17. Members of the council help guide the pastor in decisions for the parish.

**Coming up!**

November 1:
All Saints Day.
Vigil Oct. 31, 4 p.m.

Holy Day Masses:
9 a.m., Noon, 7 p.m.

Thanksgiving Food Drive:
November 1-21
American Heritage Girls

Mary Queen of Peace recently held its kickoff for American Heritage Girls Troop LA 2521 (for Psalm 25:21) "Let Integrity and uprightness preserve me; I wait for you, oh Lord." The girls learned the Oath, Creed and what our Troop numbers mean! Our Troop is service oriented and will be focused on teaching our Catholic virtues and works of mercy.

Cub Scouts

Cub Scout Pack 310 recently had their Popcorn Kickoff event, sending our Scouts out to sell their delicious popcorn! Sales help support our Pack in all of the exciting events and activities the boys attend and learn from. The boys say thanks to MQP parishioners for your support!

We are growing minds & gardens at MQPCS! For information, call the school at 985-674-2466.
Mary, Queen of Peace Christmas Mass Times

Mass Times

December 24 (Christmas Eve):
4 pm  (Church; Cafeteria; Parish Center)
6 pm
Midnight

Christmas Day: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Please mark your calendars for
Saturday December 21, 7 pm
Lessons & Carols in the church
Followed by refreshments