



*"BRINGING PEOPLE INTO A GROWING  
RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST!"*

November 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As November is here, as a pastor, I don't think so much about high school or college football but rather about stewardship! Our parish was founded almost 30 years ago on the foundation of stewardship. Stewardship is a biblical principle that teaches us that ultimately all that we ARE and all that we HAVE comes from God our Creator. That is, ALL is gift. A steward is someone who takes care of his or her God-given gifts and talents and uses them on behalf of others.

When people ask me what is expected of them as members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish, I introduce them to our four characteristics of discipleship: ***a disciple prays, learns, shares and witnesses.*** To be able to truly share, that is, to understand what is truly expected of a steward one needs to pray and learn. Prayer puts us in contact with God, it helps us to deepen our relationship with God. Prayer naturally leads to learning because we want to know more about the one we love. With that learning comes insights into stewardship (i.e. sharing).

Do you consider yourself a steward? How are you sharing your time, talent and treasure with our parish? Stewardship is ultimately a way of living life.

Fr. Mark



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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Inspired by the Holy Spirit and  
the loving service of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,  
we strive to be a spirit-filled community of disciples in the Catholic Tradition.  
We will be known for service to individuals, families and society through  
hospitality, education and acts of charity.

### **We exist**

To bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

### **We do this through:**

#### **1. PRAY**

- a. Growing disciples have a daily commitment to prayer.
  - i. Prayer is simply talking and listening to God as we would a close friend. (Is both personal and communal.)
  - ii. *"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. (Philippians 4:6)*

#### **2. LEARN**

- a. Growing disciples are continuous learners.
  - i. Learning is deepening our friendship with Jesus.
  - ii. *"Make known to me your ways, Lord; teach me your paths." (Psalm 25:4)*

#### **3. SHARE**

- a. Growing disciples are generous.
  - i. Sharing our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure are at the heart of Christian life.
  - ii. *"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)*

#### **4. WITNESS**

- a. Growing disciples invite others to grow spiritually.
  - i. We witness to the goodness and power of the gospels by what we say, how we live and how we love others.
  - ii. *"Go, therefore, and make disciples." (Matthew 28:19)*



# St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Statement of Operations

	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <b>2016-17</b> <b>Actual</b>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <b>2017-18</b> <b>Actual</b>	
<b>Family Count</b>	1744	1797	
<b>Income</b>			
Annual Giving Income	\$ 1,620,061	\$ *1,755,883	*Thank you to all who contributed financially to our parish. A special thanks to those who chose to “prepay”, gave their RMDs and used charitable giving accounts.
Formation & Education	64,111	73,261	
Other Income	3,584	3,635	
	<u>\$ 1,687,756</u>	<u>\$ 1,832,779</u>	
<b>Expense</b>			
Administrative Expense	\$ 103,155	\$ 95,561	
Salaries and Benefits	388,401	419,195	
Liturgical Expense	17,866	21,461	
Buildings and Grounds	44,653	53,258	
Parish Life Expense	10,669	11,275	
Social Justice Expense	81,137	*80,872	*Social Justice is budgeted 5% of our giving income from the fiscal year 2 years prior. These funds helped support:
Formation and Education	32,947	44,053	
Education Subsidies	631,803	662,962	
SEAS Religious Education	31,663	38,901	
	<u>\$ 1,342,294</u>	<u>\$ 1,427,538</u>	
<b>Other Income</b>			
Restricted - Building Fund	\$ 34,177	\$ 41,569	• 36 organizations • Our sister parish in Nicaragua • Advent Giving Tree & Christmas in June • Gas cards for the needy
Restricted - Gift Income	21,650	26,249	
Interest Income	2,649	9,517	
	<u>\$ 58,476</u>	<u>\$ 77,335</u>	Thanks for making a difference in our community and in our world.
<b>Other Expense</b>			
Major Repairs/Replacement	\$ 57,869	\$ 42,434	
Building Loan - Principal Payments	198,000	180,000	
Building Loan - Interest Payments	13,950	7,677	
Transfer-Long Term Projects	83,500	245,000	
Restricted Gifts Disbursed	21,650	26,249	
	<u>\$ 374,969</u>	<u>\$ 501,360</u>	
<b>Net income over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 28,969</b>	<b>\$ -18,784</b>	

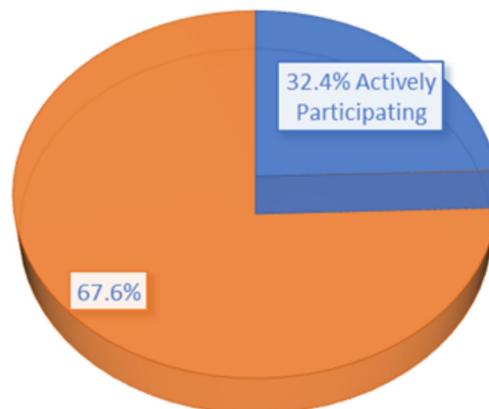
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# SHARE

We have 32.4% of our 1,825 Parish families\* participating in a ministry at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Some of these families participate in more than one ministry. We cannot **bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ** without our valuable ministers! Can you imagine if we had 60% of our parish families participating what that could look like? What could we accomplish? Have you been contemplating a ministry and just haven't taken that step? Maybe you aren't sure what ministry fits for you or your family.

Take a look at the Ministry Commitment Booklet\*\* or contact Kelli ([kdevries@seasp.org](mailto:kdevries@seasp.org); 319-393-3778). You can check out our website ([www.seasp.org](http://www.seasp.org)) at any time for current openings, to fill out the ministry form or get more information on ministries.

## CURRENT MINISTRY PARTICIPATION



\*Family Count as of 10/15/18

\*\*Ministry Commitment Booklets can be picked up at the Information Desk or found online at <https://www.seasp.org/ministry-commitment-form>. You will not find them in your stewardship packets.

We thank you so much for your past financial sharing!! During the past fiscal year (July 2017-June 2018), 58% of our families contributed financially. That number is much higher than the average parish, yet WE are not an average parish!! Together we can do great things. Each small donation when multiplied by 1,825 families\*, makes a huge impact!

Thank you for your generosity!! We have a lot to be thankful for and much still to do.

### This is a short list of some of what we've accomplished this past year:

- Education of 1,048 students (RE & Catholic Schools)
- Our clean, well-kept facilities
- New pews!
- Improvements to sound and technology
- Repairs to the roof and windows
- Expanding our children's programs
- Alpha and Teen Alpha
- Social Justice—over \$80K reaching those in need

### Currently:

Many of the items in the first column PLUS:

- Statue of Mary arriving in December
- Alpha—137 currently participating this Fall!



### Wouldn't it be cool if WE:

- maintain everything in the first column
- continue to grow our membership
- all go through Alpha
- add more programs and ALL are FREE
- could give even more to those in need
- could brainstorm other ideas to **bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ**.

We try very hard to be good stewards of our gifts. Please prayerfully consider what you can give and what the impact of that gift will be for you and for others.

If you have questions or ideas, please contact Mary ([mlang@seasp.org](mailto:mlang@seasp.org) ; 319-393-3778).

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