The Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul
Chattanooga, Tennessee

2019 Parish Ministries Report
November 12, 2019
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State of the Parish 2019
Fr. David Carter, Pastor and Rector

This past year (2018-2019) has truly been eventful and momentous in our parish. Moving back into our newly renovated sanctuary twice in a row was not easy to accomplish and required many people to go the extra mile. However, we transitioned both times very successfully and demonstrated that our parish has a certain amount of flexibility built into it as well as a great desire to do things right and to appreciate the beauty that we enjoy in our church building. I am grateful for all who participated in the planning, execution, transition, moving, cleanup, and sundry tasks that were associated with this major renovation in our parish. I especially want to thank Dcn. Hicks Armor, who has been my right hand through the transition and whose leadership is invaluable to me during this process. I pray that this renovation will be a testament for our love and joy of tradition for the next 100 years.

At the same time, as our parish underwent the renovation, we also produced a strategic planning process to help guide us in the next five years. In it we establish our principles, express our mission statement, dream about our vision for the future, and set concrete goals and strategic priorities. I am especially grateful for Dr. Jimmy Turner for leading us through this process and for all those who served on the strategic planning committee:

Fr. Colin Blatchford, Dcn. Hicks Armor, Sister Imelda Quechol, Mitchell Beene, Terrance Jones, Ron & Shirley Lautigar, Guadalupe Morales, Angela Niemeyer, David Pennebaker, Joe Pricer, Maria Rist, Michael & Danielle Stradley

We have been trying to live out our mission, this year by fleshing out our strategic priorities in order to work towards our vision. I want to highlight first our strategic priority of **Active Marketing**. We have done lots of work to generate online content through our website, Facebook page, myParish app, SoundCloud audio files of homilies, as well as our new Flickr photo archive of parish events and our parishioner email service. In the future, we hope to expand our online presence by livestreaming of Masses, especially our larger feasts, weddings, and funerals. We also hope to get more visible signage for our historic church building by pursuing the historical markers, as seen on the interstate. We have also been successful in broadening the reach beyond the parish by a presentation on Black Catholic History, led by Mr. Christopher Gurley, and in a very important way, our Sacred Music apostolate outreach, via the 2019-2020 Sacred Music Concert series. As of the writing of this State of the Parish report, we just finished our Gloria Dei Schola benefit concert for Food for the Poor. I saw many non-parishioners and people in attendance, who otherwise would not come to our beautiful sanctuary, and got to enjoy the sacred music of our Catholic faith.

After Active Marketing, the second strategic priority that I would like to highlight is **Growth in Attendance and Participation**. As a strategic goal towards participation, we have established a program of 100% participation in stewardship of time, talent, but especially of treasure, using our Lord’s exhortation: “Where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” To this end, we have created a Stewardship Committee who will be helping us to pray, discern, and act on initiatives to achieve our goal. In addition, I have made great efforts to incorporate stewardship in my preaching and messaging to our parishioners. We have seen a very promising response to this message. This will continue to be a major part of this strategic priority.

We have also implemented two new recognition awards to highlight and exemplify this strategic priority of participation in our parish. The first award is titled **The Joy of Tradition Award**. This award has been established to recognize members of our parish community who have demonstrated by their life and participation in our parish the joy that our Catholic faith brings. It is a testimony to their exemplary service to various aspects of our faith, and for their enthusiasm in promoting the sacred traditions in liturgy, ministry, and service to our parish.” The 2019 recipients of this award are Debbie Cliche and Delmar Ramírez Pérez.
The second of our two parish awards is “The Servant of God, Fr. Patrick Ryan Award”. This award is given each year to members of the parish who exemplify the theological virtue of charity in imitation of the heroic witness of Fr. Patrick Ryan. Inspired by his example to that same measure of charity toward all our brothers and sisters in need, the recipient of this award has been recognized for selfless service, especially towards the poor and needy. The 2019 recipients are Satoko Thel and Olegario Cardona.

The third strategic priority is one which will be an ongoing issue for us, namely, Facility Preservation. We have accomplished many major projects in our parish over the years. In 2011, we renovated Varallo Parish Hall. In 2013, we remodeled the first and second floor of the RE building. In 2015, we finished the rectory and office renovation. In 2016, we completed the nursery renovation. In 2017, we inspected and patched the roof, recovered the pews, upgraded our sound system, and had a Marian grotto installed on the campus. Finally, last year, we did the major renovation of our sanctuary, nave, and vestibule, upgrading the electrical system and lighting in the church, as well as our security and fire safety systems. All of these renovations have depleted our parish savings as a result of a conscious decision to invest in our infrastructure. But the reality is that we are far from being done. There are many capital improvements that are on hold, due to a lack of funding. Some are major needs: the air conditioning and heating of the church; the roof and gutter repairs; and providing sufficient space for the many groups and activities that meet on our campus. These will most likely be the subject of a future capital campaign, as was suggested by the Parish Pastoral Council this year, after a presentation by Ron Lautigar, the Chairman of FEMAC. I’m grateful for Ron and his team for helping me maintain these very old buildings that form the patrimony of our parish.

This venerable old church has one roof, but under that roof, many of God’s children gather to worship and to be formed as disciples of Jesus Christ. I would like to develop this theme, “Under One Roof”, in the years ahead, as we will have to learn about each other and work consciously towards collaboration and integration. Currently, I can identify three distinct communities that meet under our roof. One is the English speaking community that has formed the backbone of our parish since its beginning. The second community are the recent immigrants to our country, mostly from Guatemala, who share the Spanish language in common. Until recently, they had been distinct from the regular parish, only utilizing the church for Mass, but otherwise being separated. I have worked hard in my time as Pastor to integrate our Spanish-speaking community into the regular life of the parish of Sts. Peter and Paul. This has borne great fruit, especially in the increase in participation and attendance at our Spanish Mass, which now comes close to 50% of our parish. The third community that has been identified in our parish is the Latin Mass community, which has grown in recent years, as more and more young people and young families express to me their desire to worship utilizing the more ancient form of the Roman Rite, commonly called the Latin Mass.

We began the monthly sung Latin Mass, the Missa Cantata, on Christmas Day in 2014. There has been consistent support and participation in this Mass. Even just this year, I have had many young people come to me to express their desire for a weekly Latin Mass. Our parish-wide liturgical questionnaire taken earlier this year (see the results below) demonstrates to me that there is great support for a movement towards the Latin Mass being offered every week. It is something that we will have to discern as a parish, so as to best utilize our resources, both in scheduling and in priest availability. It is an opportunity for us to continue to express the Joy of Tradition that we seek to exemplify here at the Basilica – a joy that is expressed uniformly in the diversity of the communities that meet “Under One Roof.”

With the joy of the diversity of many communities meeting under one roof, there are also distinct challenges. In particular, an issue that faces us is the limitation of space. The analogy that I have discerned is that of a large family with only one bathroom. It is inconvenient, for sure, but if done right, can be sufficient. Being a
State of the Parish 2019, cont.

downtown parish with an already small campus, we do not have much room for expansion. One solace in the past has been the expansive resource of All Saints Academy. But we discerned that it is also an expensive resource, one that is beyond our parish’s ability to upkeep – much less renovate – for safety and liability. Therefore, we had to make the very difficult decision to turn the building over to developers who could do something good with the building, as well as making the building a parish asset, rather than a drain on our budget and resources. I am happy to finally announce that we are under a contract with a developer to turn All Saints Academy into commercial office space, with monetary benefit to the parish, as well as the continued use of the parking lot on evenings and weekends. This will take pressure off our annual budget for the upkeep of that building, and will add to our revenue, according to the agreement. However, it does mean that we will lose a major space that has housed our Hispanic Ministry and Youth Group over the years. Going forward will mean that we will have to be creative with our space and understanding of our limitations.

One major development that we are currently working on to assist our Hispanic Ministry is the purchase of a building on 23rd Street, that would function as an annex to our parish campus and will allow us to support the many activities of our very engaged Hispanic community. It also is a way for our parish to show solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters who many times are unable to provide for themselves, just like the Church did for our ancestors in faith here in Chattanooga when the Irish immigrants were poor and without many resources. The one caveat is that, in order to obtain this space, the parish will have to incur debt, something that has been very foreign to us as a parish for as long as I am aware. We believe that this debt is manageable and should not in any way impact the financial security of our parish in the future.

Beyond the physical infrastructure of the parish, one major area that has surfaced in my mind is that of the human infrastructure of the parish. In my years working with our Hispanic Ministry, I have been very impressed and edified by their organization, participation, commitment, and leadership. I see in them something that I would like to translate into our English-speaking community as a whole. This means building culture. But building culture is something that the Catholic Church does very well. At its root, culture comes from cultus, meaning, “to worship”. I have noticed hints of true authentic culture in the Latin Mass community, especially in the desire for fellowship and being together and working for one another, a sense of true family and camaraderie, and watching out for each other. I think it stems from the common culture that is expressed in the Latin Mass, binding people together, which is what our faith is supposed to do. However, I have noticed in the broader strokes of our English speaking community that we are running into a problem that is not unique to our parish: namely, the disintegration of Western culture; and the lack of focus due to many competing priorities in the lives of our parishioners. Indicators of this disintegration of community are found in the fact that we have had to cancel some events this past year that used to be treasured in our parish, such as the Seder Meal, due to a lack of volunteers, leaders, and other commitments.

Many people are overcommitted already in their various extra-parochial activities, with the result being that Church and parish community oftentimes take a back seat. We also have the phenomenon of fewer and fewer people taking on more and more responsibility, and the great plague of burnout is looming over many.

Addressing this problem will be a critical part of our progress in the future. We have begun some initiative to alleviate it, in particular our Volunteer Resource List, and it is my hope that the Stewardship Committee will be able to identify potential leaders within our community. However, I also think that the Hispanic Community can give us a hint of “the way to do it”. They offer many opportunities for leadership development through retreats and specific programs for developing leaders in their community. This will be difficult to translate into our English speaking American culture that is very individualistic and, ironically,
overcommitted. In the future I hope to offer retreats and/or day-long leadership formation sessions to activate members of our community to take on leadership in building Catholic culture here in our parish.

One thing that I have identified as an issue in this whole transformation is the need to break out of the consumerist model of religion, and move into a participatory/family model instead. Many times I see people approaching religion as a product and a service, rather than a way of life and a belonging. There is a reason for this. We all live in a culture dominated by individualism and affluence. With the means at our disposal, we are able to buy and pay for services to even the most basic things of life, like child care, education, sanitation, and even food being cooked for us at restaurants and events. But one can’t buy community. Jesus asks us to look at the poor as a model of Christian living: “Blessed are the poor in spirit.” I see in the Hispanic community a great model for us of a participatory culture in which the basic things, like scrubbing toilets, cooking food, and taking the trash out are seen as part of an event that the parish community participates in, rather than a service to be outsourced and paid for, merely by writing a check. To highlight this, one of the ministries in the Hispanic community focuses on cleaning the bathrooms after Mass. This should give us pause in the English speaking community. Can we imagine ourselves doing that, instead of just paying for janitorial services like we are used to? But every family knows what it is like to clean the bathroom. And that’s what I mean by changing from a consumerist mentality to a family model of religion. We need to take ownership of all aspects of parish life, even cleaning the bathroom.

At this point I turn toward some important themes that I have discerned in this coming year. We are living at a time of great crisis, where there are many confusing and difficult things happening in our society and in our church. Many people have come to me, expressing their concerns and worries, which, many times, I share. How am I, as a pastor, to answer and respond? The Lord Himself has provided a way of understanding it. It comes by way of a Cardinal of the Church, Robert Cardinal Sarah. In the introduction to his book, *The Day Is Now Far Spent*, he laid out a simple proposal that I would like to emphasize during these troubled times. He says, “Christians are trembling, wavering, doubting. I want this book to be for them. To tell them: do not doubt! Hold fast to doctrine! Hold fast to prayer!”

Doctrine and prayer are great foundations to see us through any age, especially the present. I think that clear doctrine can alleviate much of the stress that people are feeling these days, and so I commit myself to preaching and teaching the established and firm dogmas and doctrines of the Catholic faith as a light in the darkness to lead and guide us over the troubled waters of modern society.

But doctrine is only half of the equation. The other must be the first and primary response to any crisis: prayer. We must emphasize the primacy of the spiritual. Our life of prayer as a community, but especially as individuals, must be fed, nurtured, and nourished, so that God can accomplish His purpose in us. One of the greatest ills of our own day is the resurgence of the pelagian heresy, expressed in the emphasis in activism and doing, over and above being and relationship, exemplified by a community of prayer. There are many places where you can find outlets for social action. But the Church is unique in being a place focused on prayer and the development of the spiritual life. Without the spiritual life, activism falls flat, and in the end, proves itself empty and meaningless.

I want Sts. Peter and Paul to be a school of the interior life, where people truly encounter the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, invite Him to dwell in their hearts, and where they can turn in times of strife and difficulty; a place where they can find themselves close to our suffering God, hidden in the wounds of His Sacred Heart; a place where we can find the strength and courage to take up our cross, to die to self, and to live for God and our neighbor. I want to be the first one to exemplify this, and so I have taken the bold initiative of asking for a
sabbatical from my priestly service. I was ordained in 2004 as a deacon, and in 2005 as a priest. Since my ordination, I have been working in the Kingdom, but after fifteen years of ministry, I felt it was imperative that I take our Lord’s example to go off into the desert and pray. Literally. I will be going to the Monastery of Christ in the Desert in Abiquiu, New Mexico. For two months, beginning right after Christmas. There I will live the monastic life of interiority, focusing on the interior apostolate of my soul, so as to come back better equipped for the next fifteen years of active priestly ministry. I know that my time away will cause complications in the life of the parish, but I entrust Fr. Colin Blatchford, the Parochial Vicar of the parish, with the responsibility of leading the many communities that meet under one roof here at Sts. Peter and Paul. I know with God’s grace he will shepherd the community rightly.

I am forever grateful for the many people who make parish life happen. In the whole history of the Church, the laity have always been an essential part of the life of any parish. The priest stands in the person of Christ the Head - *in persona Christi capitis*. But what is a head without hands and feet, and heart and lungs? And so I want to express my gratitude for the hearts and lungs and hands and feet and all the members of the Body of Christ, without which we would not be able to be a parish of actively, engaged, invested, and committed followers of Jesus Christ, living the fullness of the Catholic faith.

Humbly Submitted by:

Rev. J. David Carter, JCL
Pastor and Rector
**We Believe – Guiding Principles**

- All people need to be reconciled to God; our tradition is rooted in God’s gift of His Son to the world to accomplish that reconciliation.

- The Catholic Church exercises this ministry of reconciliation through the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the source and summit of our faith.

- We believe that the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness of the traditional liturgical expressions and practices handed down to us by the universal church naturally lead people to these sacraments and thereby reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ.

- The work of our parish follows in the footsteps of the apostles, doing on a local level what is morally and objectively good for all humanity.

- Coming from diverse languages and backgrounds, united by our Roman (Latin) Rite heritage, we are called to be one community of faith grounded in the Eucharist.

- As a parish enjoying the title of ‘Minor Basilica,’ we accept the gift of the sacred art and architecture of our parish church. We acknowledge the responsibility to steward these gifts and share them with the greater Chattanooga community as an apostolate of beauty.

**Mission Statement**

The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Chattanooga, Tennessee, exists to proclaim Jesus Christ, the font of all Truth, Beauty, and Goodness, and we continue His mission to form disciples from all peoples according to the tradition and patrimony of the Catholic Church.

**Vision Statement**

The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul will be a parish of actively engaged, invested, and committed followers of Christ living the fullness of the Catholic Faith.

**Strategic Priorities**

1. Growth in Attendance and Participation
2. Facility Preservation
3. Active Marketing
Liturgical Questionnaire 2019 – Analysis of Results

Introduction

On the weekend of January 19 and 20, 2019, Fr. David Carter, Pastor and Rector of the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul in Chattanooga, Tennessee, offered an in-pew anonymous questionnaire about liturgical practices at the Basilica during the homily at each of the three English Masses: the Saturday 5:30 pm Vigil Mass, the Sunday 9:00 am simple Novus Ordo Mass, and the Sunday 11:30 am sung Novus Ordo Mass. Because there was no Missa Cantata that Sunday, he offered the survey once more the following Sunday, January 27, only at the 5pm Missa Cantata in the ancient form. At each Mass, attendees were given about 5 minutes to fill out the questionnaire and turn it in at Mass, and they were instructed to turn in only one questionnaire per person. The purpose of the questionnaire was to determine how people are receiving the liturgical catechesis and practices that are being offered at the Basilica.

The opportunity for the survey was not announced in advance. It was a typical weekend, 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, which happened to be a three-day weekend for the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday, as well as the March for Life in Washington, D. C. Therefore, some regular attendees were traveling and absent.

On January 19-20, 415 surveys were submitted at the three English Masses. The following Sunday, an additional 25 surveys were collected at the Missa Cantata from those who were not present the previous weekend, for a total of 440 surveys, representing about 68% of the typical attendance of 650 English-speakers. Note that children under the age of 12, who form a significant (though uncalculated) portion of the typical 650 attendees, were asked not to complete the survey. Therefore, the response of 440 represents a very high proportion of interest and participation among the Basilica parishioners as well as the visitors in attendance.

The questions were divided into categories including:

- **Direction of Worship:** *Ad orientem / Versus populum*
- **Incense**
- **Multilingual Considerations**
- **Use of Latin in the Sung Ordinary of the Mass**
- **Greeting and Sign of Peace**
- **Altar Rail and Reception of Holy Communion**
- **The Novus Ordo (“New Order” following the 2nd Vatican Council) and the Ancient Form Mass**

In addition to the 35 questions about liturgical practices, people were asked to identify themselves as members of various demographic segments, and they identified themselves as follows:

**Visitors** (11%), **Regular attendees** (66%), **Supporters of the parish** via time, talent, and/or treasure (42%)

**Mass time(s) attended:** 5:30 (19%), 9:00 (46%), 11:30 (55%), Missa Cantata (18%)

**Age group:** 12-17 (8%), 18-29 (22%), 30-44 (18%), 45-59 (21%), 60 and up (18%)

**Gender:** Male (32%); Female (33%)

Respondents were also given space to write in comments.

The sections that follow present basic analysis of the results for each category of questions.
**Liturgical Questionnaire 2019 – Analysis of Results, cont.**

**Direction of Worship: *Ad orientem / Versus populum***

With the exception of visitors, 84% - 96% of all segments report that they are familiar with the parish’s catechesis on the *ad orientem* posture.

A majority of respondents (7 in 10) prefer the *ad orientem* posture, and this level of preference is consistent across age groups, gender, regular attendees, supporters, and even visitors.

**Preference for *versus populum* posture** is reported by only 1 of 5 respondents overall. The 5:30 and 9:00 Masses indicate a higher preference for *versus populum* (35% and 29% respectively, or about 1 out of every 3 attendees, still a clear minority).

4 in 5 respondents report being comfortable with both postures, and this response is consistent across the 5:30, 9:00, and 11:30 Masses. Only 3 in 5 Missa Cantata attendees report being comfortable with both postures. 94% of Missa Cantata attendees indicated a preference for *ad orientem*.

The 8 write-in comments (only 3.5% of all comments submitted) were evenly divided in preference for one posture over the other.

**Incense**

There is overwhelming appreciation for the use of incense: nearly 90% overall. This appreciation is consistent across Mass times, age groups, gender, regular attendees, supporters, and even visitors, with at least 85% in each segment affirming the use of incense.

Fewer than 10% of respondents in most categories, under 7% overall, and 4 commenters, report that incense causes them health problems. Marginal exceptions are the 5:30 Mass (11%) and visitors (12%).

**Multilingual Considerations**

In all segments except visitors, at least 86% of respondents say they are aware that about half of the Catholics who attend the Basilica do not speak English. This awareness is over 90% among those who support the parish and those who attend the 11:30 Mass and the Missa Cantata, the Masses which directly precede and follow the Spanish Mass. Those who support the parish with time, talent, or treasure report the greatest awareness of the language barrier: 96%.

Across all segments except the Latin Mass attendees, 68%-76% (nearly 3 in 4) agree that it is appropriate to use both English and Spanish readings and prayers in Masses when the whole community is present. Comments indicate that some who say they disagree with the use of Spanish and English prayers instead prefer the use of Latin to unify the community.

3 out of 4 respondents in most segments (74% overall) affirm that it is appropriate to celebrate solemnities and special events as one community rather than be divided by our languages. Support for celebrating together as one community is a bit lower among those aged 45-59 (65%) and visitors (68%), and greater among those who attend the Missa Cantata (83%).
Liturgical Questionnaire 2019 – Analysis of Results, cont.

Though the respondents strongly affirm their support for multilingual/combined-community celebrations, there were 20 write-in comments on this topic (9% of all comments submitted), and most of these comments express the opinion that bilingual elements in the Mass are challenging and complicated.

The vast majority of those surveyed appreciate the unifying role that the Latin language plays in our major liturgies, enabling us to pray with one voice. 83% overall and about 4 out of 5 respondents in all categories affirm this belief.

Use of Latin in the Sung Ordinary of the Mass

The Church’s teaching that all faithful should learn to sing the Ordinary parts of the Mass in Latin is understood better by the younger age groups (90%), by females (87%), and especially those who attend the 11:30 Mass (88%) and the Missa Cantata (97%), the two Masses when Latin is used extensively. Those attending the 5:30 Mass, where Latin is rarely used, reported the least understanding of this Church teaching (72%), which is markedly less understanding than that of visitors (80%).

Of the two Mass times which only include an English Sung Ordinary, 74% of those who attend the 9:00 Mass and 70% of those who attend the 5:30 Mass appreciate the Latin Sung Ordinary as well as English. Appreciation for both Latin and English settings of the Sung Ordinary is highest among those under age 18 (88%) as well as those who attend the 11:30 Mass (83%), where both languages are used most freely, and lowest among those aged 45-59 (72%).

When asked if they appreciate a Mass with the sung Ordinary sung in Latin, only 17% express disagreement. The only segments with greater disagreement on this question include 32% of those who attend the 5:30 Mass; 22% of those who attend the 9:00 Mass; 22% of those ages 45-59; 23% of those ages 60 and up; as well as 22% of visitors.

When asked if they prefer a Mass that includes only English, with no remnant of the original Latin/Greek, only 19% agree. The only segments who agree slightly more on preferring only English include 27% of those who attend the 5:30 Mass; 24% of those who attend the 9:00 Mass; 30% of those ages 45-59; as well as 20% of visitors.

More than half of all respondents reportedly have a preference one way or another for whether the parts are sung in Latin, most notably those who attend the Missa Cantata (76%, or 3 out of 4). 2 out of 3 respondents attending the 11:30 Mass, as well as those aged 18-59, and those who support the parish, report that they have a preference.

Of the 20 write-in comments about the use of Latin in the Ordinary parts of the Mass (9% of all comments), fewer than half are unsupportive of Latin, and some request opportunities to learn the Latin.

Greeting and Sign of Peace

Overall, two thirds (67%) of respondents appreciate having the invitation to greet one another before Mass begins. The segments who report lower appreciation for the greeting before Mass include the 5:30 Mass, visitors, and those aged 45-59. Only about half of the people in these groups report that they enjoy the greeting before Mass.
Overall, two thirds (67%) of respondents agreed with the statement that they appreciate the Sign of Peace and are committed to exchanging in a sober manner only with those nearest them. The segments who agree most with this statement included visitors (80%), those aged 45-59 (75%), followed by those who attend the 5:30 Mass (73%). The segments with less agreement include those who attend the Missa Cantata (45%) and those aged 30-44 (58%). Write-in comments indicated that some agreed with one part of the question but not the other.

When asked if it is appropriate at the Sign of Peace to greet those other than one’s immediate neighbors, only 1 out of 5 respondents overall agree. The only segments who agree in greater numbers are visitors (27%) and the youngest and oldest age groups (those under 18 or over 60, at 28%).

About 90% people in most segments disagree that the Sign of Peace during Mass is an appropriate time for conversation. Slightly less disagreement is found among the elderly (76%) and those attending 5:30 Mass (85%).

The three statements that critiqued the Sign of Peace during the Mass generated the greatest divide of all the questions in the survey:

- To the statement, “Considering the wide abuses of the Sign of Peace during Mass, it is difficult for it to be celebrated in our day in a manner allowed for by the rubrics of the Church,” overall 46% agree, but only 38% disagree (a difference of only 8%), with no clear majority. The strongest response comes from those attending the 11:30 Mass: 52% agree to this statement and 33% disagree. Segments with greater disagreement than agreement on this question include visitors, 9:00 Mass attendees, and the 45-59 age group, but there is still no clear majority opinion.

- When answering whether the Sign of Peace is distracting, there is again only an 8% difference between those who disagree and those who agree, with no clear majority. There is more disagreement overall than agreement. The segments having a majority who disagree include visitors (64%), 9:00 Mass attendees (55%), 5:30 Mass attendees (55%), children under 18 (61%), and ages 45-59 (54%).

- Almost an equal number agree that they would prefer to omit the Sign of Peace as disagree (overall 44% agree; 45% disagree). The segments who disagree more with omitting the Sign of Peace are the same ones who disagree that it is a distraction.

The 30 write-in comments in this category (representing about 13% of all comments received) reflect a broad range of opinions to the greeting before Mass and the Sign of Peace during Mass.

**Altar Rail and Reception of Holy Communion**

82% of respondents (4 in 5) said that they appreciate the opportunity to receive Communion kneeling at the altar rail. Support for this practice is even stronger among those who support the parish or attend regularly, those under age 45, and especially the 11:30 Mass and the Missa Cantata. Support is a little less, yet still very strong, among visitors (70%), those who attend the 5:30 Mass (73%), and ages 45 and up (77%).
Similarly, 80% of respondents are not opposed to the reception of Communion kneeling. Support for this practice is even stronger among those who support the parish (87%) or attend regularly (82%), those under age 45, and especially the 11:30 Mass (84%) and the Missa Cantata (94%). Support is a little less, yet still very strong, among visitors (72%), those who attend the 9:00 Mass (77%), and ages 60 and up (70%).

Overall, 3 out of 5 respondents prefer to receive Communion on the tongue. Among visitors and those who attend the 5:30 and 9:00 Masses, only about half of respondents indicate a preference for receiving Communion on the tongue. The strongest preference for receiving on the tongue is demonstrated by those who attend the 11:30 Mass (67%) and the Missa Cantata (92%), and the age 30-44 bracket (69%).

Overall, 1 in 3 respondents (36%) report that receiving from the Chalice, as opposed to the Host only, is important to them. Slightly higher preference for receiving from the Chalice is given by those ages 45-59 (42%), and 9:00 Mass attendees (40%). The only group that places significantly less importance on receiving from the Chalice is those who attend the Missa Cantata (22%), where, by tradition and rubric, the Chalice is not offered.

Only 29% of respondents agree that they prefer not to receive from the Chalice for reasons of health. Visitors (20%), under age 30 (21%), and Missa Cantata attendees (23%) are even less likely to indicate health concerns as a factor.

78% of respondents say that they were familiar with the Catholic doctrine of concomitance, which defines that reception of either the Host or the Chalice alone confers the whole Christ and no grace is withheld. The segments that indicate slightly less understanding of this doctrine include the 5:30 Mass attendees (65%), visitors (66%), and ages 60 and up (73%). Those who indicate greater familiarity with the doctrine include those who attend the Missa Cantata (94%) and supporters of the parish (86%).

Almost no one (less than 1%) disagrees with the statement that Holy Communion is a time to judge one’s neighbor’s manner of reception of Holy Communion. This question was included as a matter of catechesis and also served as a control to show that respondents were actually paying attention to the questions and not answering blindly.

Most of the 30 write-in comments in this category, which represented 13% of all comments submitted, reflect personal preference for one practice over another, rather than judgments about the best practice for all. Several commenters request that a padded kneeler be added to the altar rail so that they might take part in kneeling at the altar rail.

**The Novus Ordo (“New Order” following the 2nd Vatican Council) and the Ancient Form Mass**

This group of questions presented opportunities to express preference for one particular form over another for their weekly Sunday Mass. Note that the options were not offered mutually exclusively, and thus people were able to choose more than one preference. The list below is ranked from the form that received the most affirmation to the least affirmation:
1. **Preference for the sung Novus Ordo Mass celebrated with traditional elements** *(ad orientem, incense, traditional music, Gregorian chant)* rather than the Missa Cantata in the ancient form
   59% agreement from those who support the parish with time, talent, or treasure; 52% overall agreement; 64% agreement among 11:30 Mass attendees, 44% from 5:30 & 9:00 Mass attendees, 40% agreement from Missa Cantata attendees.

2. **Preference for the Missa Cantata in the ancient form above other forms**
   38% overall agree; 87% agreement among Missa Cantata attendees; only 41% agreement among 11:30 Mass attendees. The least agreement comes from the older population (ages 45 and up) and those who attend the Saturday 5:30 Mass (18% for both of these groups).

3. **Preference for the simple Novus Ordo** celebrated without traditional elements *(i.e., the current format of the 5:30 and 9:00 Masses)*
   31% overall agree, with no clear majority of any segment preferring this form, even the 5:30 and 9:00 Masses (43% and 46%).

4. **Preference for the Low Mass in the ancient form** (without music) every Sunday, regardless of the time of day, over the sung Novus Ordo Mass celebrated with traditional elements.
   20% overall. This preference is highest among those who attend the Missa Cantata, yet only 41% of them prefer the Low Mass to sung Novus Ordo. The only age group who prefers the Low Mass more than the overall 20% is ages 18-29 (28%).

This category of questions about preference for the form of Mass generated many more write-in comments than any other category: 70 comments total, representing nearly one third of all 231 comments, of the 14 categories that were identified. The majority of these write-in comments (44 comments, i.e., 63% of the comments in this category and 19% of all write-in comments) express a strong desire to attend the ancient form more often, especially the Missa Cantata. Some comments indicated that people truly appreciate different forms and have difficulty choosing or are unsure.

Question 34, which stated, **“The primary reason I do not attend the Missa Cantata is because it is offered at an inconvenient time; i.e., I would attend it if it were offered weekly in the morning,”** was difficult to answer for those who do attend it despite the time of day, as several people commented. Even so, 36% overall agreed that the time is inconvenient, which is nearly double the 18% of respondents who reported that they attend the Missa Cantata currently. This difference, coupled with the 38% who say they would attend it if it were offered weekly, suggests that there is a significant interest in expanding the Missa Cantata offerings.

**Additional Write-In Comments**

The 231 write-in comments were largely tied to the categories of questions that were presented, and those have been explained above. However, there were 46 additional comments, representing 20% of all comments, that were either general or specific to a topic that was not covered in the questions. These comments have been broadly categorized as follows:

- **Tradition (Affirmation):** 14 comments, 6% of the total comments received
  
  Gratitude for the traditional aspects of the liturgy offered at the Basilica; appreciation for the reverence of worship at the Basilica
Liturgical Questionnaire 2019 – Analysis of Results, cont.

- **Tradition (Critique):** 5 comments, 2% of the total comments received
  
  Request for more modern practices to engage the youth; dislike of sung petitions and other sung prayers

- **Other (Affirmation):** 11 comments, 5% of the total comments received
  
  Gratitude for the beautiful sanctuary; appreciation for the efforts of the priests, opportunities for catechesis and for the questionnaire itself, and for the fiscal soundness of the parish

- **Other (Critique):** 11 comments, 5% of the total comments received
  
  Disappointment over the echo in the renovated sanctuary; dissent regarding the deference to the rubrics; preference for brevity; request for catechesis on holy silence in the church; elimination of pulpit announcements; dislike for having ushers guide people at Communion

- **Other (Neutral):** 5 comments, 2% of the total comments received
  
  Individuals reporting where they live, what other parish the attend; general statements of Catholic belief (not liturgically-specific)

**Summary**

In summary, these questionnaire results show tremendous unity among Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul attendees in the appreciation for traditional liturgical practices, even as they might not all choose to practice them exclusively, including *ad orientem* posture (86% appreciate it and 69% prefer it); incense (89%); Latin as unifying the worshipping community (84%); reception of Holy Communion kneeling at the altar rail (83%); and reception of Holy Communion on the tongue (60%).

Segments that consistently show slightly less agreement with the majority on some liturgical traditions include visitors, those who attend the 5:30 Mass, and the older age brackets, particularly ages 44-59, whose first religious formation occurred in the years immediately following the Second Vatican Council. Those who show stronger support of ancient liturgical traditions include the younger age brackets and those who attend the 11:30 Mass and the *Missa Cantata*.

Topics that show the most variety of opinion among those surveyed include the Sign of Peace, the desire to receive from the Chalice, and the preference for the *Novus Ordo* or the ancient form of the Roman rite.

The final set of questions attempted to discern the level of interest for the various forms of Mass that are being offered currently or might be offered. This topic generated the most comments. With the people’s choices now ranked, it should be noted that the Basilica’s current offerings for English-speaking attendees are inversely proportional to the expressed preferences among those surveyed.

- Two of the Basilica’s three Sunday Masses (67% of the Masses offered for English speakers) are the simple *Novus Ordo* without traditional elements, which is preferred by only 31% of those surveyed.

- Only one of the Basilica’s three Sunday Masses (33% of the Masses offered for English speakers) is the sung *Novus Ordo* with traditional elements (*ad orientem*, incense, traditional music, Gregorian chant), which is preferred over the *Missa Cantata* by 52% of those surveyed and 59% of those who support the parish with time, talent, or treasure.
The monthly *Missa Cantata in the ancient form* is offered the least often (comprising only 8% of the Sunday Masses offered for English speakers during the year), though it is indicated as the Sunday Mass of preference by 38% of those surveyed.

The **Low Mass in the ancient form without music**, which is not offered on Sundays at the Basilica, is preferred over the sung *Novus Ordo* by only 20%.

Demographic groups not examined in this study include Spanish Mass attendees (the survey was in English), converts to Catholicism vs. “cradle Catholics”, those who have moved to Chattanooga from other areas, the distance traveled to attend the Basilica, and the number of years of attendance.

Discussion of the survey results among the parish leadership groups, including the clergy and staff and the Parish Pastoral Council, may prove beneficial. Presentation of these results in some form to the parishioners may be considered. Further study of the responses to this liturgical questionnaire by an independent analyst may be warranted to determine additional insights. The raw data and the percentages calculated by segment and by question are stored electronically in a database and may be used for further analysis.
The Joy of Tradition Award
September 15, 2019

The Joy of Tradition Award has been established at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul to recognize members of our parish community who have demonstrated by their life and participation in our parish the joy that our Catholic faith brings. It is a testimony to their exemplary service to various aspects of our faith, and for their enthusiasm in promoting the sacred traditions in liturgy, ministry, and service to our parish.

Debbie Cliche

Debbie Cliche has been an active member of our parish since 2015, having moved from Atlanta, Georgia, where she was heavily involved with her parish, St. Oliver’s Catholic Church. Anyone who has met Debbie is immediately affected by her smile and her bright and jubilant personality. These qualities have served her, especially in her joyful work with the youth of our parish. Since January 2016, Debbie has served as Youth Ministry coordinator for the parish, until just this past January, when she stepped down to take care of her mother and to pursue other ministry opportunities in the parish. She currently serves as Vice Chair for the Parish Pastoral Council as well as serving in several liturgical ministries, as a greeter, a lector, and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Debbie acknowledges that her love of her faith, her active involvement in various ministries, her love for people and her joy of tradition were instilled in her by her parents, Maureen & Donald Cliche. She is ever grateful to her family including four brothers, a sister, four sisters-in-law, a brother-in-law, three nieces, five nephews, and so many friends who are like family to her. Debbie exemplifies the Joy of Tradition that we hope to live here at the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, and it is for this reason that she has been chosen to be one of the two 2019 recipients of this award.

Delmar Ramirez Pérez

Delmar has participated in our parish for 11 years with his family, coming from a very traditional Catholic Guatemalan community. Besides serving as a lead altar server and helping with the training, he has always sung in the choir at our Spanish Mass. As a young teen, he desired to express the traditional elements of Catholic sacred music at our Spanish Mass, and he has worked with the parish priests and staff to bring that vision to fruition, particularly by introducing the pipe organ at our Spanish Mass. He began training on the organ in 2016 with Andrea Tierney, our Basilica organist, and now plays organ regularly at the Spanish Mass and as the substitute organist for the whole parish. Delmar is an example for young people to follow Christ. Delmar’s commitment and love of the sacred music and liturgy of the Church exemplify the Joy of Tradition, and for this reason he has been chosen to be one of the two 2019 recipients of the award.

In Christ Jesus,

Rev. J. David Carter, JCL, Pastor and Rector

Basilica 2019 Parish Ministries Report Revised: 11/12/19
The Servant of God, Fr. Patrick Ryan Award
October 6, 2019

The Servant of God, Fr. Patrick Ryan Award is given each year to members of the parish who exemplify the theological virtue of charity in imitation of the heroic witness of Fr. Patrick Ryan. Inspired by his example to that same measure of charity toward all our brothers and sisters in need, the recipient of this award has been recognized for selfless service, especially towards the poor and needy.

Satoko Thel

Satoko married and came from Japan to the U. S. in 1989. Attending Mass with her husband and four children on Sundays drew her to the Catholic faith, and she converted. Besides taking care of her family in the U. S. and in Japan, Satoko devotes the rest of her time to serving God and His people in various ways, such as by visiting the homebound, bringing Holy Communion and spending time with them. She serves as our parish representative at the Community Kitchen, volunteering there often to feed the hungry. She refreshes the holy water every week as her service to the Church and the people of God who visit our parish. Through charity work, Satoko says that she has met many wonderful people and it has changed her way of seeing the world. She truly appreciates opportunities to serve and hopes to always continue charitable work. Satoko’s quiet but generous gift of self exemplifies the virtue of charity that the Servant of God, Father Patrick Ryan showed to the City of Chattanooga, and therefore, she has been chosen as one of the 2019 recipients of this award.

Olegario Cardona

Olegario Cardona is married to Delia and is the father of five children. He exemplifies the virtue of Father Patrick Ryan by his aid to the needy in the community, both spiritually and materially. For the past four years he has been the Coordinator of the Santa Cruz House of Prayer, an evangelical outreach of the Basilica. In this role he takes initiative to reach out to people who are far from God. He invites others to gather food to share with the needy who are arriving from Guatemala or have lost their job or are sick. He organizes visits to the sick in hospitals and in homes. The group also raises funds for the families of people who have been deported or have died in an accident. Olegario is Coordinator of our Hispanic Ushers, and he leads this group in receiving people with kindness and joy. He teaches music to our parish children. He has produced a program to transmit the faith through the media and frequently livestreams events at the Basilica. Last year he was appointed president of the Hispanic Pastoral Council. He encourages the community to live their faith with love, charity and service. For these reasons, he has been chosen to be one of the 2019 recipients of this award.

In Christ Jesus,

Rev. J. David Carter, JCL, Pastor and Rector
## 2019 Ministries and Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Leader / Contact(s)</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<td>RCIA</td>
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2019 Ministries and Contacts, cont.

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Adoration Ministry 2019 Report
by Rose Brown

The Basilica currently offers exposed adoration on First Friday’s from 12:30-5:30 and all night from 9pm-7am led by the Hispanic community. Additionally, Holy Hour time is included during the Monthly Evenings of Formations. Currently, the church is open during office hours, for people to come and adore the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the Tabernacle.

There is a desire to increase the Adoration opportunities and extend hours. The 40 Hour Devotion was a great step toward that goal by educating and promoting Adoration. It began on Thursday evening June 27 and led up to the 5:30 mass on June 29, our parish feast day/anniversary, which was celebrated by Bishop Stika. Many ministries and individuals committed an hour during this devotion. The Adoration ministry leader would like to continue encouraging those who attend First Friday Adorations to sign up ahead of time. Once First Fridays have two committed adorers for each time slot, the ministry leader would consider the possibility of extending Adoration to each Friday of the month.

The goal for 2020 is to form an Adoration Ministry Team. The team would promote and educate the devotion. Long term goal is a small adoration chapel which would greatly increase the opportunity for more Eucharistic Adoration.
Altar Guild Ministry 2019 Report
by Shirley Lautigar

The activities of the Altar Guild are Church calendar-driven and not something that is in need of being added to the yearly events of our parish. Typically the activities are ongoing and change with our liturgical needs in coordination with the Sacristans. Dcn. Hicks Armor is our director and coordinates with Cathy Oliver to order all the consumable and seasonal supplies.

Activities include:

The weekly scheduled cleaning and ironing of all small altar linens: including corporals, purificators, finger towels as well as credence table linens, chalice veils and amices.

Cleaning and resetting of large altar cloths on all altars (including Rectory Chapel) as needed.

Alteration and repair of all linens as needed.

Set-up and reset of all candles, crosses and relics for Versus populum or Ad orientem.

Weekly cleaning of candle wax on all altar candles, credence table candles and processional candles.

Cleaning and replacement of vigil candles – as needed.

Weekly cleaning and refilling of Holy Water fonts.

Placement, removal and maintenance of all flowers in the sanctuary.

Placement and dusting of all relics on St Joseph Altar.

Cleaning of baptismal font.

Placement of prayer cards and other handouts in pews.

General cleaning and straightening of displays in church entry.

Servers’ room order and cleaning and repair of surplices and albs.

Cleaning of dripped wax and incense in preparation area behind main altar.

Coordination and set-up for all Holy days and seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, etc.

Weekly cleaning and arrangement of relics on the St. Mary and St. Joseph Altars.

We continue to move items to the Bell Tower storage rooms for necessary storage of items to unclutter the Sacristy area. Altar Guild was also active in moving necessary items for our renovation project. We were also active in the transition to VPH and reset of Sanctuary and Sacristy after the renovation. This included set up of our two new relic altars.

Future: 2020

We will be ordering, as well as, making and altering new altar cloths.

General activity schedules will continue.

We will actively recruit new members.
Altar Server Ministry 2019 Report
by Dcn. Hicks Armor

The Altar Server Ministry continues to attract and involve more and more young people.

This past spring we had one individual move who had been an MC and long-time Senior Server.

Also this past year we have had 2 experienced servers join us as their family moved to Chattanooga and most recently we had another family join us from out of town with a very experienced server and a younger one as well.

During the past year we have had 6 young servers come through our training program.

Our success rate with new, young servers is great. Losing experienced servers always hurts but new servers are special.

Our Hispanic group continues to grow and we are doing regular multilingual Masses and combine our two groups on a regular basis.

This summer, Fr. Carter began an altar server training program for the ancient form, focusing on the serving of the Low Mass for new servers and building skills for our experienced servers of the Missa Cantata. The program included 10 new servers and 6 experienced servers. During the program, the new servers had the opportunity to serve as torch-bearers for our monthly Missa Cantata. Our visiting priest, Fr. Santiago, continued the training for the Low Mass during the month of September. The servers are now invited to rotate to serve the Monday Low Mass in the one-server format, and four of our new servers are doing so. More training sessions will be offered in the near future.

American Heritage Girls 2019 Report
by Connie Holub

We have 9 girls this year. 7 ladies and 1 gentleman are volunteering in various role to assist the Troop. We continue to meet every Monday in the RE building at 7pm. We participated in the coast to coast rosary. We continue to volunteer at various church functions, as well as making placemats for meals on wheels and birthday cards for a girl with cancer at St. Jude Hospital. We had a joint campout with Trail life boys in October and will be camping again this May. We do a new service project every month as well as loads of fun activities for the girls.

Bereavement Ministry 2019 Report

The St. Mary Magdalene Bereavement Ministry, organized by Florence Porter, within the umbrella of the Women’s Ministries, offers receptions after funerals at the Basilica. In 2019, we had a small number of funerals, and the Bereavement ministry offered a reception for a couple of those. The ministry is always in need of volunteers to come together on short notice to serve our grieving members of the parish family.

Book Club 2019 Report
by JuliAnna Hills

We meet every week for discussion of a book that pertains to aspects of our Catholic Faith. While discussing topics, we enjoy coffee and breakfast. We are hoping to expand in the coming year, and to try some new forms of literature.
Bilingual Community Events 2019 Report
by Maria Rist

This year our English and Spanish speaking communities again came together for our sixth annual Corpus Christi procession, and it was the second year that both communities celebrated First Holy Communion on Corpus Christi. We had our annual All Saints Parade and Reception following our multilingual Mass on November 1. This is our biggest social event with our bilingual community. Our wonderful Hispanic community has mostly taken charge of this party. The parish picked up pizza to contribute.

Our Hispanic Community should be commended for the regular volunteer service that they do by cleaning all our facilities regularly during the year and providing food for many of our parish events. While we were in Varallo Parish Hall for Mass during the floor re-sanding project, they took on the added responsibility of moving all the chairs aside before cleaning and then set the space back up for Mass and meetings that will be held during the week. This year the floor re-sanding has provided an opportunity to unite our communities in volunteer service, as we moved pews and other items out of the church and back.

Below are events that we have hosted in support of our bilingual communities in 2019 and are also planning for next year (2020 dates are noted).

- Multilingual Masses for major feast days – 9 planned in 2019
- Parish Cleanup the Saturday before Holy Week (April 4, 2019)
- Corpus Christi Procession with both communities celebrating First Holy Communion (June 14, 2020)
- All Saints Parade and Reception (Nov 1, 2019)
- English language classes offered to Hispanics 10am Sat
- Spanish classes offered to English speakers resumed under the leadership of a new teacher

Here are recent additions to our offerings for our bilingual community:

- Bilingual Rosary every Sunday between the 11:30 English and 1:30 Spanish Mass
- Friday Lenten “fish fry” dinners at 6:30pm to include both English and Spanish speaking communities
- Help Our Immigrants program to communicate needs of our Hispanic community members to members of the English community who have volunteered to help, especially in a time of crisis.

We brought in a representative from the TN Immigration and Refugee Rights Coalition for an informational meeting on Sunday, December 15 at 10am between the 9am and 11:30 Masses, to discuss ways of preparing to provide rapid response in an emergency. Stay tuned for announcements.

Continued Objectives for 2020

- Fr. Carter has written a pastoral letter on the desire for unity between our communities: “That They May Be One,” which is posted to our website.
- Form relationships among the families of our communities, across the language barrier.
- Increase participation of our English speaking community at the celebrations where our Hispanic community is present, including multilingual Masses and other events listed above, as well as the Our Lady of Guadalupe festivities on December 11.
- Find ways for our English-speaking community to serve our Hispanic community. Sister Imelda will help us identify opportunities for this service.
Catholic Motherhood Ministry 2019 Report
by Rachel Wesson

The Catholic Motherhood Ministry of the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul meets twice a month to encourage, support, and strengthen mothers in their Catholic faith and vocation of motherhood.

We met consistently each month on the second Tuesday morning of each month in Varallo Parish Hall for a time of study and discussion of our faith. From January through March, we continued the study of Scott Hahn’s book, The First Society: The Sacrament of Matrimony and the Restoration of the Social Order. In April and May, we studied Father Jacques Philippe’s book, Searching for and Maintaining Peace. In June and July, Father Colin Blatchford spoke to our group in a question and answer format, discussing our Catholic faith. In August, we prayed a rosary together for families and decided on studying a new book starting in September. From September through December, our study is Made This Way: How to Prepare Kids to Face Today’s Tough Moral Issues, By Leila Miller and Trent Horn. Patty Schafer and Amanda Patten have been leading this study.

Mothers bring snacks to this group to share and also items from their homes to give away to others in need, we especially try to help the Hispanic Ministry by giving these items to Sister Imelda to distribute.

There has also been a consistent group of mothers meeting in the evenings the last Wednesday of every month. Sandy Pricer facilitated the study, entitled Momnipotent: The Not-So-Perfect Woman’s Guide to Catholic Motherhood, by Danielle Bean. This group was well attended and met in the St. Dominic building. The group began meeting at local restaurants a few times. It was decided that after the book study ended the mothers would meet for social “Moms Night Out” gatherings. The Mothers group has consistently been meeting for these gatherings and recently Nikki Pacitti has been helping facilitate these gatherings.

Our group also provides meals to mothers with new babies, and their families or any mother in need. Danielle Jones has taken over facilitating the meal ministry for our group.

We hope to continue this ministry and grow to meet the needs of the mothers in our parish and community in 2020.

Cause for Sainthood of Fr. Patrick Ryan 2019 Report
by Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano, Vice Postulator for the Cause

The Historical Commission continues work on their report towards making the case for Father Ryan to be declared Venerable under the new category of sainthood called the “offering of life.” They are using a format for their report that was recently used for another United States Cause. They will need to incorporate interviews of people that feel they have had favors granted through the intercession of the Servant of God. The Historical Commission Report will be evaluated by a diocesan Tribunal before it may be sent to the Vatican by the Bishop. Release of the Diocesan Acts to the Vatican may happen by mid-2020.

Fund raising has become a high priority of the Cause.

A medal has been designed by the Vice Postulator in conjunction with and he commissioned for production by Comandini of Rome. The medal is being offered for a minimum donation of $5.

Significant expenses on the horizon are about $20,000 for the evaluation in Rome of the Historical Commission report towards the possibility of Pope Francis elevating Father Ryan from Servant of God to Venerable.

Submission of each potential miracle for evaluation in Rome, of which two must be approved for Canonization, will cost around $21,000 each.

Civil and then Vatican approval has been granted to exhume the mortal remains of Father Ryan from Mount Olivet Cemetery and entomb him at the Basilica of Sts Peter and Paul. The exhumation may require the services of an archeologist and the tomb needs to be constructed prior to the exhumation. The cost of these items has not been determined yet.

The top priorities of the Cause are the completion of the Historical Commission Report, fund raising, and evaluation of favors granted as potential miracles.

Council of Catholic Women (CCW) 2019 Report
by Geraldine Charton

The Women’s Guild Council of Catholic Women (CCW) meets in cooperation with the Women’s Ministries chaired by Nikki Pacitti and Chris Sapala. All women of the parish are members of the CCW in Leadership, Spirituality, and Service.

The Leadership team is the past/present CCW officers and its members are all women that hold leadership roles in the life of the parish. The team serves as advisors and supports in prayer and service. The Vice-President and Program Chair is Brenda McConnell, who serves with her husband, Deacon Tom, at the Deacon’s Table that meets each Sunday between the Masses.

The communications secretary is Cathy Oliver, our parish secretary. The recording secretary/treasurer is Geraldine Charton. The checking account has a total of $3,018.05 and the savings account total is $500.50. The corresponding secretary is Patti Dungan. She sends cards to the sick and shut-ins.

The Spirituality team is chaired by Charlene Reynolds and is co-chaired by Agnes Stone. The team members attend daily/weekly Masses, Adoration, meditate, pray, study Scripture and say the Rosary together and individually. They grow in holiness by membership in attending the Book Club, Benedictine Oblates, Dominicans, Franciscans, Legion of Mary, Schoenstatt, Serra (ministry for vocations) and Women’s Formation groups. Charlene Reynolds has started a “Right to Life” group for college students at UTC.

The Service team is chaired by Florence Porter. The members help with coffee and donuts, dinners, funerals, receptions, and socials. Service to the parish is also given by the Altar Guild, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, American Heritage Girls, Youth Ministry, and the music program. Many ladies volunteer with Ladies of Charity Greater Good Thrift Store, Catholic Charities, and serve at the Community Kitchen.

The International group supports the Hispanic Ministry, Haiti Committee, and (new this year) The Little Sisters of Saint Francis Mother Kevin Foundation Inc. in Africa. Dr. Esperanza Rowell served with The World of Hope in the Philippines this summer. CCW members attended the International Rosary at St. Jude.

Other committees include Legislative: Isabella von Memmingen and Parliamentarian: Debi Crabtree. The Deanery president is M. J. Uhlik from Copper Hill. The Deanery Council meets in the spring and fall. The spring program was led by parishioner, Joy LeQuire. The diocesan convention was held at St. Mary’s in Oak Ridge and the National (NCCW) convention was held in Atlanta, GA, this year.
Blessed Virgin Mary Visitation Guild

The ministry of the Guild is to visit and bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to make it to Mass.

The Guild now consists of 6 extraordinary communion minister members: Bob Nevil, Dwight Ash, Amy Long, Toni Powell, Jim Stewart and Satoko Thel.

Charity Outreach

Under the leadership of Satoko Theil our parish has been continuing to serve at the Community Kitchen on a regular basis.

Deacon Gaspar is on the Board and the Strategic Planning Committee of the Community Kitchen.

Deacon Gaspar is also on the Catholic Charities Community Action Council.

An important part of our charity outreach efforts is our financial support for the St Vincent de Paul Society. We had a successful food drive collection for the benefit of St Vincent de Paul and plan to do it four times a year to help stock their food pantry.

Docents Ministry 2019 Report
by Debi Crabtree

Eight scheduled tours of the renovated Basilica Sanctuary were conducted once the sanctuary reopened following the second round of renovations. These included tours for Richard Winham, Host and Producer from WUTC Radio; Matt Johnson, Coordinator for the Hamilton County Schools Bible History program; Alex & Heath Matlock, new residents to Chattanooga's downtown area; the David Johnson family, visitors from Oak Ridge, Tennessee; a group of parishioners from St. Stephens Catholic Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee; and a large group of children attending the Basilica’s Vacation Bible School.

Ecumenical and Spiritual Life Ministries 2019 Report
by Dcn. Tom McConnell

The ministries of Ecumenism and Spirituality have been combined and renamed “Ecumenical and Spiritual Life of the Parish” ministry. Experiences from Brenda and my extensive pre-conversion work in Protestantism, as well as our numerous military overseas assignments, continue to positively influence our new ministry.

The goals and spiritual principals of this combined ministry continue to be the enhancement of Ecumenical & Spiritual Life of parishioners by being a positive Catholic presence in the Ecumenical/Interfaith Christian Community sharing common peals of faith in both Catholic and Ecumenical circles, while reinforcing in parish life the Spiritual Principals of a Personal Relationship with Jesus, an Active Prayer Life, a Love of Scripture, and Active Discipleship…all focused on empowering total living of one’s Catholic faith.
Ecumenical and Spiritual Life Ministries 2019 Report, cont.

Venues for this new ministry become what we call in the military: “Targets of Opportunity”. They do not lend themselves easily to long-term planning with specific calendar entries. Facility space and funding will continue to be challenges for the near future.

In 2018-19 saw the following accomplishments and initiatives:

1. Continued expanded Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
2. Religious Education of adults and youth continue to address Spiritual Life in what I call a “Sunday School” concept
3. Launched “The Deacon’s Table” which now meets every Sunday 10:15-11:15 in the Mahoney Conference Room (see separate report)
4. Continued to be involved in 8 Ecumenical Christian communities: Chattanooga House of Prayer (ChattHOP), Chattanooga Institute for Faith and Work (CIFW), The House (UTC Campus Ministry), ReNew Chattanooga, Launch, Fellows, Camp House, and Chattanooga Interfaith Council (CIC)
5. Became a charter member (and the sole Catholic) of the initiative called “PrayChattanooga”, hosted by ChattHOP and intended to unify Christian churches to meet the needs of our community, modeled after Portland’s partnership program “CityServe”
6. Joined and expanded Brenda’s 19-year old adult class on Wednesday mornings at St. Jude (“All Things Catholic”) to deanery-wide invitations resulting in a significant increase in attendance from 10-12 to 18-20.

In 2019-20 I hope to explore the following targets of opportunity:

1. Further embellishment of the Sunday School concept and investigate venues to accommodate Adult Formation/BACON, Guest Speakers, Classes for Parents of PRE/Confirmation students
2. Continue to investigate establishment of small neighborhood Share/Prayer/Study/Fellowship groups…waiting on completion of our parochial map (Sam Martin)
3. Explore sessions on Spirituality led by Brenda and me on a social media platform or at a place outside Basilica grounds

May God richly bless all the ministries of the Basilica!

Evenings of Formation Ministry 2019 Report

by Dan and Nancy Fisher

The primary purpose of this ministry is to promote the Sacrament of Reconciliation and adult faith formation. In 2019 this ministry focused on writings of the saints as a way to increase spiritual growth in our adult parishioners. The evenings included Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction, confession time and the writings of a saint. Discussion time followed in Varallo Hall. Separate Evenings of Formation for men and women were offered.

In 2019, we experienced an increase in attendance, which varied between 10 to 25 parishioners each evening. We are greatly indebted to Fr. Carter for providing his help and assistance in conducting the Evenings of Formation.

For 2020, there are no Evenings of Formation planned due to Fr. David’s sabbatical and the uncertainty in his schedule.
Recurring and Special Events

The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion ministry serves at each of the weekend masses as well as special liturgy Masses throughout the year. For the period of November 13, 2019 through December 31, 2020, we will continue to serve at each weekend Mass and special liturgy Mass.

Activities in 2019

The EMHC ministry served at each weekend Mass and special liturgy mass throughout the year.

There were several training sessions for anyone wishing to become an extraordinary minister.

Planned Activities for 2020

The EMHC ministry will continue to serve as needed at Masses in 2020.

The ministry will hold training sessions to make sure that all extraordinary ministers know the proper procedures for distributing Communion during Mass.

The ministry will offer new member training to anyone who wishes to become an Extraordinary Minister in 2020.

The ministry hopes to grow its membership so that we will have at least five EMHC available to serve at each weekend Mass.

Facilities Engineering & Maintenance Advisory Committee (FEMAC) 2019 Report

by Ron Lautigar, Chairman and Parish Facilities Engineer

Fr. David formed this committee in March 2015 so that he would have a source for him to seek advice. The committee members are Ron Lautigar (Chairman), Mary Hertel, Rick Thompson, Duane Pontak, Dwight Wilhoit, John Mahoney and Mauricio Zarco.

Completed Projects for 2019

Altar Renovation – The Altar Renovation was completed

Air conditioning – The air conditioners have been patched and are currently operational but are in dire need of replacement.

We continue assisting and/or performing minor maintenance projects.

We developed a list of maintenance projects which are urgently needed but without funding, these projects are on hold. These primarily are (1) roof repair and (2) air conditioning replacement.
The Sanctuary Renovation was completed over the summer and completes the Home Campaign. Any outstanding payments will go towards replenishing the Restoration and Repair fund. This year the Finance Council will be focusing on increasing stewardship to cover projected budget deficits. A Stewardship subcommittee has been tasked with creating sustained increases in overall giving to the parish. Goals include increasing giving participation to 100%, increasing pledge amounts, and increasing utilization of on-line giving (WeShare). The initial response to messaging from the pulpit, the bulletin, social media and Pledge letters has been promising. The Stewardship Committee will be responsible for follow-up and continued messaging throughout the year.

The Finance Committee is also pleased to report that a long-term land lease to purchase and redevelop All Saints Academy has been signed. The building will be turned over to the developer sometime in the spring of 2020. The parking lot will be available evenings and weekend after construction is completed, but otherwise the building will no longer be available for parish use. Plans are underway to find alternate meeting space for the activities currently taking place at All Saints. This may include the purchase of an off campus building for our Hispanic ministry. Another priority for next year will be the long-term capital needs of the parish. This includes the roof, the HVAC, the boiler, and the 3rd floor of the RE building.

The Finance Committee would also like to thank our Money Counter Ministry for all the hard work being done behind-the-scenes. Led by Karen Biagi, these dedicated women (Jane DeBarge and Christina Bello) come in every Monday morning to sort, count, and deposit the weekend collections. This volunteer service is vitally important to the financial operations of the parish.

Thank you to all who continue to financially support the work of the parish!

**Year End Financial Summary**
*(July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATING INCOME:</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offertory Contributions</td>
<td>$688,411</td>
<td>$746,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenues and fees</td>
<td>38,692</td>
<td>34,400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$727,103</strong></td>
<td><strong>$780,900</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATING EXPENSES:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration (staff salaries &amp; overhead)</td>
<td>$216,185</td>
<td>$245,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan assessments &amp; priest costs</td>
<td>339,288</td>
<td>339,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>184,229</td>
<td>178,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Saints Academy</td>
<td>14,518</td>
<td>18,300</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$754,220</strong></td>
<td><strong>$780,897</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET OPERATING INCOME(LOSS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td><strong>$27,117</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Budgeted</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED INCOME:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restoration &amp; Repair &amp; Home Campaign</td>
<td>$133,119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti &amp; Second Collections</td>
<td>61,120</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Designated Donations</td>
<td>$231,370</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Restricted Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$425,609</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED EXPENDITURES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditures (incl. Sanctuary Renov.)</td>
<td>$498,017*</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti &amp; Second Collections (sent during year)</td>
<td>59,835</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Designated Donation Expenditures</td>
<td>103,731</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Restricted Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$661,583</strong></td>
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Operating income for fiscal 2018/2019 fell short of covering operating expenses. The shortfall was covered by cash reserves from our checking account. Actual offertory collections were down for the fiscal year from the preceding year and fell 9% short of budgeted needs. The offertory shortfall was partially offset by savings in administrative costs due to austerity measures. Full Financial Statements are available in the Parish Office. Thank you to all who continue to contribute financially to the Parish.

*The Sanctuary Renovation was paid for by Home Campaign and Restoration & Repair funds in savings.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish Statistics</th>
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<tr>
<td>(July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Households</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>412 registered and contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1375 total contributing (registered and unregistered)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mass Attendance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1308 Average per weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(up from 1206 in 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missa Cantata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124 (4th Sunday only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Religious Education</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331 students (123 English, 208 Spanish)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easter Vigil/RCIA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>38 people entered the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Confirmations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baptisms</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First Communion</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weddings</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
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Haiti Committee 2019 Report
by James Gallagher

Our 2019 mission trip to our sister parish in Milot, Haiti was scheduled for the first week of March. Unfortunately, due to political instability and dangerous conditions on the ground we had to postpone our trip until the first week of December. Sadly, we must again postpone due to continued civil unrest in the country.

Despite our inability to visit in person in 2019, we were able to provide additional assistance. Through the generosity of a former parishioner at Saints Peter and Paul, we were able to supply the funds necessary to build a well outside their rectory. The project was completed in October and our Pastor, Fr. Alain Prophete, is very thankful for this gift.

Our parish school is currently closed due to safety concerns resulting from the current environment, but the well water will be used to provide water for the students once classes resume. This is in addition to past contributions from our parish including, but not limited to, a new generator, a new truck, school supplies and student sponsorships for the school, funding of weddings, and repairs to the roof of the church.

While we are very thankful to be able to assist our fellow brothers and sisters in Milot, life in Haiti involves daily struggle in ways we at Sts. Peter and Paul cannot comprehend. We ask all parishioners at Sts. Peter and Paul to please continue to pray for all our brother and sisters in Milot as well as those throughout Haiti.
We started this year with the Invitation to participate in a meeting with Chattanooga Police Chief Roddy. Many had questions about a new law that was implemented on January 1st, 2019, HB2315/SB2332 that prohibits local and governmental entities from adopting ‘Sanctuary City’ policies. This created a lot of fear in our community.

Also, during this time we had President Trump visit our city, this made people scared of going close to the area where he was because of fear of police or supporters. We celebrated Mass at the House of Prayer Inmaculada on Rossville Blvd with close to 200 participating.

With a great blessing we began Lent with the Stations of the Cross and a group of adoration to the Blessed Sacrament with the Hispanic community from 7:30pm. to 7:00am every Friday during Lent.

After Lent, we have Adoration only every first Friday of the month from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 am. The attendance was 200 people throughout the night.

On March 23, we had a couples retreat with 250 people participating.

In the RCIA process at Easter, 14 baptisms of children, 10 catechumens and 22 candidates were baptized. We also had 31 young people celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Stika on February 29.

We continue with the preparation of sacraments of initiation for adults and children.

This November 9 we had Community Weddings and the next ones are planned for February 8, 2020. This date is for couples who are receiving Sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

Choir rehearsal on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8:00pm.

Religious Education for Children  Saturdays at 10:00am
- We Pray the Rosary in the months of May, before Mass Sundays and in October, November and December, and in the homes of some of the families.
- We participated during Easter in the Sacraments of Initiation.
  
  Mass attendance has increased from 650 to 800.

As part of the permanent leadership formation we continue with classes, retreats and courses for all our leaders and volunteers.

- Formation of Catechists in the diocese and in Dalton, GA.
- Courses in the month of June, and after religious education.
- Bible Study
- Formation of preachers for the Prayer houses.
- Training of lectors
- Formation of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
- Formation of altar servers, boys and girls
Hispanic Ministries 2019 Report, cont.

• Ushers training
• Training of Traffic Guides
• Bathroom Safety training
• CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH (Women and men)
• Participation in meetings of the diocese with different deaneries, to report activities that we carry out in our communities.
• Virtus course for leaders.
• Evangelization School San Andres
• Youth participating in different activities in the dioceses
• Participation in the V Hispanic Encounter regional meetings

Also as part of our duty to serve others and our own community we carry different services to many of them:

• Visits to the sick.
• Praying in homes (with the help of leaders)
• Help translate or find someone who can take them to immigration courts, food banks, or to the hospital
• Family counseling
• Counseling for couples
• Visits to families
• Mother’s Day celebration.
• Celebrating Father’s Day.
• Promote English classes.
• We take people to Memphis for immigration appointments we look for volunteers to help us.
• Supporting immigrants with lawyers.

In the Spiritual Life, we exhort and help them to make their visits to the Blessed Sacrament and encourage them to:

• Attend the sacraments of reconciliation and communion.
• Make Spiritual Communions
• Pray the rosary every day
• Read the Bible
• Retreats are held for leaders and children.
• Reflections are made after each meeting.
Hispanic Ministries 2019 Report, cont.

- Annual concerts of Catholic songs are held in the prayer houses.
- The parish performs two annual penitential services.
- Corpus Christi Procession
- Participation in Holy Hour every month.
- Opportunity to be able to confess each Sunday.
- Prayer of the Stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent.

At the end of May the coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary took place.

First Holy communions were held in the celebration of Corpus Christi on June 23, we had 29 children receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time.

We started classes of catechesis on August 24, with 205 children who are participating.

In the month of August, Manuel Macias, a preacher from Mexico came to helps us keep forming leaders and continue their training, he came two times this year. And 65 leaders participated.

We also have a group of young people who after Confirmation continue participating in these meetings is a group of 40 young people, it is an achievement that the young people who made the confirmation continue to be catechized.

In the month of September, 45 leaders participate in the Diocese of Knoxville and in the parish of San Jose in Dalton, Ga. 25 catechists in a training course for catechists and leaders.

Also, during this month we celebrated Sister Imelda’s 25th Anniversary of Religious Vows.

On Sister Imelda’s Anniversary weekend we gave children a Religious vocation retreat with 180 kids participating. Parents also received classes about vocations. We had 52 couples participating.

On the weekend of November 23 and 24 we will have a retreat of “Christ Renews His Parish” for women.

The training growth of women after retirement will take place on Saturdays at 3pm in the auditorium each 15 days. The team of the Archdiocese of Atlanta will come to support us for this retreat.

On October 26 and 27, we had a “Christ Renews His Parish Retreat” for men, with 72 men participating.

On Saturday October 26 we had Preacher Rafael Diaz, who preached about more participation in church. This was held at the House of Prayer Inmaculada with 300 people participating.

We continue with the formation of the Evangelization school San Andres to create more leaders.

We will have a retreat on March 14 and 15, 2020 for leaders.

This year we had the course of John and next year we will have the next one on the stages to form stronger disciples.
Hispanic Ministries 2019 Report, cont.

THESE ARE THE FIRST 7 STAGES OF COURSES.

First stage: Fundamentals of the Christian life

New Life: First announcement.

Emmaus: Encounter with the Word.

John: Formation of disciples.

Jesus in the 4 Gospels.

History of Salvation: Our own history.

Moisés: Formation of liberators.

Blessed are you: Way of happiness.

Popular traditions

- Preparation of the novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe, We pray in 9 different homes. (December 3 to 11)
- Procession (Feast of Lady of Guadalupe)
- Mañanitas to our lady of Guadalupe. (December 12 or depending on what the diocese indicates)
- Novenario de Posadas (16 to 24) We remember the path of Mary and Joseph until the nativity of our Savior. We Will celebrate in the different Houses of Prayer.
- Pastorela (representation of the nativity) made by children of the catechesis this year at 10:00am in the academy of all saints.
- Celebration of All Saints November 1

We have a new music group that helps us with the procession of Our lady of Guadalupe.

The RE children will have a posada on December 21 at 10:00 am in Varallo Parish Hall.

We will have a representation of the birth of the Child Jesus, made by the youth and children of catechesis.

This year are participating in the dioceses 5 young adults as part of the youth pastoral council: Yulman Elisme Gonzalez, Ruben Escobar, Ronald Alexander Polanco, David Lopez, Julio Quinilla

We also have some of our leaders taking a SEPI course. Mario Perez Telesforo, Apolonio Lopez, Jorge A Lopez, Olegario Cardona Perez, Raquel Vasquez, Edilzar Garcia and Marcelino Vicente.

In March 2019, we had 3 couples take a Natural Planification Course to become facilitators and be able to give these classes to others.

Quinceañeras are only to receive a blessing on their special day, these to teach of the importance of the Sacraments.

We will start a class for couples and young people, to appreciate the sacrament of Marriage and to wait until marriage to start living together. The plan is to celebrate Mass for couples who wait until marriage to show others of the importance of the Sacrament.
Hispanic Ministries 2019 Report, cont.

The next year we are thinking of making a small procession for All Saints Day since it falls on a Sunday.

- Attendance 2015-2016 children in catechesis (98)
- Attendance 2016-2017 children in catechesis (200)
- Attendance 2018-2019 children in catechesis (205)
- Altar servers 30
- Youth group 40
- Young Adults 37 Meetings are in the House of Prayer Inmaculada on Fridays
- Catechists 9 Hispanic, 1 American and 5 assistants.
- Ushers 28
- Extraordinary Ministers of Communion 25
- Lectors 28
- Parking guides 20
- Bathroom Safety 15
- Prayer House Santa Cruz attendance of 250 people each Saturday from 9 to 11 p.m. This house has 2 praise ministries
- Immaculate Prayer House Located on Rossville Blvd 320 people from 9 to 11 p.m. This house has 5 praise ministries
- Each prayer house support themselves and pay rent, water, electricity, etc. for each house.

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<tr>
<th>PROJECTS OF THE DIFFERENT GROUPS</th>
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<td><strong>Christ Renews His Parish Men’s Group</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Christ Renews His Parish women’s Group</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Usher Training</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Traffic Guide Training</strong></td>
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<td>Lector and EMHC Training</td>
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<td>“APOSTLES OF THE WORD”</td>
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<td>HISPANIC PASTORAL CONCIL</td>
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Living in constant availability to the needs of others is a way of imitating Jesus, who, being God, did not come to be served but to serve.

May God bless our projects and may we continue to work for the good of the Church and our brothers and sisters in Faith.

Sister Imelda Quechol MAG
Historic Preservation Ministry Report
by Mary Portera

Upon completing work for the Cause of Servant of God Father Patrick Ryan, I will talk with a resource in the History Department at the Chattanooga Public Library regarding correct preservation procedure of the Basilica History, submitting the information in a proposal to Father Carter.

With the suggestion and help of John Mahoney, I have taken a photo of each title plate of the Stations of the Cross and its reverse. The Station’s donor name is found on the reverse. I will develop these photographs to confirm what is in the Archives.

I have taken photographs on my phone of the ongoing process of the renovation of the Basilica. Unless someone else is doing a more documentary endeavor, I will develop the pictures by date for the Archives.

Knights of Columbus 2019 Report
by Fr. J. David Carter, Pastor

The Knights of Columbus organization has for many years been an important part of the life of thriving Catholic parishes. The Knights of Columbus members of Sts. Peter and Paul are a particularly active, service-oriented group, comprised of the Fr. Patrick Ryan Council 610 and the Fr. Patrick Ryan Assembly 1084 of the Fourth Degree. The Knights offer their members many benefits: including fraternity, the opportunity to do charitable works, and even financial benefits, in the form of life insurance, financial planning, and end-of-life planning. Some of our Basilica clergy, including myself, are members. A large number of our ushers are members as well. But because many are not aware of all that the Knights contribute to our community behind the scenes, I would like to share some of that with you here. This past year the Knights of Columbus have contributed at the Basilica and in our broader community in numerous ways, including:

• This year they instituted the parish-wide fish fry for our Friday Lenten dinners, which increased participation at our Friday Lenten program and provided a much needed fellowship opportunity within our English- and Spanish-speaking community
• Held the biannual Fourth Degree Exemplification at the 5:30 Mass on March 16, 2019
• Sponsored the Forty Cans food drive during Lent
• Participated in the Eucharistic processions on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Corpus Christi
• Recruited several members to join our usher/greeter ministry
• Volunteered for our move to and from our temporary sanctuary in Varallo Parish Hall during our floor refinishing project
• Held a wheelchair fundraiser and delivered wheelchairs to disabled people
• Built a wheelchair ramp for one of our parishioners
• Cleared land for a widowed parishioner, whose son had died
• Set up an emergency squad to help families in stress
Knights of Columbus 2019 Report, cont.

- Offered a family Rosary and luncheon every fifth Sunday of the month (rotated among our area parishes)
- Provided a monthly meal to our college students at the UTC Newman Center
- Sponsored two seminarians
- Funded the Chalice fund, to give each new priest a chalice
- Donated wreaths to be laid on ten veterans’ graves for the Wreaths Across America program
- Donated to several charities including Habitat for Humanity
- Funded scholarships for two Notre Dame High School students
- Provided startup funding for the Basilica’s new American Heritage Girls and Trail Life USA troops
- Sponsored a Boy Scout to build a covered walkway at St. Augustine Catholic Church
- Regularly visited patients at an HIV hospice
- Maintained and rented campsites at Camp Columbus
- Hosted Fourth of July Fireworks and Labor Day picnic at Camp Columbus
- Gave breakfast snacks monthly at the Veterans Administration outpatient facility
- Retired worn out American flags on Flag Day, and exchanged worn flags for new flags

I look forward to continued presence of the Knights of Columbus at the Basilica. I would love to see many more men of our parish join and become involved. It is a ministry that requires a certain amount of commitment, but it also bears great fruit in our families, our parish, and our community. If you are interested in finding out more about this organization, you need look no further than our vestibule! We have joining forms available. You can also introduce yourself to one of our ushers or other men who are wearing a Knights of Columbus badge!

- Rev. J. David Carter, Pastor

Lay Oblates of St. Benedict 2019 Report

by Jason Richard

The Lay Oblates of St. Benedict met every third Sunday of the month for every month of 2019 thus far. The only exception was in September in order to celebrate the anniversary of a religious. The group made a retreat to Cullman, Alabama, in April to visit St. Bernard Abbey. In October, Brother David from Monastery of Christ in the Desert, Abiquiu, New Mexico, visited the group to talk about life in a monastery.

The group consists of nine members. The group meets for two hours. During these two hours, the group reads a few chapters from the Rule of St. Benedict, followed by a chapter of the Life and Miracles of St. Benedict by Pope St. Gregory the Great, then performs lectio divina, and ends with praying Vespers.
Lector Ministry 2019 Report  
by Julie Szemborski

The lector workshop of 2019 was held on February 26, 2019. Father David Carter and Deacon Hicks conducted the workshop with the assistance of Julie Szemborski/Lector Ministry Coordinator. All current lectors and new lectors who attended were deputed to continue to serve as proclaimers of the Word to the community of the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul.

As of the writing of this report, October 28, 2019, there are 18 lectors. We have 7 who serve at 5:30 pm, 8 who serve at 9:00 am, and 7 who serve at 11:30 am.

In 2020, lector workshops will be offered on two dates: Wednesday, February 12 @ 6:00 pm, with a make-up date of Wednesday, February 19 @ 6:00pm, in the Basilica. The current lectors will proclaim the Word in front of Deacon Hicks (while Fr. Carter is on sabbatical), as well as in front of fellow lectors. Videotaping could occur. Feedback could then be generated by the workshop participants regarding the delivery of the reading.

Liturgy Team 2019 Report  
by Dcn. Hicks Armor

- Held planning meetings prior to Advent, Lent, Holy Week, and Ordinary Time.
- Recruited and trained new Altar Guild members, EMHC, Lectors, Sacristans, Ushers, Greeters, Altar Servers, and Choir members, with a Liturgical Ministry Appeal in January 2019
- Held training workshops to commission Lector volunteers
- Have successfully planned eight multilingual liturgies this past year, blending Sacristans, Lectors, EMHC, Ushers, Servers, Sacred Music
- Successfully transitioned to temporary sanctuary in Varallo Parish Hall, and back again
- Held an appreciation dinner for team leaders in the rectory after Holy Week and Easter
- Conducted a parish-wide liturgical questionnaire. (See the analysis of the results above.)

Mount Olivet Cemetery 2019 Report  
by Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano

We applied to Memorial Hospital on behalf of Mount Olivet Cemetery to fund burials for the poor and received a $3,000 grant.

We began a project to get the roads at Mount Olivet Cemetery repaired by initiating a work day using a personal grant given to the Cemetery.

Natural Family Planning Ministry 2019 Report

A series of Natural Family Planning classes was held this spring by coordinators Sherry and Pete Ohotnicky. After the Ohotnickys moved to Michigan this summer, Matthew and Avery Hiscock were named as our NFP ministry contacts. They are seeking certification to teach classes, and they are already helping couples who have questions or need help registering for online classes.
**New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry 2019 Report**

We currently do not have a New Parishioner Welcoming process, other than the parishioner registration through the parish office. This process currently includes providing the forms for parish registration, stewardship appeal, and our parish ministry list, and information about connecting with the parish online and through our myParish app. In the future we would like to provide welcome gifts to new members. Gifts could include religious articles and books that we have on hand or have been donated, as well as “Basilica bling” and other items, and could be customized for the individual or family.

As a way to make newcomers feel at home, we might host hospitality events, such as we did in years past with the quarterly coffee and donuts for new members. Because Varallo Parish Hall is now used on Sunday mornings for RCIA, these gatherings may need to be done at another place or time, such as in the vestibule, on the patio between Masses, or at our monthly potluck.

Ultimately, we would like to make a personal connection with each person or family who begins attending the Basilica and encourage and help them to find their way into the parish life with the use of their gifts, inviting them to potlucks and special events, etc. This goal will require building the ministry with volunteers who can discern good approaches and to reach out to newcomers individually. These volunteers might come through the Stewardship Committee, the Women’s Ministries, Knights of Columbus, or other groups who serve the parish. Several parishioners have indicated interest in helping, and we hope to follow through on building the ministry next year. Fr. Carter’s goal of 100% participation in stewardship this year presents the need for our Welcoming ministry to engage each new member.

**Nursery Ministry 2019 Report**

by Maria Rist (coordinator of nursery volunteers)

Connie Blackwell continues to serve as our paid nursery staff on Sunday mornings for the 9:00 Mass, 11:30 Mass, and the time between Masses. As of fall 2018 our nursery policy is that we have two adults in the nursery at all times in order to accept children. One is our paid staff member, but we are in need of VIRTUS-trained volunteers to be the second person. A sign-up sheet is on the door of the nursery. Parents wishing to use the nursery must sign up to serve for a minimum of one Mass for the current calendar quarter. There is also now a donation box in the nursery to defray the $45 cost of keeping it staffed each Sunday.

We have had not had full participation among our nursery parents in the volunteer rotation. But several parents have been helping, and a few adults who do not use the nursery for their own children have stepped up often to provide service in the nursery. Besides Easter Sunday and Mother’s Day, there has only been one other Sunday when we were not able to find a volunteer and could not open the nursery.

The nursery is a valuable, pro-life service to our families with young children, which can allow them to find peaceful worship time at Mass. We would like to see it continue consistently. It also serves the Catholic Motherhood ministry, other groups, and special events in the parish. We invite especially those who are not caring for young children to consider volunteering time in support of this ministry to our families.
Ombrellino Religious Articles Store 2019 Report
Marina Delaney, Parish Bookkeeper

The Ombrellino welcomes new ministry leaders, John and Eugenia Hochstedt. John and Eugenia moved to North Georgia over the summer to be closer to children and grandchildren. John and Eugenia bring years of bookstore sales experience to their new ministry at the Basilica. They have already been busy restocking and updating inventory and rearranging displays. If you have not been by in a while, come check out the new offerings including seasonal items for Advent and Christmas. Future plans include improving the Catholic literature offerings and revamping the parish used book lending library in the long hallway. Let them know if there is something that you would like to see.

Store hours have been expanded to 11AM to 1PM Wednesday-Friday and before and after the weekend Masses. Volunteers are urgently needed to help with weekend sales. The Ombrellino would like to thank its most dedicated volunteer, Rachel Collins, who works almost every weekend. If retail is your thing or your volunteer time is limited or you just love to look at religious articles, consider joining John, Eugenia, and Rachel for a shift at the Ombrellino. Contact the Ombrellino at giftshop@stspeterandpaulbasilica.com.

Parish Dinners 2019 Report
by Maria Rist

St. Nicholas Dinner

The 2018 St. Nicholas Dinner has had to be canceled due to the renovation and lack of space.

The 2019 St. Nicholas Dinner will be 6pm Sunday, December 15, organized by Nikki Pacitti and Florence Porter, with Brad Grafton cooking. Once again, food will be prepared by the committee and Brad Grafton. We hope to have a visit from St. Nick and look forward to Fr. Carter leading a trivia game with the kids. There will be other activities and entertainment by our very own Youth Schola and Andrea Tierney.

The 2020 St. Nicholas Dinner is planned for December 6, which is the actual feast day of St. Nicholas.

Seder Meal

In 2019, the Seder Meal had to be canceled due to lack of volunteer help. During the busy Holy Week, our volunteers are working on preparing the Easter Vigil Dinner, and Fr. Carter has decided that this meal should receive the focus of our efforts. Therefore, a Seder Meal is not being planned for 2020.

Easter Vigil

Our Easter Vigil Dinner in 2019 (formerly known as the RCIA dinner) was a joyous gathering of families and friends of candidates and catechumens from our RCIA program, as well as clergy and liturgical ministers who served our Holy Week liturgies. This year, the dinner invitation was extended to all who are involved in the Easter Vigil. It was a joint celebration of the Hispanic and English speaking community. Nikki Pacitti and the Women’s Ministries coordinated the dinner, with Sister Imelda and the Hispanic Ministries providing part of the menu. About 325 people attended. We are planning to have a similar dinner on April 11, 2020.
Parish Dinners 2019 Report, cont.

Potlucks

Our Fourth Sunday Basilica Potluck had been suspended in summer of 2018 because of our renovation and because of lack of volunteers. In 2019, the new Young Couples ministry, headed by Christina and Andrew Bankson, took stewardship of coordinating the potlucks as a team. We were able to resume the potlucks beginning in May, except the months when the church floors were being re-sanded and we were having Masses in Varallo Parish Hall. The potluck attendance has increased and includes folks who are attending the other Masses besides the Missa Cantata. The September potluck included a surprise celebration for Fr. Carter’s 40th birthday, planned by the Women’s Ministries. Plans for 2020 are to have a potluck every month.

Parish Pastoral Council 2019 Report

2019 Members:
Joe Pricer – Chair (Homeschool)
Debbie Cliché – Vice Chair
Candace Brown (Youth Rep)
Kody Cooper (Young Families)
Jonah Coronis (Young Adults)
Debi Crabtree (Technology/Music)
Warren Diegel (Liturgical Ministries)
Veronica Herrera (Hispanic Ministry)
Guadalupe Morales (Hispanic Ministry)
John Porter (Daily Mass-goers)
Christina Sapala (Women’s Ministries)
Jimmy Turner (New Converts)

Ex Officio:
Very Rev. J. David Carter, Pastor and Rector
Rev. Colin Blatchford, Vicar
Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano
Dcn. Tom McConnell
Dcn. Hicks Armor
Sr. Imelda Quechol
Corinne Henderson, Chair of Finance Council
Maria Rist (Recorder)

In 2019, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) met Jan. 22, Mar. 14, May 2, Aug. 8, and Sept. 26, with the Parish Ministries Town Hall Meeting on Nov. 12. In lieu of an Advent dinner originally scheduled for Dec. 12, the council is invited to attend the Roueché Chorale concert that will be offered at the Basilica on that date.

Parish Pastoral Council Dates for 2020
Wed., Mar. 10 Mar. 25, 2020, 6:30-8:00pm – PPC Meeting
Wed., May 20, 2020, 6-7:30pm – PPC Meeting
Wed., Aug. 19, 2020, 6-7:30pm – PPC Meeting
Wed., Oct. 7, 2020, 6-7:30pm – PPC Meeting
Wed., Nov. 4, 2020, 6-7:30pm – Parish Ministries Town Hall Meeting
Wed., Dec. 16, 2020, 6pm – PPC Advent Dinner
Wed., Jan. 20, 2021, 6-7:30pm – PPC Meeting

Over the past year, the Parish Pastoral Council did the following:

- Heard Facilities Engineering and Maintenance Committee (FEMAC) and Finance Council advice on the needs of the parish.
- Shared “celebrations” of good things happening in the parish
Parish Pastoral Council 2019 Report, cont.

- Discussed topics Fr. Carter presented for consultation, such as the results of our liturgical questionnaire, the Forty Hours Devotion, the need for major repairs, the budget shortfall, stewardship, the parish photo directory and census, and unity in our celebration of Sacraments
- Brought ideas to Fr. Carter, such as the initiation of the annual parishioner recognition awards
- Provided a sounding board for happenings in and around the Parish.
- Began to discern Goals from the 2018 Parish Strategic Priorities.

Pro-Life Ministry 2019 Report

Pro-life events at the Basilica in 2019:

- Rosary for Life and placing Crosses in front of rectory for anniversary of Roe v Wade, January 2019
- Baby Bottle drive for Catholic Charities Pregnancy Help Center, the weekends of March 9 & 17 (1st two weekends of Lent)
- NFP classes – spring classes
- Participated in Forty Hours Devotion
- Celebration of Community Baptisms
- Churching of Women rite is now being done before Baptisms

Ideas for future pro-life outreach:

- Promote spiritual adoption prayer
- Mass with blessing for expectant moms – Fr. Carter has given this blessing in the past
- Mass/blessing for those who lost children to miscarriage (on The Annunciation)
- Blessing for mothers who have given birth within past year (on The Annunciation)
- Sign up for a Basilica day for 40 Days for Life at abortion facility in Marietta, GA if there is enough interest
- Basilica Holy Hour for Life – maybe once a semester?
- Additional Rosary for life during October, Respect Life month
- Promote attendance at national March for Life in Washington, DC
- Help youth raise funds to attend March for Life
- Promote the Georgia March for Life in Atlanta
- Bioethics educational series on end of life, stem cell research, contraception, NFP
- Promoting meals for new mothers, sick, elderly
- Encourage pro-life voting
- Diaper drive for maternity home/ CPC
- Caroling at a nursing home – St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op is caroling at The Home Place on December 5 at Noon
RCIA Ministry 2019 Report  
by Dan Pacitti

RCIA staff has undergone another change this year, as Terry Jones has needed to head the Trail Life Ministry, leaving one coordinator. We have had a lower turnout this year for attendees so far, numbering 8 regular attendees so far (4 catechumens and 4 candidates). As last year, there were 3 or 4 who expressed interest and even filled out the initial survey but who did not then attend or respond to further email or text. There has been great support from the parish so far with interest in presenting topics and providing food/refreshments. Coordination with The Deacon’s Table for space and combined refreshments will start soon and possibly provide some capability for a combined class or two depending on topic.

Diocesan Reporting is currently on time and up to date, and the next area of focus will be garnering sponsors/god parents and making sure they are aware of the responsibilities and getting them in contact with the catechumens and candidates.

Expenditures for RCIA remain small, as the Bibles purchased last year are still a source for the class, as well as some income from the sale of religious books from various sources. The biggest expense at this time is for refreshments, but this is offset by volunteers who offer to bring them for a class.

In October, Danielle Jones organized a used book sale to sell surplus books from the RCIA collection and the parish library. The sale generated over $300 to benefit the RCIA program.

Receptions 2019 Report  
by Maria Rist

Florence Porter, with the support of our parish Women’s Ministries, coordinates the major receptions for special events such as the sacramental celebrations, concerts/recitals.

- Altar Dedication Mass with Bishop Stika Sun., December 23, 2018 at 10am
- Chattanooga Bach Choir concert Sat., January 26, 2019 at 7:30 pm
- Confirmation Sat., June 29, 2019 at 5:30 pm Mass
- Organ Recital by Dr. Sarah Harr on Sun., September 29, 2019 at 5pm
- Requiem Choral Concert on November 10, 2019 at 5pm

Florence and her crew once again provided lovely receptions for both of these concerts. These receptions have been funded almost entirely by donations from our volunteers. In the coming year we anticipate the need for receptions for the following events:

- Chattanooga Bach Choir concert Sat., Feb. 22, 2020 at 8:00 pm
- Under One Roof benefit concert for the Basilica Mar. 29, 2020 at 6:00pm
- Confirmation Sat., June 27, 2020 at 5:30 pm Mass
- Other concerts and events TBA
Religious Education Ministry 2019 Report
by Danielle Stradley

2019
September 8th – start of RE
October 20th – Child Safety Class
November 1st – All Saints Procession and party
December 1st – no class Thanksgiving
December 22nd – no class Christmas
December 28th – Christmas Pageant – following 5:30 Mass
December 29th – no class New Years

2020
February 8th – Father/Daughter dance 6:30pm following 5:30 Mass
March 21st – Confirmation Retreat 9am-3pm
March 29th – 1st Communion Penance between Masses 10:15-11:15
April 5th – no class Palm Sunday
April 12th – no class Easter
May 10th – no class May Crowning
May 17th – Last day of RE classes
June 13th – 1st Communion retreat and reception 9am-12:30
June 14th – 1st Communion at 11:30 Mass
June 27th – Confirmation at 5:30 Mass
July 6th – July 10th – VBS
September 13th – first day of RE
November 1st – All Saints Procession and party
November 28th – no class Thanksgiving

2019-20 Activities

For 2019-20 class year we have 135 students enrolled, with 21 (English) preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and 17 for First Holy Communion.

This is our second year with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium. The children are loving it. We currently have 22 children in this class. We have been blessed with grant funds from the diocese to set up the Atrium so we have not had to come out of pocket as of yet. We are currently splitting costs of the Atrium with the St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op, who use it during the week. We are hoping to set up a second level atrium for next year assuming we can get the teachers trained in time.

We will be presenting our second annual Christmas play this year after the 5:30 Mass on December 28th followed by a reception.

Last year we hosted our first Father/Daughter dance, which was a huge success. After all expenses we still had $50 left over which we donated to the RCIA for the Welcome Baskets. We will be sponsoring another Father/Daughter dance on February 8th, open to the whole church body. Tickets will go sale after the Christmas holiday.

This past summer, we hosted our third Parish Vacation Bible School entitled “Hidden Treasures of Our Catholic Faith”. We had roughly 60+ kids from both the English and Hispanic communities join in. We can always use more volunteers in the coming years.
Sacred Music Ministry 2019 Report
by Maria Rist

In 2019, we worked to offer sacred music at all our sung Masses according to the ideals presented by the Church. We provided music for all weekend Masses and major feast day Masses, providing a choir or cantor and usually organ for all of them (excluding the 7am). There were over twenty sung feast day liturgies outside of the Sunday Mass schedule, including the May Crowning service and our Corpus Christi procession.

We coordinated the music and liturgy plans for three funerals, 17 weddings, and eight multilingual liturgies.

We provided music for the ecumenical Candlelight Service for Babies, sponsored by Erlanger hospital.

Basilica Choir (9:00 a.m. Mass)
The Basilica Choir for the 9:00 a.m. Mass rehearses in the choir loft on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. and again on Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. right before the 9 a.m. Mass. New singers are always welcome to join the choir at a Tuesday rehearsal to prepare the music for the following Sunday’s Mass. This year we have been blessed with several new, experienced singers who moved to the Chattanooga area and chose to join the Basilica choir.

Gloria Dei Schola (11:30 Mass, Missa Cantata, and holy days)
The Gloria Dei Schola lost three singers due to personal scheduling conflicts or taking on additional responsibilities in the parish. Four new singers tried out the schola this year. Of those, we were pleased to retain two new members and to have one member step up to become a cantor.

We introduced another Gregorian chant setting of the sung Ordinary of the Mass at the 11:30 Mass: Mass XVII for Sundays of Advent and Lent. We also participated in a benefit concert for one of our singers, on February 17. On November 10, we offered a Requiem Choral Concert for the benefit of Food for the Poor.

Partnership with UTC Choral Music
We have a partnership with neighboring UTC’s Choral Department, and through that partnership last year we have enjoyed having Noah Muncy, baritone, a music scholarship student at UTC. This year we have enlisted another music student, Christine Palisoc, who is Catholic, to assume our annual choral scholarship.

Spanish Choir (“Coro”)
The choir and sacred music program at the Spanish Mass have been greatly assisted by the addition of the organ, played by choir member, Delmar Ramirez Perez. Also, Fr. Santiago Gassín Ordoñez again visited in September and with his experience and zeal he inspired the choir to learn some beautiful songs of the Spanish culture that we are now singing in our Spanish and bilingual Masses. For this coming year, we are replacing our OCP missalettes, which do not contain any printed music, with St. Ignatius pew missals/hymnals that include many traditional Spanish and Latin songs, as well as the whole of the sung Mass in Spanish and Latin, and the proper antiphon texts from the Graduale Romanum (as we sing at our other Masses).

Jubilate Deo Youth Schola
We now have a range of levels of singers and are splitting our classes into two levels. Our advanced singers (the “Golds”) join the adult schola once a month and sang in our November 10 concert. Our newer singers are getting more practice at learning the traditional chants of the Church. Gretchen von Peters has joined our teaching staff to facilitate these multiple levels.

**Organ Program**

Following our church renovation in 2018, the organ was dismantled in January to remove debris that had collected in the bell tower over the years, a cleaning it needed to keep functioning. It required us to do without the organ again during Lent. At Easter we had the joy of hearing our historic pipe organ, completed with 122 new pipes that were part of its original design, a project made possible through the generosity of many parishioners, who raised over $36,000 within a month’s time, as well as a timely bequest for the organ from one of our past parishioners. Once again, this summer, we had to do without the organ as the parish moved to Varallo Parish Hall for Mass. We are now back in the church and have since enjoyed an organ recital and a schola concert.

Because of the transition out of all All Saints Academy, our organist, Andrea Tierney is no longer teaching in the St. Cecilia Room. However, she teaches five student organists in the parish. She is also now studying a Graduate Certificate program at Salem College: Injury-preventive Keyboard Technique. The knowledge gained in this program will aid her as a teacher of young organ and piano students, as well as help her maintain a long career of playing.

**Concerts**

- Our concerts for the 2018-19 season were fewer because of the two renovation periods:
  - Our Jubilate Deo Youth Schola presented their second concert at Alexian Village on December 19, 2018. This concert will include special choral pieces as well as Christmas carols. We hope to do another concert in December 21, 2020.
  - On Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 7:30pm, the Chattanooga Bach Choir, in collaboration with Voci Virili and Voice of Reason, offered our inaugural concert of Rachmaninoff’s All-Night Vigil after the sanctuary renovation.
  - On February 17, 2019, Noah Muncy presented a vocal recital, with the addition of the Gloria Dei Schola and his Barbershop Quartet.

- The 2019-2020 season is the first for which we have put together and promoted a concert series in advance. The program details are as follows:
  - September 29, 2019 5:00 pm - Organ Recital by Dr. Sarah Harr, FAGO: The Life & Legacy of Paul Manz: 1919-2019
  - November 10, 2019 5:00 pm - Requiem Concert by Gloria Dei Schola to benefit for Food for the Poor
  - December 12 & 13, 2019 7:00 pm - Roueché Chorale & Orchestra Candlelight Lessons & Carols
  - December 19, 2019 3:00 pm - Jubilate Deo Youth Schola Concert at Alexian Village Town Hall in Signal Mountain, TN
  - February 22, 2020 8:00 pm Chattanooga Bach Choir & Orchestra - Beethoven Mass in C*
  - March 29, 2020 6:00 pm - Mozart Coronation Mass, Misa Criolla in Spanish, and more - with Chattanooga Girls Choir, McCallie Boys Choir, Voci Virili, Voice of Reason* - benefit for the historic Basilica “Under One Roof”.

Looking ahead to a 2020-21 concert series, we are planning a sacred music concert on **October 4, 2020**, to feature our sacred music program. The concerts we offer serve to unify our parish community as well as bring more visitors to the Basilica. The donations collected for our program of concerts exceed the cost.
Sacristan Ministry 2019 Report
by Amy Long

Recurring and Special Events

Sacristans will set-up before Mass and clean up after Mass for the 2020 calendar year.

A Sacristan is scheduled for each weekend Mass, special liturgy Masses and noon weekday Mass time.

Activities in 2019

A Sacristan training session was held for all current Sacristans. The focus was to go over the correct set up and take down procedures for the mass as well as to begin to learn how to set the books.

New Sacristan training was held for parishioners wishing to become a part of the Sacristan ministry.

Planned Activities for 2020

More training sessions will be held for both new and current Sacristans.

Security Committee 2019 Report
by Marvin Scott and Curt Dearing

The Security Team did not fulfill all the projected meetings and training for 2019. One of the tactical members, FBI Agent Chris Bower changed churches and now attends in Fort Oglethorpe. However, we did provide armed security coverage for three Masses every weekend for the entire year. We also recruited two new Security Team Members Jimmy Turner and Shawn Tobin.

In July 2019 two CPR classes were offered for the Ushers and the Security Team members. To my knowledge, there were no participants.

On 10/26/2019 Sister Imelda we began the process for finding Spanish/English bilingual speakers that are legal residents of the United States, have no criminal background, and can acquire their Concealed Weapon Carry Permit. These individuals can then act as Security Team members during the Hispanic Mass.

Proposed Security Committee Meetings for 2020:

- January 2020, Continue to Evaluate Hispanic Community for Emergency Preparedness and Active Shooter Response. Word of mouth recruitment.
- April 2020, offer another CPR and First Aid Certification for Ushers and Security Team Members (STMs)
- July 2020, Biannual Meeting for Emergency Response and Active Shooter Hands-on Training with Ushers and STMs.
- August 2020, Safety and Proficiency Training and Assessment
- November 2019, Biannual meeting for Emergency Response and Active Shooter Hands-on Training with Ushers and STMs.
- November 2019, Safety and Proficiency Training and Assessment
St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op 2019 Report
by Sandy Pricer

- Our goal and mission is to strengthen our children’s Catholic faith and knowledge.
- We currently have 20 homeschooling families which makes up 40+ students.
- We were founded in January 2015. We started so that Catholic homeschooling families in the Chattanooga area could have a strong Catholic homeschooling community to help strengthen their children’s knowledge and education. Not just in schooling but our faith as well.
- For 2020, we will continue to enrich our homeschooling families with Catholic materials, classes and activities. In a strong Catholic community with our Catholic values, history and teachings enforced.
- We currently offer Theology, Sciences, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, art, PE, Spanish, civics, economics and Latin. For grades Pre-K through high school. We also have a nursery for our littles.
- We participate in service projects that help our parish and local community throughout the year.
- Yearly we host 3 fundraisers (Advent candle sale, Parents Night Out with Youth Group and Bake sale. Not only do these fundraisers benefit the Co-op but gives us an opportunity to donate items needed to the parish as well.
- Our teachers are our students parents, our parish priests and members of our parish family.

Stewardship Ministry 2019 Report

A new Stewardship Committee was formed by Fr. Carter to address the Finance Council’s recommendation that we should engage more of our parishioners in financial stewardship of our parish. The goal is 100% participation among registered parishioners, at any level of giving. The committee developed the following plan.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP PLAN (2019 – 2020)
BASILICA OF STS. PETER & PAUL
by Craig Ingvalson

KEY DATES:

October 13, 2019 – Announcement of Stewardship Sunday
October 20, 2019 – Stewardship Sunday (#1) – in pew pledge cards
October 27, 2019 – Stewardship Sunday (#2) – in pew pledge cards
NOTES TO INFORM PROCESS:

1) Increase frequency of messaging
   a. Homily message connected with readings (1 X every 6-8 weeks)
   b. Announcement time updates (1 X every 6-8 weeks, in off weeks)
   c. Email blasts with updates, fund uses, gift appeals (1 X 6-8 weeks)
   d. Press for signed pledge forms through February, 2020
      i. Direct mail, in pews, email blasts
   e. Keep envelopes in pews year round (with pencils)

2) Battle against feelings of complacency about the financial situation of the Basilica

3) Create a Stewardship Calendar

4) Create a Cultivation plan for year-round stewardship
   a. Identify lead gift donors
   b. Organize cultivation events, starting in Spring, 2020
      i. Basilica Tours
      ii. Casual group discussions about strategic plan (luncheons?)
      iii. In home focus group/updates
      iv. Peer to peer fundraising for lead gifts (join me in making a gift)

STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR

A draft calendar was presented to Fr. Carter, with the request that it be revised to meet other needs of the Liturgical Calendar and the tone of an increased message about the need for financial support.

In one year …
Parish emails – 9, announcements – 7, homily message – 6, events - 4

Technology 2019 Report
by Joe Pricer and Maria Rist

Projects completed during 2019
- Ongoing IT support and upgrades
- Continued use of the parish website, Facebook, and myParish cell phone app to increase communication and engage parishioners in the parish
Technology 2019 Report, cont.

- Implemented the MailChimp email service to communicate with our members, compliant with guidelines to prevent spam and to keep members’ email addresses private. Parish emails sent to groups are now able to be sent through this system also.
- Added Flickr page to host Basilica event photo albums, and began filling this page with many of the special event photos on our Facebook page.
- At the completion of the renovation, sound was installed in the sacristy, nursery (also has video), and hallway by the Ombrellino Gift Shop.
- Moved sound system to be used for Mass in Varallo Hall during floor re-sanding.
- Began regular sound recordings of homilies in the summer of 2019.
- Installed outlets for microphones at the front pews, to record concerts.
- Made a sound recording of the Chattanooga Bach Choir Rachmaninoff concert using these new microphone outlets.
- Made occasional sound recording of songs during Mass.
- Began using A/V for The Deacon’s Table weekly.
- Rolled out a parish FORMED subscription.

Plans under discussion for 2019

- Training of parishioners to better help with sound recordings.
- Manage additional A/V needs.

The Deacon’s Table 2019 Report

by Dcn. Tom McConnell

The concept for “The Deacon’s Table” was born in late 2018 and launched in January 2019, to embellish a “Sunday School” concept and setting for adults where spirituality could be planted, nurtured, and enhanced. The vision is for the “Table” to provide a three-legged stool of spirituality from which the spiritual life of Catholics is fed in three vital areas: an active prayer life, a committed personal relationship with Jesus, and a comfortable enthusiasm and love for the Bible. The mid-term objective is to create well informed and resourced active disciples of Christ. The long-term objective is to explore opportunities for wide-reaching and continuing forums and venues to pollenate the parish with enlivened spirituality and discipleship…all focused on empowering total living of one’s Catholic faith.

We currently meet every Sunday, 10:15-11:15, in the Mahoney Conference Room. Facility space and funding will continue to be challenges for the near future.

In 2019, we saw the following accomplishments:

1. Grew out of the Schmidt Conference Room after the first session!
4. Are now at the limits of the Mahoney Conference Room!
5. Many of our attendees are parents of children attending PRE at the same time on Sunday mornings.
6. During the summer, we moved into the RE Building and also provided a “Kids’ Table” session simultaneous with the “Adults’ Table”
7. Our roster currently stands at a total of 52 members and our attendance averages 25-30
8. We are about half way finished with the third leg of our spirituality stool on the Bible.
9. We will next address active discipleship.
The Deacon’s Table 2019 Report, cont.

In 2019-20 I hope to explore the following:

10. Look for a larger facility with A/V and kitchen
11. Investigate evolving into the establishment of small neighborhood Share/Prayer/Study/Fellowship groups…waiting on completion of our parochial map (Sam Martin)
12. Explore future sessions on Spirituality led by Brenda and me on a social media platform or at a place outside Basilica grounds
13. Explore more adult formation opportunities in a “coffee house” setting, “Theology on Tap”, etc.

May God richly bless all the ministries of the Basilica!

Trail Life USA 2019 Report
by Terrance Jones

Trail Life is in its second year as a ministry at the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul. The loss of the Ohotnicky family has been a struggle both in terms of the leadership provided by Peter Ohotnicky and the loss of his three boys, experienced Trailmen all. Even still, we have added two new families and three boys and continue to attempt to grow the Troop organically. We have completed one family camp out this fall and have plans for another in the spring. Trail Life also has the benefit of the involvement of several of our Eagle Scout parishioners who volunteer with the Troop even though they do not have sons of their own who are Trailman aged. The Trail Life troop remains a ministry opportunity for the parish. In particular, we are looking for someone who can come in and run a fund-raising campaign to allow for the purchase of camping equipment which will allow us to make camping available for all our members.

Usher/Greeter Ministry 2019 Report
by J. Cameron Yunker

In the past year the Ushers/Greeters for the Vigil Mass, 9 am, and 11:30 Mass have continued to develop and train with the security teams in emergency response plans for a number of situations. This training was used first hand at several Masses and the usher staff was available to respond and assist with the visitor(s) and other local first responders in emergency situations such as illnesses and suspicious parties. The ushers have also been working on continuing to present ourselves in a more formal fashion, more suitable to Basilica Ushers. Everyone is continuing to wear our usher sashes and the Knights of Columbus members wear their name tags at each Mass. In addition to our previous duties, we also assisted with the move to VPH and back upstairs in the sanctuary for the floor renovations. The Ushers have also assisted parishioners with the use of the new altar rail. Both the ushers/ greeters ministry and Hispanic ministries united and served together in several capacities this year including: Ash Wednesday, Easter Triduum Masses, Confirmation Mass, and All Saints Day Mass and other bilingual Masses. The two communities were able to unite as one and serve the parish in a positive manner. The ushers and greeters also served the local community by assisting at our local concerts and organ recitals. We are looking forward to growing in the ministry in the next year and announcements will be placed in the bulletin for training and signing up to serve in the ministry.

We are also expanding our team of Greeters, Ushers, and Announcers at the Missa Cantata, to better welcome people and orient them to the resources for following the Mass.
Women’s Ministries 2019 Report
by Nikki Pacitti

The women’s ministries umbrella was established throughout November 2017 and 2018. At the December 2017 meeting, the ladies voted to have an executive chair or co-chairs managing the umbrella. The office of chair will be for a two-year term and cannot be held in consecutive years by the same person (people). Christina Sapala and Nicole Pacitti will finish their term in December 2019. The following sub-ministries have been consistently active throughout 2019: The Motherhood group, Bereavement / Hospitality, and the Council of Catholic Women.

The Motherhood group has two meetings each month. The morning group meets on the second Tuesday of each month and discusses a book or theological topic. There are about 7-10 Ladies who consistently attended. The evening group meets on the last Wednesday of the month. They originally were discussing another book from the morning but then shifted to a fellowship evening out. There are another 7-10 Ladies who consistently attend the evening group. The Motherhood group is also very active in providing meal train meals to families who have a new baby, but on occasion to mothers who are recovering from surgery.

The Bereavement / Hospitality needs of the parish have been coordinated by Florence Porter for the past two years. Florence does an excellent job of organizing the kitchen and the help needed. She is brilliant at planning menus and breaking them down to individual donation sizes. Florence works tirelessly to ensure that the Hall is always welcoming. Unfortunately, Florence invariably fights an uphill battle with getting food dropped off, help serving, and clean up. I fear the next year will see far fewer parish dinners when the parish office is unable to step in to offset the deficit.

The Council of Catholic Women is becoming inactive at our parish. There are two members who regularly attend parish council meetings. However, active members of the Basilica CCW are active at St. Jude and OLPH. Currently, they are happy traveling to vibrant programs. If the Basilica CCW wishes to reestablish its activity level, hopefully those members will return.

Young Adults Ministry 2019
by Jonah Coronis

Over the past year, a dominant part of the Young Adult Ministry (approximately between the ages of 18-30) has been the Chattanooga Young Catholic Singles Group that began last May. There were a few meetings that were good for fellowship as well as for formation in studying the Gospels through lectio divina, a popular type of Bible Study. However, there was not much fruit in regards to the initial intention of helping to facilitate relationships oriented towards Marriage. In addition, the numbers dwindled more and more each time.

For this reason, the initiative has been put on hold so that the Contact Person for Young Adults and Young Adult Representative on the Parish Pastoral Council, Jonah Coronis could pursue initiatives that he believes will better help to the young adults of the parish to better grow in discipleship. For example, Jonah seeks to make Adoration more known to the Young Adults as the Eucharist is truly Jesus, who is well needed in the young adult communities. As well, Jonah intends on helping members of the already existing citywide Young Adult group “Catholic Chatt” to be more integrated in the opportunities happening at the Basilica. Catholic Chatt meets regularly every week for a Bible Timeline study or a social night on Sunday nights as well as men’s and women’s nights on Monday Nights.
Jonah is also open to any suggestions or contacts that would help Young Adults in the parish to understand their sonship or daughterhood in God.
Young Couples Ministry 2019
by Christina Bankson

The Young Couples Ministry began this year in May, and it is led by Andrew and Christina Bankson. The ministry resurrected the 4th Sunday Basilica Potluck following the Missa Cantata. We organize the potluck meal sign-ups, setup, serve the food as well as clean up after the dinners. The potlucks have received an enthusiastic response from attendees and parishioners and it seems we are meeting a great need and helping foster community at the Basilica, thanks be to God! Average attendance at the potlucks has been around 120.

Christina has received countless emails from young couples who attend the Basilica and other Catholic parishes in the Chattanooga area and are interested in this ministry. All of them ask what the ministry does and how they can participate. Christina then tells them that we host the monthly potluck but as of yet have no other formal or regular meetings. She adds them to the Young Couples Ministry Facebook group, where she shares a link to the potluck meal sign-up and asks for volunteers to help setup. We aren't sure what to do with the cross-parish interest, as this was started to be a group for the young couples at the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul.

There is obviously an appetite to expand the activities of this ministry.

Our main challenge is getting regular participation and help from other young couples with the setup and cleanup for the potluck. This is a challenge because many of our young couples want to attend the TLM, but setting up requires that folks work during the Mass. This leaves most of the work to Andrew and Christina, which is fine aside from weekends we are out of town and unable to setup. Perhaps having a potluck volunteer sign-up sheet in the Young Couples Facebook group would help encourage more participation in setup.

We had one official Young Couples Ministry event-- a luncheon at the Hiscock home on June 30, 2019. We ate lunch and fellowshipped together, and used this event to help everyone get to know one another better. There was a great turnout.

Due to job changes for Andrew, Christina and Andrew will be moving to Atlanta in February 2020, and as such will be looking for couples to whom we can pass the baton to lead the ministry when we move. Christina has spoken with Laurel Hoover and Katie Bird, and we are planning to get together and discuss possible directions for the Young Couples Ministry, as well as talk about handing leadership to another couple or group of couples. We also will discuss potential goals and events the Ministry will have, such as lead a Bible study from Ascension Presents, have events at folks’ homes, etc.

As of yet, the Young Couples Ministry only hosts the monthly Basilica Potluck, but it seems there is a hunger and need for the ministry to do more. This will likely evolve organically and through more conversation with young couples, but our hopes and prayers are that the ministry will grow to have regular events and active participation in the potlucks.
Youth Ministry 2019 Report  
by Kalista Bartee

This year, our youth program has gone through many changes. Debbie Cliche stepped down from her role as youth minister and the program was briefly sustained by our wonderful volunteer team until Kalista Bartee took over leadership of the ministry. Over the summer, our students met every week at local parks for dinner and fellowship with games and activities.

With the start of the new school year, our group began our regular meetings on Sundays from 6:00-8:30pm in our new youth room at All Saints academy. The youth rooms included a space for fellowship and for teaching, and the students were very excited to have their own space at the parish. Although we are sad to be losing use of this space, we are thankful for the time we spent there and are looking forward to finding a new home for our ministry. In the meantime, the youth group will continue meeting on Sundays in the parish hall. There are currently about 20-25 students attending on a regular basis.

We have also been blessed with free access to a dynamic curriculum we have been using to lead our lessons and continue faith formation with the teens at our parish. The program is series based, and each month has a different theme/message.

The youth are hosting a trivia fundraiser on November 16th, 2019 and will use the proceeds for basic needs of our ministry (you can only imagine how much food 20 teenagers can go through!) We will also be using the proceeds to help offset the costs/provide scholarships for students to attend events like conferences, camps, and retreats. Youth conferences often provide an environment where teens encounter Christ’s love and message in a way they have never experienced before, and it can be life changing. We want to make these opportunities available to ALL students, regardless of their financial ability to attend.

Our students attend local events with other parishes in Chattanooga and Kalista attends meetings with the youth ministers from our area once a month to provide training and support. Downtown youth ministry is co-hosting a high school retreat in January that is open to all local youth groups. This is the first year of this event, and will take place at Ocoee retreat center. The weekend will include speakers, activities, worship, adoration, and Mass. Our high schoolers will also have the opportunity to attend the Steubenville Conference in Atlanta, GA next July.

Our ministry is still in need of more adult volunteers to help on Sundays as well as people who would take on the task of praying for our ministry. Our goals over the next year include growing our ministry, finding a designated meeting space for the youth group, and making the youth a more active and visible presence in our parish.