



Annual Report 2017

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

8710 Mount Vernon Hwy.
Alexandria, VA 22309
Phone: (703) 780-4055
<http://www.gs-cc.org>

PARISH STATISTICS

Sunday and Weekday Liturgies	780+
Altar Servers	101
Parish Families	3,527
Members	10,999
Faith Formation Students	1,198
Professions of Faith	6
Sacraments Celebrated	
• Baptism	
Infants to 7 years:	222
Age 7 and older:	56
• Confirmation	158
• First Eucharist	239
• Weddings	55
• Funerals	49

A LOOK INSIDE

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Issued: October 1, 2017	

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER TOM FERGUSON, PASTOR

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

It has been one year since our parish received national recognition for the wise, prudent and generous ways we use the gifts and talents God has given us for God's glory and the good of our neighbor.

As we present another Annual Stewardship Report, we have many reasons to be grateful. We are grateful for our faith, our parish, God's goodness to us, our prosperity and the generosity of all of our parishioners.

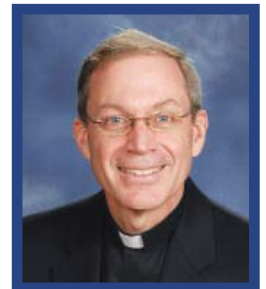
In this annual parish report, we see a reflection of the commitment to stewardship which marks the life of Good Shepherd Church – vibrant prayer and worship, enthusiastic faith formation programs, compassionate service to

others and a hospitable environment where all are welcome!

Thank you for your generous support of Good Shepherd during this past year – and with a commitment to continuing the legacy of wise and prudent stewardship for which we are known, may we continue to be a parish in which we recognize that in all we do, we are bringing to life the message of Jesus that the Kingdom of God is at hand!

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Rev. Thomas P. Ferguson
Pastor



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

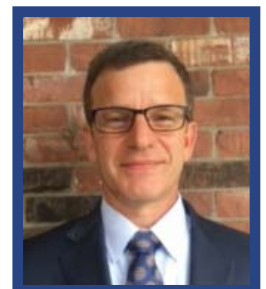
On behalf of the Finance Council, I wish to extend our sincere appreciation for your continued financial support. Thanks to your generous financial support and the efforts of the parish staff to minimize expense, we were able to end the year with a modest financial surplus.

In addition to your financial generosity, we are blessed to have many parishioners who are willing to share their time and talent so that we, as a community, can foster and develop our faith.

I encourage each of you to review the annual report which highlights the many activities and accomplishments of our parish programs and ministries. Thanks for all that you do to ensure the continued success of our parish.

Sincerely,

Tom Miller
Finance Council
Chair



STEWARDSHIP YEAR IN REVIEW

In **Fiscal Year 2017**, we continue to be a parish of vibrant worship, comprehensive faith formation programs for all ages, a strong social ministry, welcoming fellowship, and a broad understanding of our God-given gifts of time, talent, and treasure.



JULY / AUGUST, 2016

- **Vacation Bible School** - children, teens and adults learn about *Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace*.
- **Youth** - Middle and High School WorkCamp, Pick-up Soccer, Drop-In, Stand-Up Paddleboarding, World Youth Day in Washington "Krakow in the Capital", Bike ride to National Harbor.
- **Adult Faith Formation** - Summer Bible Study "Conversion" presented by Bishop Robert Barron.
- **FORMED** - Online platform subscription (free): Catholic Books, Videos, Movies on demand.
- **Gran Boda** - ("Big Wedding") parish couples celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage.
- **Feast of the Savior of the World** - Patron Saint of El Salvador, Mass with Father Zacarias Martinez.

SEPTEMBER, 2016

- **42nd Annual International Festival** - celebration for family, friends, and neighbors to raise funds for the community. 3,000+ people attend, 350+ volunteers participate throughout the three day event: White Elephant (the largest yard sale in Alexandria), 5K Race / 1M Run, Multicultural Mass and Festival Day.
- **Faith Formation Classes (K-8)** - 1,140 students enrolled with 160 catechists.
- **Adult Faith Formation Classes** - Scripture, Church History and Church Teaching.
- **Birthday of The Blessed Virgin Mary** - procession, Rosary and fellowship.
- **Youth** - students participate in the Kick-Off party. New Scout group for boys and girls.
- **Peace and Justice Symposium** - Catholics and Politics: Faithful and Engaged Citizens.

OCTOBER, 2016

- **Stewardship Award** - Good Shepherd Church is the recipient of the 2016 Thomas J. Murphy Award from the International Catholic Stewardship Council. Staff members make a presentation at the Annual Stewardship Conference.
- **Bishop Emeritus Loverde** - celebrates the Sacrament of Confirmation for 152 Middle and High School candidates.
- **Pilgrimage to Mount St. Mary** - Father Tom leads parishioners and families.
- **Mother's Group Rummage Sale** - semi-annual yard sale.
- **Small Acts of Mercy Weekend** - Mass with Anointing of the Sick, Super Service Saturday, Homeless Campout and Ministry Fair.
- **Truck Purchase** - GS partners with St. Louis and St. Mary parishes to benefit St. Lucy's project of Catholic Charities.
- **High School Lock-In and Diocesan High School Rally** - fun and faith events for our youth.
- **Counseling Services** - Catholic Charities begins providing counseling services at GSCC on a sliding scale fee.



Thomas J. Murphy Award

NOVEMBER, 2016

- **Mass of Remembrance** - Mass for deceased family, friends, and parishioners who died in the past year.
- **Holiday Grief Workshop** - for those experiencing the loss of loved ones.

- **Human Trafficking Panel** – presentation with guests and Father Tom Ferguson.
- **Fair Trade Sale** – CRS provides holiday gifts made under fair and just conditions.
- **Our Lady of Divine Providence** – Mass in Honor of the Patroness of Puerto Rico.
- **Reina de la Paz** – Celebration of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Patroness of El Salvador.
- **Jesse Tree Family event** – the ornaments tell the Christmas Story from Creation to the birth of Jesus, and show Jesus’ ‘family tree’ through Scriptures.



Parish Jesse Tree, 2016

DECEMBER, 2016

- **Bishop Michael F. Burbidge** – becomes fourth bishop of the Diocese of Arlington and celebrates Mass at Good Shepherd.
- **Volunteer Teams Staff VIC-HOP** – (Ventures in Community Hypothermia Project).
- **Holy Hour for Peace** – for victims of violence and prayers for healing and peace in our nation.
- **Advent Celebrations** – Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Guadalupe (including mañanitas), Retreats, Evening of Reconciliation, Lessons and Carols Concert, Las Posadas, and Journey to the Manger.
- **Giving Tree** - hundreds of gifts collected for area children.
- **Diocese Youth Ministry Excellence Award** – to Miguel De Angel and YM Volunteer of the Year, Nelson Gómez.
- **Decorate for Christmas** - youth help decorate the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington DC.
- **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses** – parishioners and visitors celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord.
- **Pilgrimage to the Franciscan Monastery** – Father Tom leads a pilgrimage and celebrates Mass.
- **New Year’s Eve Eucharistic Adoration** – all day adoration to the Blessed Sacrament.

JANUARY, 2017

- **Crèche Exhibit** – a display of parishioner’s crèches highlights the Holy Family.
- **Feast of the Epiphany** – Father Tom and Father Luis distribute crowns to children at Mass.
- **Life is Very Good** – youth participate in Evening of Prayer, Rally and March for Life.
- **March for Life** – GS and St. Louis parishioners attend with the Knights of Columbus.
- **Healing Mass** – (Spanish) with Rev. Eugenio Hoyos. 1,500+ attendees at Mt Vernon HS.
- **Middle School Confirmation Retreat** – for 112 students, hosted by NET Ministries.
- **Mass of Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate** – parishioner Mike O’Neil ordained a permanent deacon.



Deacon Mike O’Neil

FEBRUARY, 2017

- **Valentine Dinner and Dance** – fellowship, fun, and fundraiser for Progreso Literacy Center.
- **Youth Events** – Ski Trip, Super Bowl Party and High School Lock-in.
- **Children’s Masses** – students serve as lectors, ushers, greeters, gift bearers, choir and provide fellowship.
- **Mardi Gras Party** – celebration of the last night before the beginning of Lent.

MARCH, 2017

- **Pilgrimage to St. John Paul II Shrine** – Father Tom leads and celebrates Mass.
- **Care for Creation Workshop** – about the importance of protecting our world.
- **Small Acts of Mercy Weekend** – Spiritual Resource Fair, and Mass with Anointing of the Sick, with optional anointing and a blessing for caregivers.
- **Parish Mission - Christ Jesus: Living Water, Light of Life** with Father Don Heet. Two Lent Retreats in Spanish.
- **Lenten Observances** – “The Light is On For You”, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross.
- **Soup and Stations of the Cross** – meals, forums on hunger and service opportunities.
- **Cross of Mercy** – parishioners place their prayers on the wooden cross in the Commons.
- **Spaghetti Dinner** – the best Italian cuisine in town is enjoyed by parishioners.



Cross of Mercy

APRIL, 2017

- **Journey to the Cross** - students' presentations of the Stations of the Cross.
- **Parish Seder** - families learn about the symbols of this traditional Jewish meal.
- **Holy Week** - Palm Sunday, Stations of the Cross and live Via Crucis, and The Triduum.
- **Easter** - parishioners and visitors celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.
- **Easter Retreat** - 8 week series on Easter Gospels featuring Father Tom and visiting clergy.
- **Divine Mercy Sunday** - Holy Hour, prayer and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.
- **Confirmation Retreat** - 150 candidates participated. Hosted by NET Ministries.
- **Potomac River Cleanup** - parishioners clean up our local Potomac watershed.
- **Feast of Saint Joseph** - procession at our church grounds.
- **Know your Rights and Immigration Workshops** - presented at St. Louis and GSCC.



River Cleanup

MAY, 2017

- **First Communion** - 233 children and teens receive the Eucharist.
- **Crowning of Mary** - students and families honor the Virgin Mary in a prayer service led by Father Ramon.
- **Adult WorkCamp** - 15 adults serve in Kentucky with the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP).
- **High School Lock-In** - overnight retreat for teens in the church.
- **Youth Recognition Dinner and Silent Auction** - \$6,600 raised for teen WorkCamp.

JUNE, 2017

- **Pentecost Party and Project Display** - Teen confirmation candidates showcase 1,400 hours of service projects.
- **Feast of Corpus Christi** - procession to reflect on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
- **Gran Boda** - "Big Wedding" 21 couples celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage.
- **Clergy Appointments** - Father Luis Quiñones is assigned as Parochial Vicar at Holy Family in Dale City and we welcome Father Milton Acevedo as Parochial Vicar.
- **V Encuentro** ("Fifth Encounter") - an evangelization initiative of the Bishops of the United States is launched in our parish (see back page for details).
- **Financial Workshop** - managing money, setting and achieving financial goals.
- **Lighting Renovation Project** - large-scale effort begins to improve lighting in church, plus other enhancements.



Welcome, Father Milton!

LOVING AS CHRIST LOVES, SERVING AS CHRIST SERVES

- 500** Liturgical volunteers; Altar Servers, Cantors & Choir Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors
- 160** Catechists teach the good news to over 1,000 children, teens, and adults
- 75,000** Pounds of food collected for United Community Ministries and Catholic Charities' St. Lucy's Project
- 960** Cards sent to homebound, grieving or hospitalized parishioners
- 100** Fellowship events - Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfasts, Coffee & Donuts, Food Sale, Single Seniors, Senior Bingo, Mother's Group and more!
- 56** Prayer Quilts made for parishioners in need of prayer and comfort
- 100** Baby and Maternity items collected for MaRih Pregnancy Center
- 350** Volunteers for International Festival events

FAITH - FUN - FELLOWSHIP AS WE SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER

- Couples Group** - social and spiritual activities for couples of all ages.
- Alzheimer's Support Group** - in cooperation with the Alzheimer's Association of National Capital Area.
- Small Faith Groups** - Lay Carmelites, Cursillo.
- Parents Group** - for parents of young children; meets each week, and once a month in the evening.
- Homeschooling Community** - Enrichment Co-op for school-age children.
- Single Senior Fellowship (GSSSF)** - social, spiritual, and educational activities for singles, age 55+
- Senior Bingo** - bingo, lunch and fellowship
- Divorce Ministry** - group meets for Holy Hour followed by fellowship and discussion.
- Teen Youth Groups** - High School Group meets on Sundays; Middle School Group on Thursdays

OUR GENEROSITY TO OTHERS

FISCAL YEAR 2017

Emergency Assistance/Outreach:			
Parish Outreach	\$ 49,087		
Diocesan Emergency Assistance Grant ¹	9,013		
Other Charitable Giving	32,650		
Total Emergency Assistance/Outreach		90,750	
Grants:			
Shepherd's Gate ²	25,000		
Catholic Campaign for Human Development ³	20,000		
Matching Grants ⁴	32,000		
Total Grants		77,000	
Diocesan Directed Collections:			
Catholic Charities Christmas Collection	18,533		
Propagation of the Faith	13,803		
Bishops Lenten Appeal Pledges	391,471		
Diocesan Retired Priests Collection	10,782		
Catholic Charities USA - LA flood victims	6,070		
Hurricane Matthew Relief	5,033		
Total Diocesan Collections		\$ 445,692	
Other Parish Directed Collections:			
Knight of Columbus KOVAR	3,922		
Porto Charities	2,507		
Total Diocesan Collections		6,429	
US Catholic Bishops Directed Collections:			
		67,534	
Grand Total		\$ 687,405	

BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL



Thank you!

This year, we met and exceeded our financial goal by 11%! Thank you for your support of the Bishop's Lenten Appeal!

GRANT PROGRAMS IN DETAIL

¹Diocesan Grant

a grant from the Diocese of Arlington that supplemented the Emergency Assistance fund. Over 30 families and individuals were assisted.

²Shepherd's Gate

Funded by the net profits of the annual International Festival which supports nonprofit organizations that reflect our parish mission.

³CCHD Grant

In partnership with St. Louis church, we received a grant from CCHD for at-risk students. Over 30 at-risk students were served by these funds.

⁴Matching Grants

a grant program with Good Shepherd Housing and United Community Ministries (UCM). These funds are matched at 100%.

ELECTRONIC GIVING WITH FAITH DIRECT

Why use *Faith Direct* for your weekly offertory giving?

- **Efficiency and simplicity:** make all your contributions via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card on the 1st or the 15th of the month.
- **Consistency for our budget:** allows the parish to use our financial resources more efficiently.
- **Help the environment:** eliminates the need and expense of mailing thousands of envelopes. Strengthen our church and preserve God's green earth!

To enroll, visit: faithdirect.net Church code VA208



Safe - Secure - Reliable!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

OUR FAMILY, OUR FAITH, OUR FUTURE

Status as of June 30, 2017

Original Pledge Goal	\$ 3,500,000
Exceeded Pledge Goal by 17%	\$ 4,100,000
Total Pledges Committed	\$ 3,662,430
Total Pledges less at Risk	\$ 3,540,023
Payments Received	\$ 3,655,269
Payments % of original goal	104%
Capital Loan Balance	\$ 0

DID YOU KNOW? CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FACTS

Q - What happened to the Capital Loan? (See Financial Statement above)

A - Good news! Due to your continued generosity and steady and early capital campaign pledge payments, the capital loan, which funded the (18 month) renovations in 2012, was fully paid off in January 2017. The \$4.6M renovation was paid for from savings, operating accounts, and a capital loan. The renovations included:

- new restrooms
- new sound system in the church
- handicapped access to the church
- soundproof skyfold in Creedon Hall
- kitchen upgrades, and more.

Q - How much interest on debt was saved?

A - Due to early payments, there was over \$21,000 in savings for interest expense on the debt. Thank you!

Q - Since the loan is paid off, do I need to complete my capital pledge?

A - Yes, please! There is always a need for ongoing capital renovations. Your pledge payments replenish savings for ongoing and future projects. In June 2017, we began the **Lighting Renovation Project**, a large scale effort to improve the lighting and other enhancements to our church.

We are grateful for and blessed by the generosity of all who contributed to our Capital Campaign!



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Income and Expense Highlights

	Actual 6/30/2017	Actual 6/30/2016	Budget FY 2018
Income			
Total Collection	2,090,620	2,018,607	2,111,000
Ministry and Program Income	406,572	387,775	396,600
Fundraising and Other Income	174,433	184,695	182,700
Total Income	\$ 2,671,625	\$ 2,591,078	\$ 2,690,300
Expenditures			
Salary, benefits, taxes	\$ 1,369,603	\$ 1,284,097	\$ 1,372,570
Facility and utility	225,816	246,796	266,300
Interest on debt	5,773	31,880	-
Ministries & Programs	597,227	556,579	677,020
Fundraising (International Festival)	70,180	69,507	67,100
Assessments	242,700	247,703	248,300
Total expense	\$ 2,511,299	\$ 2,436,561	\$ 2,631,290
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 160,326	\$ 154,517	\$ 59,010
Extraordinary Income - Capital			
Campaign Pledge Payments	\$ 321,564	\$ 445,057	\$ 90,000
Other capital expenditures	182,239	49,195	270,000
Net Other Income / Loss	\$ 139,324	\$ 395,862	\$ (180,000)
Net Income/(loss)	\$ 299,651	\$ 550,379	(120,990)

Thank you for your prayers and generosity!

We are grateful for your generosity that provides for a variety of ministries that serve our large, multicultural parish. Thank you!

The Fiscal Year 2018 budget incorporates our continued commitment to:

- Worship (Liturgy and Sacraments)
- Evangelization (V Encuentro and hospitality)
- Faith Formation (children, youth and adults)
- Outreach (emergency assistance and support)
- Administration (facilities and staffing)

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	<u>6/30/2017</u>	<u>6/30/2016</u>
Operating Accounts	\$ 169,533	\$ 127,951
DIAL Savings	1,243,360	1,178,477
Other Assets	12,722	49,058
Total Assets	\$ 1,425,615	\$ 1,355,486
Liabilities and Equity		
Funds Held for Others	\$ 4,340	\$ 479
Payroll and Other Liability	90,408	88,210
Capital Loan	-	235,580
Total Equity	1,330,867	1,031,216
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 1,425,615	\$ 1,355,486

V ENCUENTRO

The V Encuentro (5th Encounter) is an initiative of the Bishops of the United States calling all Catholic leaders to listen with profound attention to the needs, challenges and aspirations of the growing Hispanic/Latino population in our country. At Good Shepherd, we are participating in the V Encuentro process by conducting a number of local/neighborhood consultations and five parish-based meetings that began this summer. These meetings helped us prepare for a general parish meeting on September 30, after which there will be a diocesan gathering on December 9, 2017.

“Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will fill the hearts of our parish and diocesan leaders as they meet to reflect on the experience, gifts and challenges of our Hispanic brothers and sisters in Christ.”

Father Tom Ferguson, Pastor



CONNECT WITH YOUR PARISH FAMILY

Pray: join us for weekly and Sunday Masses, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Learn: participate in our vibrant Faith Formation program with opportunities for children, teens and adults
Serve: help others through our active Social Ministry and outreach opportunities

Sacramental Emergencies, Hospital or
Homebound Visits, Funerals
Parish Membership - *Welcome!*
Receptionists
Baptisms
Parish Registrations
Communication Team
Website and Parish Mobile App

703-780-4055
703-780-4055 or office@gs-cc.org
office@gs-cc.org
baptisms@gs-cc.org
database@gs-cc.org
bulletin@gs-cc.org
webmaster@gs-cc.org



Website: www.gs-cc.org

Twitter: twitter.com/GoodShepherdCC

Facebook: [facebook.com/ Good Shepherd Catholic Church \(VA\)](https://facebook.com/GoodShepherdCatholicChurch(VA))

Instagram: [gsc.alexandria](https://instagram.com/gsc.alexandria)

Weekly Shepherd: to sign up, email goodshepherd@gs-cc.org

Mobile App: search GoodShepherd on Apple or Android

Blog: Shepherd's Watch, gs-cc.org/shepherds-watch-blog