

PARK CITY'S EUCHARISTIC
PROCESSION

ST. MARY'S NEW
DIRECTOR OF CHARITY

FR. SHUMWAY
ORDAINED A PRIEST

THE ASSUMPTION

ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*“Where There is Charity,
There is God”*

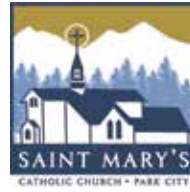
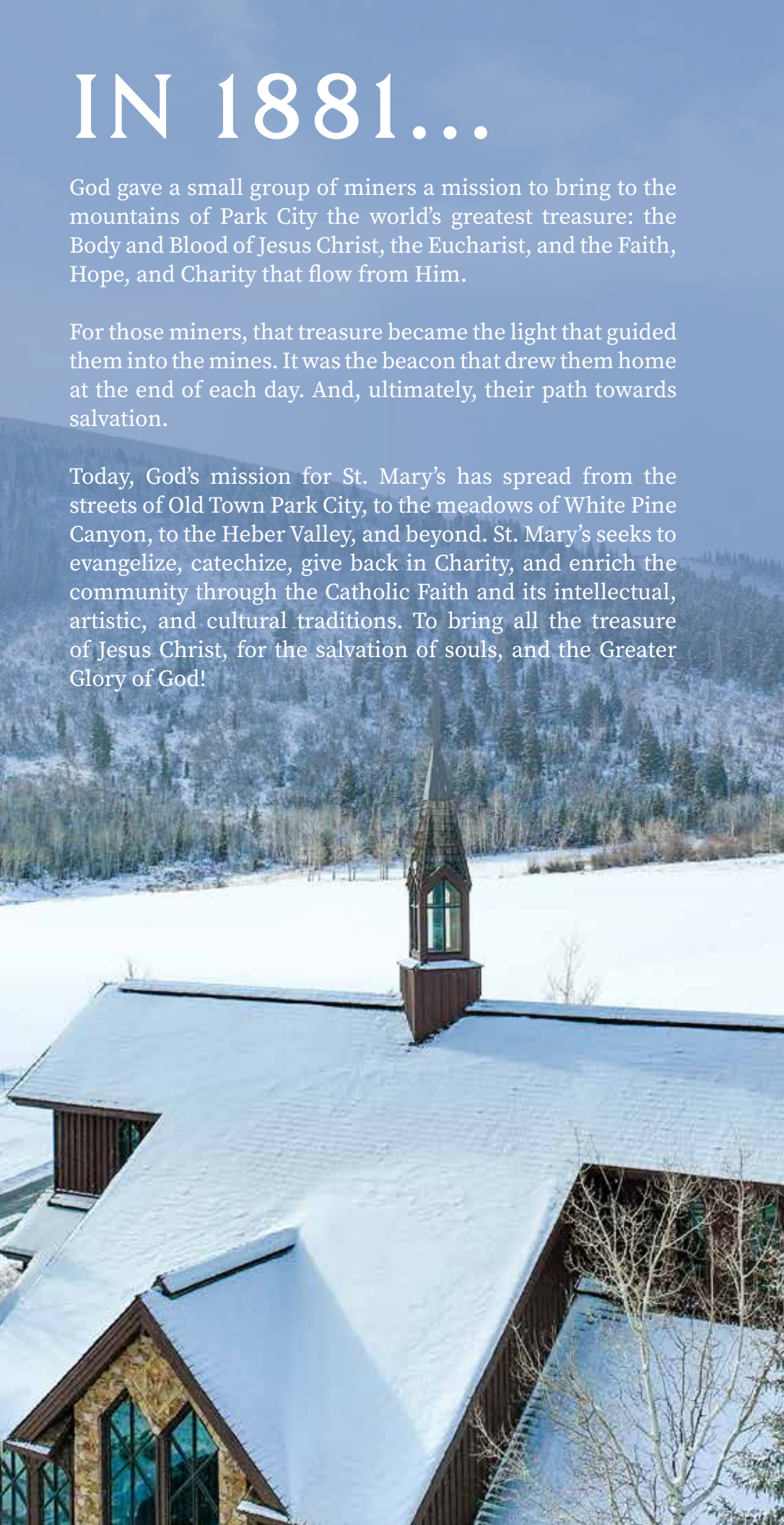
2024 ISSUE

IN 1881...

God gave a small group of miners a mission to bring to the mountains of Park City the world's greatest treasure: the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Eucharist, and the Faith, Hope, and Charity that flow from Him.

For those miners, that treasure became the light that guided them into the mines. It was the beacon that drew them home at the end of each day. And, ultimately, their path towards salvation.

Today, God's mission for St. Mary's has spread from the streets of Old Town Park City, to the meadows of White Pine Canyon, to the Heber Valley, and beyond. St. Mary's seeks to evangelize, catechize, give back in Charity, and enrich the community through the Catholic Faith and its intellectual, artistic, and cultural traditions. To bring all the treasure of Jesus Christ, for the salvation of souls, and the Greater Glory of God!



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On the cover: Altar server Leo Mayerle kneels to greet a young attendee of the annual Assumption procession at the St. Mary's Old Town Chapel.



UBI CARITAS

Where There is Charity, There is God

DEUS IBI EST

Introduction by Fr. Christopher Gray



Fr. Christopher Gray washes the feet of 12 parishioners during Holy Thursday's "Mandatum" at St. Mary's on March 28, 2024.

UBI CARITAS et amor, Deus ibi est. **"Where charity and love are, there God is."** These are the opening words of a very ancient hymn of the Church sung on Holy Thursday with the washing of feet. And they are **the theme, the motto, I wish for our St. Mary's Church Family** as we enter into fall, Advent and the new liturgical year.

Thanks to your prayers, service, and support, this past January, St. Mary's was blessed with the hire of our first-ever full-time Director of Charity, Maria Villar!

Please learn more about Maria and her incredible service to the Church and greater community on page 15! I cannot speak highly enough of her here and how important and vital her addition has been to the ministry of St. Mary's.

Maria is both a longtime St. Mary's parishioner and a longtime key provider of social services to the greater Park City Community. And now she is bringing her vast experience and talents to not only greatly expand and improve St. Mary's charitable ministries but also help meet an important unfilled need in the greater community.

Since its beginning in 1881, St. Mary's has always played an important role in providing for the charitable needs of the greater community. And during the lockdown and pandemic we stepped into immediate action, providing hundreds of thousands of dollars in housing and financial assistance, food, clothes, diapers, toys, car seats, and cribs.

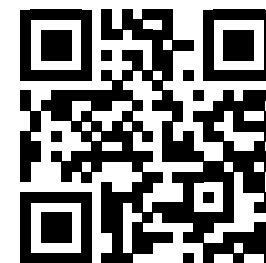
Building on that tradition and recent pandemic experiences, today, we believe the Wasatch Back needs a sanctuary of charity to holistically and collaboratively address and answer the challenges faced by the most vulnerable in our high cost-of-living community.

St. Mary's seeks to be that sanctuary of charity. St. Mary's seeks to bring the face of God to all. St. Mary's seeks to be the soul of Park City.

For where there is charity and love, there is God!

Thank you for your Faith, your Hope, Your Charity and Love, which makes are charitable (and all our) ministries possible! Please know that I am deeply grateful for all you do for the parish and that I am praying for you and your loved ones.

If you are ever in need or would just like to visit, please feel free to call, text, email, or schedule a visit with me by going to StMarysParkCity.com/FrGray or by scanning the QR code below.



St. Mary's new Director of Charity, Maria Villar.

UBI CARITAS

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Temeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur:
Ne nos mente dividamur caveamus.
Cessent iurgia maligna, cessent lites.
Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Simul quoque cum beatis videamus,
Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus.
Gaudium quod est immensum, atque probum:
Sæcula per infinita sæculorum.
Amen.

Where charity and love are, there God is.
The love of Christ has gathered us into one flock.
Let us exult, and in Him be joyful.
Let us fear and let us love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love each other.

Where charity and love are, there God is.
Therefore, whensoever we are gathered as one:
Lest we in mind be divided, let us beware.
Let cease malicious quarrels, let strife give way.
And in the midst of us be Christ our God.

Where charity and love are, there God is.
Together also with the blessed may we see,
Gloriously, Thy countenance, O Christ our God:
A joy which is immense, and also approved:
Through infinite ages of ages.
Amen.

Logan

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage approaches St. Mary's Church during a seven-mile procession (like the road to Emmaus) on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 2, 2024. Hundreds of people from multiple parishes, the National Eucharistic Revival Perpetual Pilgrims, and Las Vegas Auxiliary Bishop Gregory W. Gordon participated in the procession from the Old Town Chapel to the White Pine church. Mass, another procession around St. Mary's, and a celebration in the social hall followed.

Fort Duchesne

Park City

Vernal

A saved, new world

Since the middle of October of 2022, Fr. Christopher Gray has been planning the Junipero Serra Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Utah. Drawing from the rich traditions of his experience abroad, Fr. Gray planned how to bring Faith in the Eucharist to new people all over Utah.



Corpus Christi, the celebration of the Most Holy Sacrament, has been a source of excitement and joy in the Church for ages. Declared a feast of the Church in the 13th century after various Eucharistic miracles in the towns of Lanciano and Bolsena, this inspiring solemnity has confirmed people in their faith and love for Christ for centuries...

It was these types of celebrations, specifically of the Blessed Sacrament and processions, that uniquely touched the heart of Fr. Christopher Gray ever since he was a child.

"Personally, Corpus Christi has been a day of a lot of really wonderful blessings," Fr. Gray said. "When I was a kid, or at least when I was younger... I would go around to find the very best Corpus Christi [celebrations] I could."

As a child visiting his mother's family in Spain, Gray would attend the Corpus Christi celebra-

tions in Toledo, seemingly stepping back in time to a different world.

"Seeing various artifacts of the Corpus Christi procession when I would go visit... would be overwhelming," Fr. Gray said.

In Toledo, one could witness members of various religious orders and groups all dressed in eye-catching outfits. The monstrance itself was an artistic piece of history, finely crafted out of over 350 pounds of gold and silver, carried through the ancient streets which were decorated with colorful flowers and banners.

"I made it a point to see it in use: to see what their Corpus Christi procession was like," he said.

Later, as a seminarian in Italy, Gray discovered that he could sign up to participate in the Corpus Christi procession in Orvieto. Famously, the Duomo di Orvieto houses a relic of the Bolsena Eucharistic miracle: the corporal on which the Eucharistic host bled real blood. To Gray's surprise, he got to help hold the massive reliquary and monstrance which held this piece of history.

"I would go and find these things and enjoy them as much as I could," Fr. Gray recalled. "It was really inspirational for me."

Perhaps quite fittingly, Fr. Gray would become the lead in the diocese for all things relating to the Eucharistic Revival, planning the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage route in Utah for two years. The

same miraculous joy, faith, and hope that Fr. Gray witnessed in the streets of old cities across Europe would have to be brought back to the streets of 21st-century America.

"That was something as an adult I kind of had to make happen on my own and it was absolutely worth it," Fr. Gray said.

With the future of Corpus Christi tradition on his shoulders, Fr. Gray had to plan how to best share the spirit of the Revival with all of Utah.

"The goal is to bring people into this Communion with the Lord in this very special way which is the Eucharist," he explained.

There was some initial debate in the plan, such as from which state the Pilgrimage would enter Utah, but Fr. Gray was able to convince the organizers that the best plan would be to enter the state from the North, then to take vehicles to different points in Utah to do local Eucharistic processions.

"Once that happened, the possibilities for where the pilgrimage could go opened up a lot," Fr. Gray said. "It could go a lot of places. One of my proudest parts of this was making sure that there was some kind of interaction with the indigenous peoples of the Uinta basin. That was really special."

Of course, it was also special to host the pilgrimage at St. Mary's on Corpus Christi Sunday. Likewise, much of the pomp-and-cir-





things that the organizers were surprised by was just how many people came to everything,” Fr. Gray said. “More people came than were expected pretty much every step along the way.”

Hopefully, this “national Emmaus moment” will continue on after the tenth National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, being it is the first Congress to be held in about 80 years.

“The National Eucharistic Revival is a moment in which God is glorified in all things,” Fr. Gray

said. “It’s really wonderful to come to this moment where it is so visible and touching so many people across the country and bringing hundreds of thousands of people together for the sake of this very important, important moment.”

The revival is already growing in the Diocese of Salt Lake City, according to Fr. Gray.

“It’s pretty astounding to see how much more availability there is around the diocese of Eucharistic adoration, other devotions, talks centered on the Eucharist, parish

missions, quite a lot of activity,” he noted.

None of this would have been possible without carrying on the old traditions that have nourished the Faith for centuries.

“On Corpus Christi we get to do this other thing which is to really enjoy God in His beauty and being in a beautiful place and doing it with beauty matters a lot and I really love it,” Fr. Gray said. “I get to really, clearly announce on Corpus Christi, more than other days, how much I love the Lord.”

Scenes from the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage



“

That is something that gives a lot of hope for this thing which is the Church, which sometimes feels very weird and out of place in the modern world.

The whole idea of it is from a different time. At the same time, it belongs in our time and belongs in our world.

- FR. CHRISTOPHER GRAY

cumstance of the Corpus Christi’s of Old World Europe was continued, with the Knights of Columbus and Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem marching in full-garb ahead of the canopy.

“But coming through Park City on Corpus Christi felt so natural, so right,” he said. “It’s really the most spectacular thing that happens with Corpus Christi just in general, at least for me. It’s really peaceful... and that’s how it was on June 2 here.”

In addition to the National Eucharistic Pilgrims, St. Mary’s welcomed two bishops on June 2, our own bishop, Oscar Solis, and auxiliary bishop Gregory Gordon from Las Vegas, as well as people from parishes in Salt Lake City and Provo. Additionally, a group of people around the diocese continued on to the National Congress in Indianapolis.

“It’s important to see everyone together,” Fr. Gray said. “It’s one of the models of heaven, that you have all these people in all

these places all around just this one thing.”

Of course, everyone processing with this monstrance might have seemed out of place to the unsuspecting secular tourists in Park City. But the public display is important.

“That is something that gives a lot of hope for this thing which is the Church which sometimes feels very weird and out of place in the modern world,” Fr. Gray explained. “The whole idea of it is from a different time. At the same time, it belongs in our time and belongs in our world. The reason why we are faithful is so the Gospel may be in the world in which we live today.”

However, modern-world or not, people were still drawn to look and participate. Even some who were unaware of the procession, upon encountering it, knelt or made the sign of the cross from their vehicles.

“Throughout the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, one of the

READ MORE

To read more about St. Mary's key involvement in supporting the National Eucharistic Revival, check out the 2023 issue of *The Assumption* magazine online at StMarysParkCity.com/The-Assumption.



SCAN NOW TO READ
THE PREVIOUS ISSUE!



Photo: Flower girls lead the Corpus Christi procession from the Old Town Chapel to the White Pine Church as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage on June 2, 2024.



“The people at St. Mary’s really made an impact on me discerning Catholicism.” - Justin Hibbard

BUILDING A VISION

HOPING TO BUILD A RENEWED CHURCH

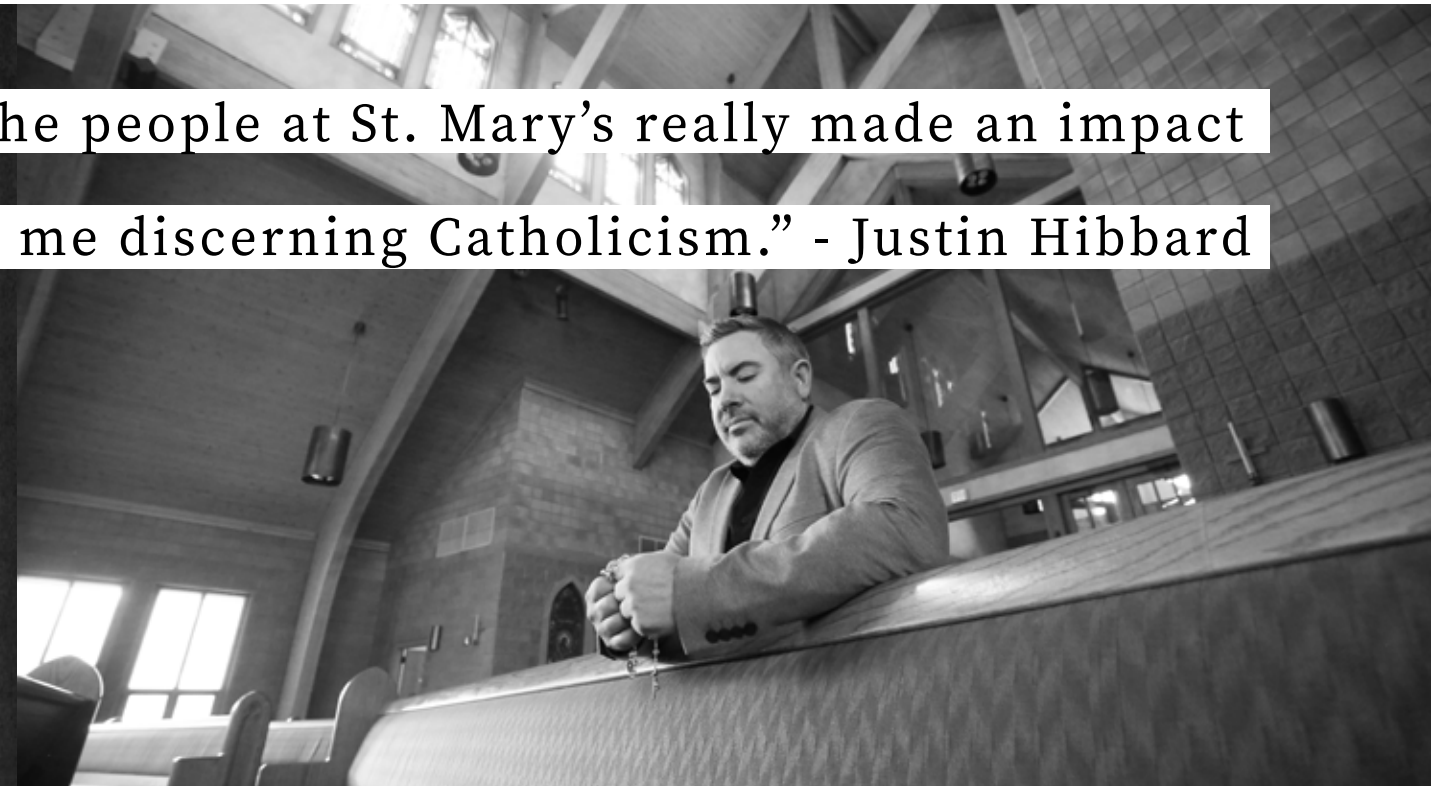
JUSTIN HIBBARD always felt a call to spread the hope of Christ since he was a young child. Originally a Seventh-Day Baptist, Hibbard had a reversion experience at a Christian camp as a teenager which renewed his faith and desire to spread it. Full of ideas, Hibbard began writing reflections and apologetics, emailing his thoughts to an email list he compiled. This would only be the start of his evangelization efforts.

“Any time that I found someone else’s email, I would add that to [my] email list,” Hibbard joked. “There was no opt-out button. There was no ‘unsub-

scribe.’ Everyone got this random email from this guy named Justin.”

After college, Justin Hibbard returned to his home church to serve as pastor and continued to serve as a pastor for two Baptist churches over the course of 11-years. Following vocational ministry, Hibbard began exploring a range of different churches and denominations.

“I was getting really frustrated with church,” Hibbard said. “There was something kind of nagging at the back of me that church was missing something...I would come home on Sundays more frustrated than



when I went there...If church is just ‘I can turn on my television and have the same experience as I do when I sit in the chairs at the church service,’ then something is fundamentally wrong here.”

Hibbard then began compiling a mental list of aspects he longed for in a church: Jesus at the center, a global church, a charitable church, a church that was connected with church history, and one where people lived by faith.

“The people at St. Mary’s really made an impact on me discerning Catholicism,” Hibbard said.

For Hibbard, one of the most impressive things he saw at St. Mary’s were cradle Catholics simply living out the message of the Gospel.

“[Cradle Catholics] lived by Faith, and I had to have all the answers before I ever stepped foot into the Catholic Church,” Hibbard said. “So I admire cradle-Catholics who don’t have all the answers, but who have lived it out faithfully.”

Soon afterwards, Hibbard and his children attended RCIA and were received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. After volunteering at St. Mary’s as an altar server and at St. Lawrence in the music ministry, Hibbard felt like God was calling him to more

dedicated service. His feelings were soon confirmed when he received a phone call and was tapped as a staff-member to help St. Mary’s develop relationships, community, and increase giving opportunities across the Wasatch Back.

“When I got the phone call out of the blue to consider joining the staff at St. Mary’s, it felt like a total answer to prayer,” Hibbard said.

Now, Hibbard was fully committed to helping construct a vision of an incredible church that people could rally behind.

“I know the giving has increased tremendously over the past few years and there are especially, very generous givers,” Hibbard said. “But there’s also, I think, a willingness for people to get involved... You see a lot of people give of their time.”

Something that Hibbard wanted to see was greater involvement in both of the churches and more chances for people to come together.

“I know that people want to see some more cooperation between St. Mary’s and St. Lawrence and I thought maybe this is an opportunity for me to do that,” he said.

Hibbard’s plan involved three main points: fostering small groups, bringing in guest speakers on the Faith at an event

Justin Hibbard, a former Baptist pastor, went through RCIA at St. Mary’s and now works on staff in development and relationship building. Hibbard is the host of the “WHY CATHOLIC?” podcast and was recently featured on EWTN’s show, “The Journey Home.”

called “Night at the Mission,” and revitalizing the historic mission building through service projects.

“We owe that to the community but more importantly, we owe it to Jesus because Jesus is the diamond in the church,” Hibbard explained. “But we’re responsible for the setting of the diamond.”

One of the first ideas that came to mind was to tackle some small, but significant, renovations to the St. Lawrence church building. Having never done something on this scale before, Hibbard sent out an online sign-up form, gauging interest people had in painting, cleaning, and reorganizing.

“There was a part of me that was a little bit frightened that come that first day, I would be the only one working,” he admitted. “But over the course of that week, we had about 50 people sign up to help out.”

Hibbard even got support from people who couldn’t make it.

“We had a family that said ‘we can’t be there to work, but can we donate the paint,’” he said. “And then we went back to them and said we need some more paint; would you mind donating more? And within an hour it was provided for us.”

While Hibbard admitted that this ambitious revitalization plan can feel overwhelming at times, it’s been filled with constant divine intervention.

“A family came and without anyone asking them, offered to do the painting of the chapel on the inside... and they volunteered to do it for free,” Hibbard said. “I was blown away by their generosity and timing of it all.”

Since then, more and more people have approached Hibbard, asking how they can support these new endeavors at St. Lawrence.

“People who want to be generous generally have a desire to be generous in abundance,” Hibbard

said. “I think generosity stems from a heart of gratitude.”

Hibbard felt gracious as well for those willing to help build up the Body of Christ with the different talents they have.

“I think sometimes people don’t know how to get involved or are afraid to get involved. Sometimes, all it takes is giving someone an invitation,” he said. “It’s touching just to see so many people serving in all sorts of different ways. When you give people an opportunity to serve, it reiterates how important each of us are to the Body of Christ.”

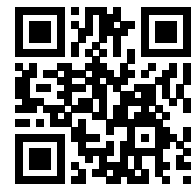
Moreover, it was the cohesive, hopeful vision that Hibbard thinks was responsible for inspiring people to give of themselves.

“I think vision is what convinces people to get involved,” Hibbard explained. “It’s those things that when someone says, ‘this is what we’re doing’ and the lightbulb goes off and [they say], ‘I want to be a part of that.’”

As Hibbard continues the three-part plan to help build up the Church on this side of the mountains, he looks forward to bringing together everyone into a renewed sense of fellowship.

“While I’m excited about the future new building for the St. Lawrence Mission, my focus is on building community,” he said. “I want to cultivate a Wasatch Back filled with people who are passionate about Jesus and His Church. That’s my vision. That’s my hope.”

Along with his service to St. Mary’s, Hibbard now runs his own podcast “WhyCatholic?” to help Catholics and Protestants alike learn more about the Catholic Faith. To learn more, please visit: linktr.ee/whycatholic or scan the QR code.



Justin Hibbard helps out at the St. Lawrence Mission work week, where parishioners volunteered to repaint and reorganize the church together as part of an initiative to build community across the Wasatch Back, in June of 2024.

“I think *vision* is what

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the practice of Faith, Hope, and charity



Maria Villar is St. Mary's new Director of Charity. Her professional background spans healthcare, education, program management, and community outreach, all of which have prepared her to lead with empathy, assertiveness, and dedication.

StMarysParkCity.com/Charity | (435) 940-5452 | mvillar@stmarysparkcity.com

Reflection by Maria Villar

HAVING been an active member of the Park City community for many years, I've been on a journey that has afforded me an in-depth understanding of the unique challenges and needs our diverse community faces. Our town, known for its ski resorts, presents unique socio-economic challenges.

A high cost of living and limited housing availability significantly impact residents, parishioners, family members, and even those we could call friends. Too often, their possible life outcomes are stunted by factors out of their control: physical or mental health conditions, poverty or debt, or an abusive relationship.

At St. Mary's, we believe that true charity extends beyond mere financial assistance; it is an expression of deep empathy, humility, and collaborative spirit. We engage deeply with those we assist, striving to understand the full spectrum of their circumstances which informs our tailored responses.

Every story of struggle and resilience I encounter reminds me of the critical role our community plays in shaping outcomes. Our trauma-informed approach ensures that we provide a space where individuals feel supported and valued, facilitating a path toward recovery and hope.

Addressing these issues requires a community-centric approach where collaboration and integration are at the forefront. Guided by the teachings of John 15:9 — *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; remain in my love"* — our mission is deeply rooted in fostering a sense of unity and teamwork.

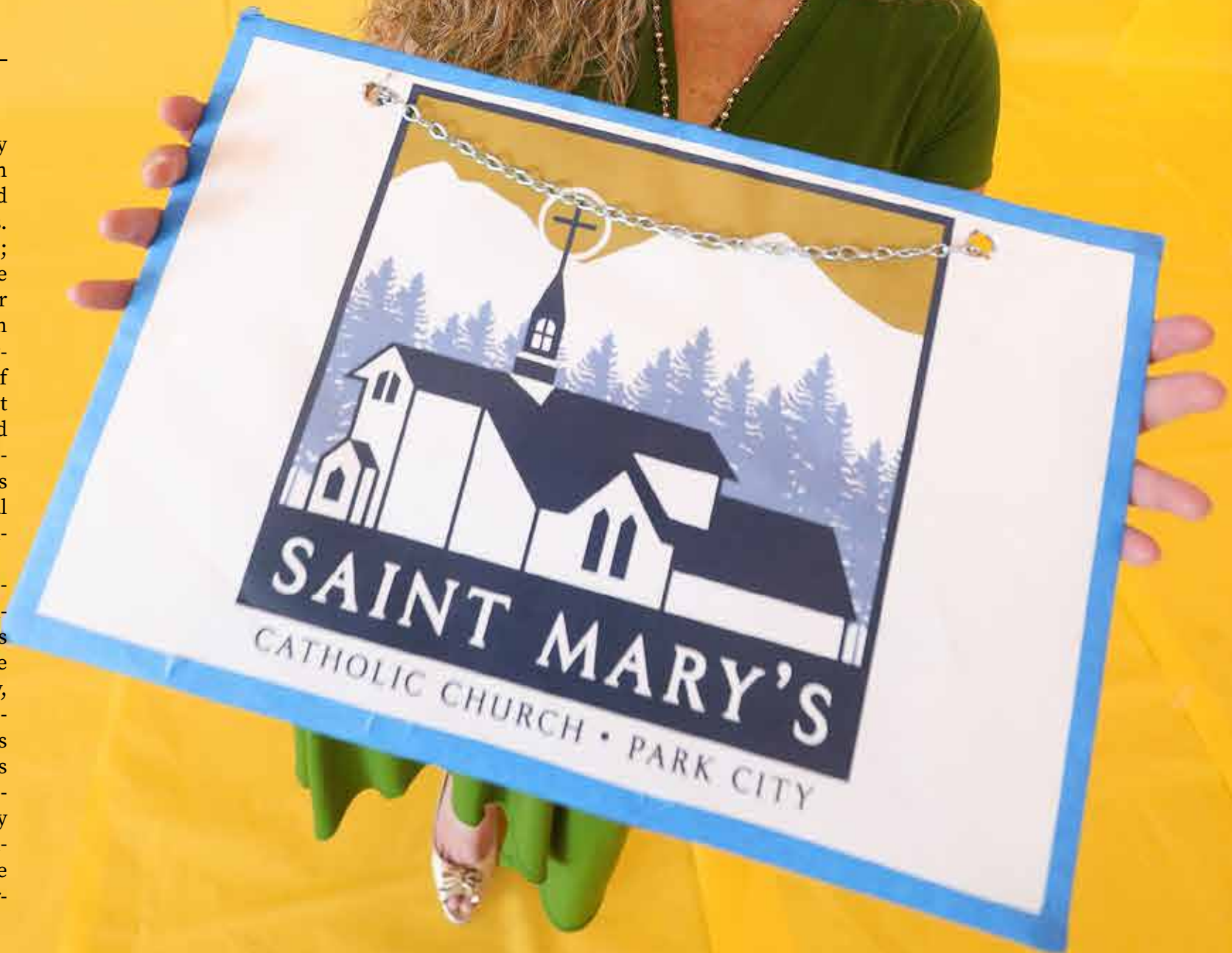
By embedding these values into every facet of our work, we do more than provide aid; we foster a supportive community that reflects the virtues we hold dear. Our strategy encompasses not only addressing current needs but also anticipating future challenges, ensuring our responses are both proactive and adaptive.

Here, each day offers a connection with individuals facing sud-

den, unexpected turns in life. Every person I meet has his or her own story of trauma that has reshaped their existence in profound ways. These aren't just names on a file; they are real people facing severe health emergencies like strokes or heart attacks, battling long-term debilitating conditions, or struggling with the invisible burdens of mental health issues. The impact of crime, domestic violence, child abuse, discrimination, senior neglect, and loss of a loved one paints a vivid picture of the deeper social issues that intertwine with personal suffering.

Each story I hear is an emotional reminder of life's fragile balance and the resilience that defines our souls. We accompany these families on their difficult journey, offering not only emotional support but also valuable resources to navigate through their grief. It's natural for families to feel torn between their emotions, especially when obstacles challenge the family dynamic. In these moments, we provide a steady presence, offer-

St. Mary's Director of Charity Maria Villar interacts with the Park City community, networking with other professionals, connecting people to resources, and even promoting the mission of St. Mary's at local events like the Park City "Follies."



ing spiritual support and practical assistance. This includes helping connect them with support groups, ensuring they have access to grief counseling services, and in the case of a family member passing away, helping connect them with end-of-life planning. The testimonies of their experiences compel me to meet each individual with the deepest empathy and care, ensuring our responses not only meet immediate needs but also nurture a healing environment that respects their dignity.

The joy and satisfaction of making a tangible difference in someone's life reaffirm the importance of our mission. Each interaction is an opportunity to validate the inherent worth of each person, to listen intently, and to respond with genuine heartfelt concern. Our emergency charitable fund enables us to provide immediate support in moments of vulnerability, allowing us vital time to connect the client with a more permanent solution. We ensure that no one feels isolated or overlooked. It is through these moments of connec-

tion and transformation that we discover the true essence of hope at St. Mary's.

Our daily interactions are opportunities to demonstrate the compassion of Jesus, inspiring us to act with kindness, honesty, integrity and justice. We strive to create an environment where everyone feels seen, heard, and cared for, making our community a beacon of hope and a source of genuine healing.

The empathy, humility, and collaboration we wish to practice are values which inform our approach and allows us to offer services that respect and respond to each person's dignity.

At St. Mary's, you will find a team united in its dedication to go deeper than surface-level aid. We acknowledge the uniqueness of each person's needs, requiring tailored responses that uphold their inherent dignity. Through collaborative efforts, we pool our diverse skills and insights to create interventions that are not only effective but carried out with compassion and respect.

Communication and re-

spect are the hallmarks of our teamwork, fostering an environment where every interaction is infused with empathy and care.

By living out these values every day, we do more than just provide aid; we build a community of support that truly reflects the virtues we cherish. This commitment enables us not only to meet but also to understand and transform the lives we touch, establishing a foundation of trust and hope. We ensure transparent allocation of funds, which benefits both those we serve and our wider community. At the heart of our mission at St. Mary's, guided by a spirit of genuine care and solidarity, is to bring to the mountains of Park City the world's greatest treasure: the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Eucharist, and the Faith, Hope, and Charity that flow from Him.

I invite you to join us and experience the fulfillment of giving, with the peace of mind that every dollar of your donation helps a family thrive.

Your support allows us to extend our reach and deepen our impact.

by the numbers:

305 families in need have been helped by St. Mary's since the hiring of Maria Villar. Each one faces unique challenges; some are victims of crimes or domestic strife. Additionally, their situations may intersect with being single parents, seniors, or individuals with disabilities striving for stability in their lives. Furthermore, some are grappling with the effects of moral injury, which occurs when individuals must cope not only with the trauma of their experiences but also with the moral implications and social judgments attached to them. Others may be facing unique circumstances, such as suffering from a major, unpredictable health condition or struggling to find reliable full-time employment; some are homeless.

From July 2023 to July 2024, we've allocated approximately \$175,500 directly to those in urgent need. However, the demands far exceed our current capacity. The depth of need in our community calls not just for continued support but for a substantial increase in resources. We urgently need to enhance our collaboration with local service providers and government programs and, importantly, we rely on the generosity of donors like you. Thank you!

\$175,500

To see all the ways you can help those in our community, please visit StMarysParkcity.com/Charity

community partners

HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES PEACE

The Christian Center HOUSE

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES WASATCH IMMIGRATION PROJECT

Latino Behavioral Health Services AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

PARK CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SUMMIT COUNTY CLUB HOUSE MOBIL CRISIS OUTREACH TEAM

People's Health Clinic and Mountain Mediation Center more...

Together, we can make a real difference.

As I continue my journey at St. Mary's, I am constantly inspired by the strength and spirit of our community. I invite everyone touched by our mission to join us, whether through volunteering, donating, or simply spreading the word. Together, we can ensure that no one in our community faces their struggles alone.

For more information on how you can help or if you need assistance, please reach out. Let us continue to work together, fostering a community of compassion and support that stands as a testament to the enduring power of collective action and charity.

Maria Villar can be reached via email at mvillar@stmarys-parkcity.com or you can leave a message at (435) 940-5452.

For more information on what St. Mary's is doing in charitable outreach to those most in need in our community, please visit our charity webpage found at StMarysParkCity.com/Charity, or scan the QR code. Thank you for support!





THE SHEPHERD from THE FLOCK

SITTING DOWN
WITH NEWLY-
ORDAINED PRIEST,
FATHER ANTHONY
SHUMWAY

ON JUNE 28, 2024, FR. ANTHONY SHUMWAY WAS ORDAINED A PRIEST AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE MADELEINE IN SALT LAKE CITY. SINCE FR. SHUMWAY WAS SUCH A WELL-KNOWN AND BELOVED FRIEND OF ST. MARY'S, HE DECIDED TO CELEBRATE HIS FIRST MASS HERE IN PARK CITY. NOW A FULLY-FLEDGED PRIEST, WE ASKED HIM SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS NEW ROLE.

Q. WHAT WAS THE VERY FIRST THING YOU BOUGHT AS A PRIEST THAT YOU NEEDED TO HAVE?

A. The very first thing I bought, and this was just before being ordained, was my oil stocks. Those are for the oils so that I'm ready to be able to go to the hospital, I'm ready to anoint anybody at any given time, and so I have them on me at all times. So, I've already filled them. They're on my person ready to go. I am ready to do the priestly duties now. So I've got my stole... I've got my vial with the anointing oil of the sick, the catechumen and sacred chrism... So [if] I need to go in [and] somebody's on their deathbed and wants to be baptized, I can baptize them [and] confirm them... I'm prepared for just about anything and everything... That's in my pocket everyday for the rest of my life.

Q. WHAT DO YOU MOST REMEMBER FROM SEMINARY?

A. The people. Some of my closest friends have been because

of seminary... The type of relationships you build there; the only way I can kind of describe it is, I imagine (because I didn't do this, but is) [like] the military. I hear stories about those who have been in basic training together or different things like that and they create this bond that lasts for their entire life and they can go to different points of the world and be separated, not see each other for ten years, but as soon as they come together, it's like they haven't been apart at all. And that's the relationship I have with a number of men from the seminary.

One of my best friends is a priest from Seattle and he graduated and was ordained three years ago. He and I will talk just a few times a year on the phone and every once a while we are able to fly to see each other and it's just like old times. So, it's really the friends, the men that I went through all this with.

The classes were fine. The praying was great. It was cool, but it really was the relationships and those relationships really are an

example of the relationships we should be having with the Lord.

Q. DID YOU HAVE A FAVORITE SAINT THAT INSPIRED YOU DURING SEMINARY?

A. I am hugely drawn to Pope St. John Paul II, so much so that even my thesis work is revolving around him and his work. So, John Paul II is greatly close to my heart and I'm constantly studying him. John Vianney, of course, is another saint that I hold close and dear to my heart, and St. Alphonsus Liguori. So, I've got a few that are just always there, but John Paul II is kind of the top of them all in his teachings of the dignity of the human person [which] is really something that I found most valuable and it's something that I try to include in almost every one of my homilies in some way or another, whether I actually say those words or not, but that's the idea behind a lot of my preaching.

Continued on next page.

Q. WHAT ACTIVITIES DO YOU LOOK FORWARD TO MOST AS A PRIEST?

A. Confessions. I've already gotten the opportunity to do Confessions and I knew from practice... the impact that it would have on me being able to forgive sins, but actually saying the words to someone, saying I forgive you of your sins, that has been the most amazing things: these people have been reunited with Christ through Confession and I was there with them doing that and helping them, and it was amazing.

Q. IF YOU COULD ONLY RECOMMEND ONE BOOK TO A SEMINARIAN OR SOMEONE DISCERNING THE PRIESTHOOD, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A. There's a book called *To Save a Thousand Souls...* It was written to help men discern what it is to be a priest and in each chapter he talks about a story and how a priest responds to that story. And he always goes at the end of the story, "and that's what it means to be a priest." It's one of those books that when you finish reading, you either go "yeah, I'm pretty sure I'm being called to discern this life," or "there's no way I'm being called to

discern this life." It is a great way of being able to pray about what it actually means to be a priest.

Q. CAN YOU DESCRIBE HOW YOU FELT DURING ORDINATION?

A. A lot of it is a blur, quite honestly. I still haven't had a lot of time to be able to just process what was going on. There were two points that have really come to mind that I've just been spending a lot of time processing. The first is when my hands were anointed with oil... I've smelled chrism oil many times before, but it was at that time that I smelled the chrism oil and the bishop was pouring the chrism on my hands that I went, "I am a priest. This has finally happened. I am a priest." I didn't want to get up. I was kneeling there; they wrapped my hands with the manutergicum, and I was just there and they went, "Anthony, we need to go, we need to get up"... The second thing was when I took my Host at Communion and the bishop was elevating his Host... I was just staring at the Host in my hand and all I could keep thinking was [that] I, through the Holy Spirit, have made Jesus present here. I am a priest, thanks be to God. and then I looked

up, and the bishop had already consumed, all the priests around me had already consumed... I was lost in time for a minute, and so I consumed... Most of the rest of the Mass, I had no idea what happened. Those two things were stand-out moments.

Q. WHAT WAS THE MOST NERVOUS PART DURING YOUR FIRST MASS?

A. All of it. I practiced the Mass for months, you know? The thing I was focused on was making sure I got the words correct... I felt like time stopped and I made sure I was saying each word word-by-word to make sure it was exactly right... I've probably said 500 practice Masses in preparation... [I was] just in awe of what I have been given the ability to do.

Photo: Father Anthony Shumway celebrates his first Mass at St. Mary's on June 29, 2024, along with Deacon Juan Biaggini, who was also ordained to the diaconate the same night as Shumway.



“I was lost in time for a minute. . . Most of the rest of the Mass, I had no idea what happened. Those two things were stand-out moments.”

- FR. ANTHONY SHUMWAY



END OF YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY ST. MARY'S CHURCH

YEAR END 6/30/2024

Through the continued generosity of you, our parishioners and visitors, our year-to-date revenues of \$1,832,200 are only slightly behind our year-end budget by 10%. Mass attendance for the past 12 months exceeds the prior year by 16.7% or on average 1,300 attendees per week. New parish registrations continue at a rate of 100 families annually. Charitable giving of \$175,500 was provided for assistance to 305 individuals at an average rate of \$505 per person. The Gabriel Project ministry, serving young and expectant mothers, has provided \$50,600 of assistance for this fiscal year.

Our year-to-date expenses are slightly under budget by \$64,500 while still providing for planned building maintenance expenditures which included replacing the White Pine Rectory deck, staining the exterior of the White Pine Church and Parish Center and installing new cabinetry in the White Pine Church sacristy and kitchen area. Overall, through June 30, 2024, we continue to manage expenditures well within budgeted levels.

The parish established an endowment with the Catholic Foundation of Utah in 2022 as a reserve for the future larger capital/fixed asset/maintenance projects. The parish has contributed \$125,700 to date, in addition to the original parishioner's investment of \$100,000. In addition to this longer-term investment, in partnership with My Catholic Will, we are facilitating those who are interested in leaving a lasting legacy with a bequest.

The parish's financial position remains stable, thanks in large part to consistent participation in online giving and several large donations. We thank our parishioners and visitors for their continued generous support of the parish and its ministries.

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Foley, Parish Administrator, and the Parish Finance Council

If you, too, are interested in helping ensure the future of St. Mary's by leaving a bequest in your will, please contact Justin Hibbard directly at jhibbard@stmarysparkcity.com or (410-353-1022).

ST. LAWRENCE MISSION FINANCIAL SUMMARY

YEAR END 6/30/2024

This past fiscal year, our primary focus was on enhancing our religious education program—a mission we achieved thanks to the unwavering support of our parishioners. We updated and expanded our educational resources, aligning our curriculum with St. Mary's to streamline processes for catechists, parents, and students. Enrollment continues to grow, with 250 children registered in our program last year, and we anticipate even more as registrations are currently open for the new academic year with classes beginning on September 29.

Offertory donations, which are the cornerstone of our financial stability and cover main operations, brought in \$155,000 and contributed significantly to our total income of \$250,000 for the Mission. The vibrant celebration of Holy Week and Easter, attended by a full community, also added \$4,000 to our income. Building fund donations reached \$11,000 for the year, with the total value of the building fund now being \$740,870 as of June 30.

Charity donations, though lower than anticipated, totaled...



**SCAN TO READ
THE FULL REPORT**

ST. LAWRENCE THRIFT STORE FINANCIAL SUMMARY

YEAR END 6/30/2024



**SCAN TO READ
THE FULL REPORT**

Did you know: the St. Lawrence Thrift Store is an entity of St. Mary of the Assumption and, through the selling of donations, supports St. Mary of the Assumption and the St. Lawrence Mission? The Donation Center is located in Old Town Park City next to St. Mary's Old Town Chapel. The Donation Center and Thrift Store, in Heber City were established in 1983 and this amazing ministry was born. After 41 years we have established ourselves in both communities, although there is a lot more competition for donations today. Our operation continues to be fruitful. We have been very fortunate this past fiscal year. We've had a steady stream of high quality goods arriving at the Donation Center and we pick up gently used furniture in Park City and in the Heber Valley, two to three times a week. June through November is our busiest time, but donations are received year round and the store sales are steady. We have a large following of locals who shop the store regularly looking for that amazing thrift find. Our customer base continues to grow due to continued advertising in the Heber Valley Guide.

This year, we've also advertised in the Park City Guide where we hope to attract locals and visitor in both Summit and Wasatch Counties. We also maintain active Instagram and Facebook accounts where pictures of store merchandise are posted multiple times each week. This has proven to be successful and customers routinely inquire about items that have been posted...

LEAVE

Your

LEGACY

WRITE YOUR WILL FOR FREE

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY OF FAITH

With the help of St. Mary's and MyCatholicWill.com

Since 1881, St. Mary's has brought the world's greatest treasure to the Wasatch Back: The Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and the Faith, Hope, and Charity that flow from Him.

And you can help continue that great mission for the next 143 years and beyond by leaving a lasting legacy of faith to St. Mary's and to those you love most.

Through St. Mary's partnership with MyCatholicWill.com, you can write your Will for FREE in as little as 15 minutes.

Simply scan the QR code to the right or go to MyCatholicWill.com/MaryPC.

Already have a will but interested in now making a bequest to St. Mary's? Please contact Justin Hibbard via email at: jhibbard@stmarysparkcity.com.



Fr. Martin Burke with newlyweds Will and Audrey Sullivan outside St. Mary's Old Town Chapel c. 1940.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Since Bishop Solis named me pastor of St. Mary the Assumption Catholic Church in August 2018, I have never felt more grateful, blessed, and excited to teach and share the Truth of the Catholic Faith. This beautiful community, our wonderful parish, has such a rich story rooted in that Truth!

WE SEEK TO BRING ALL THE TREASURE OF JESUS CHRIST, FOR THE SALVATION OF SOULS, AND THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD!



This year, I'm so happy at all the work we have done to spread the Faith around the diocese, increase hope in all of our members for a better Church of the future, and to increase our charitable outreach to live out the Gospel and help those most in need. If you want St. Mary's to continue its amazing work for years to come, please support St. Mary's with a gift through the QR code above. Thank you!

- Fr. Christopher Gray



We are grateful to the Park City Community Foundation for a recent grant in support of our Charitable Housing Assistance program.

The Assumption is an annual publication from
St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Park City, Utah.

StMarysParkCity.com/The-Assumption

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