



# Saint Henry Church

A Stewardship Parish

## A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

*For Thanksgiving*

Heavenly Father,

We give you thanks  
for the inspiration of your  
Holy Spirit  
as we reflect on the Gospel call  
to exercise Christ's stewardship  
on our journey of faith.

We ask you to guide us  
in our discernment,  
and show us how to be faithful  
in the plans we make,  
the actions we take,  
and the love we share  
on our pilgrim way.  
Give us the courage  
to find wisdom in our sacrifices,  
joy in our generosity,  
and hope in the compassion  
we show,  
especially to those most in need  
of your comfort and care.

And create in us a more open  
heart and a greater awareness of  
our need to grow, to change, to  
be transformed, so that we may  
be better stewards of your gifts  
for the good of all.  
We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

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International Catholic Stewardship Council*

## *A Letter From Our Pastor*

Dear Parishioners,

What a beautiful fall this has been! As I write this in the middle of November, there has been, however, quite a change in the last three weeks. At that time, trees were literally bursting with vivid color. Now many trees are completely bare; others are about to become so.

I've taken a few walks in Percy Warner Park recently. Now many of the leaves that adorned the trees like brilliant jewels now provide a crunching sound as one walks along. Although the leaves were once beautiful to see, they now have lost their luster. With the passage of time and the daily experiences we all go through, this inevitably happens in life as well.

My dad in his later years frequently used the expression "time moves on!" I increasingly understand now more than ever how true this is. If we see all of this from a merely human perspective, life's difficulties can get the best of us. We are not able to wish away the challenges of life. Those who were once financially successful may now find themselves struggling. Those who were once healthy may now be homebound. Someone who may have been the life of the party may now be suffering with depression and loneliness. The list could go on and on.

Sometimes we do not see the full scope of the needs of others, nor do we recognize the fact that God has endowed us with gifts that can be of

help. While we do not all have the same gifts or talents, we each have many ways we can love others as Jesus has loved us. What are our personal gifts and how does the Lord want us to use them for good?

In Percy Warner Park, there is a view of St. Henry Church through the hills and trees. It's a great scene, made much clearer because of the fallen leaves. Knowing all the good that is done by so many people in so many ministries in this community of faith, I find it a great source of encouragement and comfort to know of parishioners' love and compassion.

Our faith lets us know what the seasons of the year teach us. While we now move towards toward the barrenness of winter, spring, new life, new leaves, are just around the corner. Jesus was born into our broken world to bring us to Easter, a wonderful cornerstone of our faith. The Lord's love, and the love of others in our lives, are great gifts for which we can all be so thankful.

Happy Thanksgiving to each of you and may the Advent and Christmas seasons be times of great joy!

Sincerely,

*Fr. Mike Johnston*

Reverend Michael O. Johnston  
Pastor

## Parish Picnic Draws A Big Crowd



On a warm, sunny day in August, St. Henry parishioners gathered at Camp Marymount for the Annual Parish Picnic. The planning, as always, was the task of the Parish Life Committee of the Parish Council, currently Tommy Hagey and Ann Marie Strickmaker. According to Ann Marie, they received a great deal of assistance from several other members of the council.

Each year the entire camp is rented for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Parishioners and their families are able to explore the camp, take hayrides, and visit the nature center. Highlighting the afternoon was the community meal of fried chicken, provided by the church, along with side dishes brought by each family. Children were spotted cooling off with snow cones and dancing to the rockin' tunes of the band, "In Lieu of Flowers," made up of our own St. Henry

Parishioners: Pete Shellhardt, John Higgins, Danny Preston, Chris Williams, Mike Hunkler, Joe Wieck, Chris Fenoglio, Ellen Angelico, Mary Corby, Julie Schwarz, Carol Ann Jones, and Tracy Rode.

A HUGE thank you goes out to all those who helped make it such a success! Among the groups lending a hand were Boy Scouts, Knights of Columbus, Women's Club, Men's Club, and the St. Henry School Cheerleaders. With 300 parishioners in attendance, it was a wonderful day, and destined to be an even bigger success next year! Ann Marie had a great time with family and friends and cheerfully exclaimed,



*"It's such a fun event and opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners! Everyone should make it a priority for next year!"*



## The St. Henry Cancer Support Ministry

is a new ministry that came into being this past Spring. The first meeting was held in May and has continued since

on the third Monday of each month from 7-8 pm in the Parish Center Library. Some previous meeting topics have included speakers from Gilda's Club, St. Thomas, a clinical psychologist, and Fr. Steve. Time has been good to this group and has fostered and sustained many new friendships and connections promoting a growing sense of a positive and understanding, light-filled community. The Cancer Support Ministry strives to support those whose lives have been touched by cancer in some way. Anyone who is dealing with the unknown possibility of a positive diagnosis, has been newly diagnosed, is in the midst of the struggle, is a survivor, or a caretaker helping a friend or family member through cancer is welcome to attend.

The ministry aims to weave St. Henry parishioners together into a genuine supportive network and also

includes those in neighboring parishes who need support through faith, prayer, positive interactions, and useful information for the cancer journey within the Nashville community.

Meetings offer a safe and confidential place to share experiences with others who have walked a similar path, security to ask questions, or solace to just sit and listen and gain strength and knowledge from this special St. Henry family. This ministry works to create an awareness of other complementary ministries within St. Henry that would be beneficial to the cancer journey.

It also opens the door to giving back by providing a confidential setting to share a personal cancer story or perspective, when ready to be told, as a means to help others as they navigate the maze of cancer.

Healing comes on all ends, by coming to receive and by offering to give. No matter what, the gains are great.

For more information, please contact Karen Johnston at 661-8242 or [kep\\_johnston@yahoo.com](mailto:kep_johnston@yahoo.com) or Tracy Rode at 414-4133 or [tracyrode@vision3.com](mailto:tracyrode@vision3.com).



## 'Seniors' Enjoy Food and Fellowship

On a beautiful sunny day in September, the senior members of St. Henry Church gathered for the first annual Fall Senior Luncheon.



Although there are many activities for seniors in our parish, it was felt that this was just another way to support this age group. The theme for the luncheon was "Grab a friend & come meet a friend!" and that is exactly what took place! So, it was exciting to meet guests who were not members of St. Henry, but

were there by a parishioner's invitation.

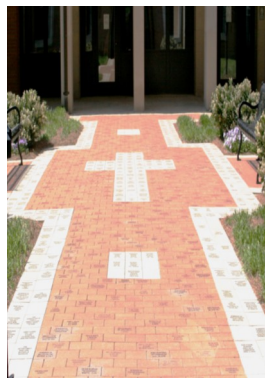
The Eighth Grade boys, spearheaded by the new SHS Vice Principal, Dan Hodes helped by setting the tables, welcoming our guests, assisting them to find their nametags, and helping them find a seat.

Additionally these students helped guests through the buffet line and carried their plates to the table.

Those who were less mobile were given tableside service by the young men. The boys also made sure that each guest had drinks and anything else that they needed. As notes of thanks arrived at the church, it was evident that the boys made an impression. One note read, "Please express our thanks to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys – their parents should be very proud of them." No doubt they are!



The event was a wonderful way to serve our seniors, both spiritually and socially.



## St. Henry WALK OF FAITH

Place your order now! Forms available in the church office and at [www.sthenry.org](http://www.sthenry.org)

## Mass Text Changes Coming Soon

The changes to the Mass text will begin the weekend of November 27-28. Laminated pew cards to assist with these changes will be located in the hymnal holders. A copy of this card is also available on the St. Henry Church website, [www.sthenry.org](http://www.sthenry.org).



### DEVOTED ST. HENRY STEWARDS WILL BE MISSED

**Joan L. Walsh**

March 30, 1929 - September 25, 2011



One of the 1st presidents of the St. Henry Women's Council

**Paul M. Nicholson**

October 13, 1947 - September 26, 2011



Deeply devoted to God, Family, and Friends

## Religious Education Unites Parish and School for Sacraments

One might think that the halls of St. Henry School would be empty on Sunday morning, but look again and you will find it a lively place bustling with children attending Religious Education. Formerly known as CCD, Religious Education classes take place each Sunday from September through May for ages 3 – high school. Children who do not attend Catholic school attend Religious Education classes to receive their faith formation. Classes for Pre-school students are held during the 9:00 and 11:00 masses while classes for grades 1 – 12 are held from 10:10 – 10:55. Currently the program consists of 280 students and 30 faith-filled, dedicated catechists who generously donate their time each week.

An important part of Religious Education is sacrament preparation. Children at St. Henry Parish receive the sacraments of First Penance and First Communion in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The year is filled with many learning opportunities focused on forgiveness and the Eucharist. You might find these eager second graders taking a tour of the church, sharing their baptismal pictures, practicing in the church for First Communion or spending time praying the Stations of the Cross.



The Sacrament of Confirmation takes place when students are in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. These students have an intense year of preparation that consists of sponsor interviews, choosing a patron saint, giving of themselves in service and learning the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

In a recent effort to ensure consistency as a Parish, the Religious Education program curriculum now mirrors the St. Henry School curriculum. The same textbook series is used for both school and religious education students. Also, parents of both school and religious education students now come together for meetings on the sacraments. With the beautiful new addition to St. Henry Church in 2006, space is now available for all the children of St. Henry Parish to celebrate the sacraments together, instead of two separate celebrations. The precious faces of over 100 second graders receiving Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist and hearing their angelic voices lifted together in song, along with the power of seeing 125 eight graders filled with the Holy Spirit at Confirmation is certainly one of the most beautiful, spirit-filled moments of our parish.

## Make Stewardship Your Thanksgiving Tradition

**Attend Mass:** Start the day by celebrating the Eucharist. Reflect on what you are most grateful for and take time to look at how you can be a better steward of God's gifts.

**Send a card:** Send a card telling a friend or relative how thankful you are to have them in your life. Give the card on or arrange for it to arrive by Thanksgiving.

**Share your Thanksgiving meal:** Invite someone who is alone, to join your Thanksgiving meal, perhaps a neighbor, fellow parishioner, co-worker, college student, or an armed services personnel who is separated from family.

**Volunteer your time:** Help prepare or deliver dinners to those less fortunate.

**Take a walk:** Enjoy god's gift of creation. Go for a refreshing walk. Invite family and friends to join you. (Don't forget to share a smile with anyone you pass along the way!)

**Focus:** Take time to focus on what you are grateful for as well as the things you appreciate about yourself and others. Remember to celebrate the many blessings in our lives.



## Thank You to St. Henry Parishioners A Message from St. Henry St. Vincent de Paul Associates



When you put a dollar or maybe more in our box last month, do you know where it went? Let me share with you how it was used.

We get an average of 30-60 calls each week from people with families sincerely looking for help. They just cannot make their budgets stretch far enough to cover their basic needs. Often the mother, with many children cannot feed them because there is no food in the cupboard, or one child needed medicine, or maybe the husband or wife was laid off their job and their income was totally cut off, probably temporarily, until they could find another employment. Sometimes they are out of gas and cannot get to work. Sometimes a child has a life-threatening ailment and the lifestyle of the family is totally disrupted.

These are our neighbors and as in the mission of St. Vincent de Paul, we try to help these people in your name. Whether by home visit or by phone, we always tell them we are from St. Henry Church, and the parishioners, you, have given us the means to help them. We listen to their problem, sympathize with them, we cry with them, and we try to help them by whatever means you share.

The food closet you and the school students so generously stock, is an important resource for those who are hungry, but unfortunately we cannot keep fruit, vegetables or meat, so often for these basic needs we have to take them to the grocery store. Whenever possible, we use community resources to advise them, but too often, their needs are immediate.

So, if you wonder where your dollar went, we matched it with the dollar of the person sitting behind you, and you unknowingly cared for someone with love. We Vincentians ask you to pray with us and continue your kindness that we may care for those who are less fortunate. All contributed checks are credited to your account.

The group of your St. Henry St. Vincent affiliates who touch these people is made up of nine men and three women who share your goodness. We meet each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Parish Library to discuss the current needs. Please join us.

**"There but for the Grace of God, go I"**

*The Life of Christ and the Christian Vocation Meditations in Stained Glass*



*St. Henry Church - Daily Mass Chapel  
Nashville, Tennessee  
Dedicated January, 2011*

"The Life of Christ and the Christian Vocation, Meditations in Stained Glass" is available at the information center near the Chapel. It is a meditation piece to accompany our four beautiful chapel stained glass windows.

You are invited to take a few minutes out of your busy day to be in quiet and prayer, reflecting over the symbolism and meaning of each mystery portrayed in the stained glass. The booklet explains the Rosary and includes a piece from the artist, Debora Coombs detailing the symbolism and colors of glass used in the windows.

Access cards for the Chapel are available at the church office.



## Are you new to the parish?

...or simply been away for a while?

Whether you are new or looking to reconnect with St. Henry, you are invited to contact Linda Large or Paula Proctor for a tour of our expanded campus, as well as for questions regarding the over 60 ministries that are active in our parish and how you might get more involved in the parish.

You can reach Paula by email at [pproctor@sthenry.org](mailto:pproctor@sthenry.org) or Linda at [llarge@sthenry.org](mailto:llarge@sthenry.org) or by calling the church office.



## Annual Financial Report 2011

The Annual Report for fiscal year 2010/2011 reflects the continuing generosity of the St. Henry Parish family.

This year, Offertory increased from the previous fiscal year by \$130,000 or 5.5%. The Building Fund donations were \$94,400, and with one bequest and operations expense on budget, the fiscal year, less loan payments, ended on a positive note of \$385,000.

Out of this surplus, loan payments, and loan restructuring costs, were made, requiring the use of only \$50,000 from our reserves, versus a budgeted requirement from reserves of \$150,000. Our restructured loan reduces our interest rate from 5.6% to 4.81 %.

In our last Newsletter, we reported to the Parish that St. Henry was receiving monies from the sale of properties at the Cloister in an arrangement designed to give residents ownership to the land on which their house sits. In the "Notes to Statements" section of this Financial Report, note (2), the sum of \$832,781 is reported as received in 2011. With this money, a lump sum payment was made of \$843,900 to our capital debt loan.

Also, as reported in the Spring-Summer 2011 Newsletter, we entered a multiyear program to repair the 14 stained glass windows in the Narthex.

Our ability to meet our operating expenses, commitment to our school, our sister parish in Haiti, our many ministries, and to pay down the debt plus embark on a major and necessary repair of the Narthex windows is dependent on, and is especially a tribute to the continuing commitment of the St. Henry Parish community to our call for Stewardship.

Thank you and God bless you for your support in so many ways,

St. Henry Finance Board  
 Bob Loedding, Chair

Any questions or comments may be directed to [FinanceBoard@sthenry.org](mailto:FinanceBoard@sthenry.org)

| Parish Sacramental Report<br>July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011 |      |
|---|------|
| Infant Baptisms   | 68   |
| Adult Baptisms  | 2    |
| First Communions  | 107  |
| Confirmations   | 122  |
| Marriages   | 18   |
| Funerals  | 39   |
| Number of registered parishioner households               | 2233 |
| Estimated number of individual Catholics                  | 6700 |

# STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND DISBURSEMENTS

| Description   | Actual<br>July 1, 2009-<br>June 30, 2010 | Actual<br>July 1, 2010-<br>June 30, 2011 | Budget<br>July 1, 2011-<br>June 30, 2012 |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>REVENUES</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>Church</b>   |  |  |  |
| Offerory Receipts   | \$ 2,314,002                             | \$ 2,470,821                             | \$ 2,460,000                             |
| Other Church Receipts                                       | 387,264                                  | 388,285                                  | 239,550                                  |
| Haiti Donations   | 47,607                                   | 47,076                                   | 48,000                                   |
| <sup>(1)</sup> Second Collections                           | 94,278                                   | 70,349                                   | 61,800                                   |
| <b>Total Church Receipts</b>                                | <b>\$ 2,870,151</b>                      | <b>\$ 2,976,531</b>                      | <b>\$ 2,809,350</b>                      |
| <sup>(2)</sup> <b>Building Fund Receipts</b>                | <b>\$ 87,564</b>                         | <b>\$ 927,127</b>                        | <b>\$ 100,000</b>                        |
| <b>School (includes Pre-K)</b>                              |  |  |  |
| Tuition   | \$ 3,189,754                             | \$ 3,215,292                             | \$ 3,373,611                             |
| Parish Subsidies  | 466,606                                  | 458,036                                  | 488,199                                  |
| <sup>(3)</sup> Fees, Books, Gifts, Other                    | 627,721                                  | 610,175                                  | 576,730                                  |
| <b>Total School Receipts</b>                                | <b>\$ 4,284,081</b>                      | <b>\$ 4,283,503</b>                      | <b>\$ 4,438,540</b>                      |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                                       | <b>\$ 7,241,797</b>                      | <b>\$ 8,187,161</b>                      | <b>\$ 7,347,890</b>                      |
| <b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>Church</b>   |  |  |  |
| Wages, Payroll Tax, & Benefits                              | \$ 844,027                               | \$ 826,369                               | \$ 835,574                               |
| Diocesan Assessments  | 380,900                                  | 398,442                                  | 398,420                                  |
| School Subsidies  | 448,108                                  | 441,542                                  | 456,796                                  |
| Ministries Expenses   | 211,299                                  | 242,756                                  | 228,603                                  |
| Charity Assistance  | 201,825                                  | 173,607                                  | 151,294                                  |
| Haiti   | 48,276                                   | 67,556                                   | 45,600                                   |
| Diocesan Collections  | 94,278                                   | 70,326                                   | 61,800                                   |
| <sup>(4)</sup> Other Expenditures                           | 409,794                                  | 522,296                                  | 477,952                                  |
| To Church Restricted Reserves                               | 231,644                                  | 233,637                                  | 153,310                                  |
| (From)  |  |  |  |
| <b>Total Church Expenses</b>                                | <b>\$ 2,870,151</b>                      | <b>\$ 2,976,531</b>                      | <b>\$ 2,809,350</b>                      |
| <b>Building Loan Payments</b>                               | <b>\$ 338,874</b>                        | <b>\$ 1,350,887</b>                      | <b>\$ 210,000</b>                        |
| To Building Fund Reserve                                    | (251,310)                                | (423,760)                                | (110,000)                                |
| (From)  |  |  |  |
| <b>School</b>   |  |  |  |
| Wages, Payroll Tax, & Benefits                              | \$ 2,864,032                             | \$ 2,908,117                             | \$ 3,023,343                             |
| Materials & Supplies  | 403,165                                  | 370,164                                  | 449,910                                  |
| <sup>(5)</sup> All Other Expenses                           | 962,141                                  | 900,421                                  | 870,341                                  |
| To School Reserve Funds                                     | 54,744                                   | 104,800                                  | 94,946                                   |
| (From)  |  |  |  |
| <b>Total School Expenses</b>                                | <b>\$ 4,284,081</b>                      | <b>\$ 4,283,503</b>                      | <b>\$ 4,438,540</b>                      |
| <b>Building Project-School</b>                              |  |  |  |
| <sup>(6)</sup> Expenditures                                 | \$ 127,601                               | \$ -                                     | \$ -                                     |
| (From) School Reserve Funds                                 | \$ (127,601)                             | \$ -                                     | \$ -                                     |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b>                                  | <b>\$ 7,334,319</b>                      | <b>\$ 8,272,484</b>                      | <b>\$ 7,209,633</b>                      |
| <b>Total Disbursements and Reserve<br/>Fund Allocations</b> | <b>\$ 7,241,797</b>                      | <b>\$ 8,187,161</b>                      | <b>\$ 7,347,890</b>                      |
| <b>Reserve Fund Balance</b>                                 |  |  |  |
| Parish Operating Reserve                                    | \$ 600,000                               | \$ 600,000                               | \$ 600,000                               |
| <sup>(7)</sup> Parish Restricted Reserve Funds              | 206,467                                  | 48,476                                   | 47,800                                   |
| <sup>(8)</sup> School Reserve Funds                         | 546,313                                  | 862,349                                  | 945,000                                  |
| Church Building Fund Reserve                                | 606,397                                  | 387,206                                  | 443,500                                  |
| Total Cash on Deposit                                       | \$ 1,959,177                             | \$ 1,898,032                             | \$ 2,036,300                             |
| Construction Loan Balance                                   | \$ 3,655,768                             | \$ 2,700,000                             | \$ 2,617,750                             |

## Notes to Statements:

- (1) Second collections and 1/2 of the Christmas offertory committed to the Diocese.
- (2) Includes St. Henry Property Development land sale proceeds of \$832,781 received in 2011.
- (3) Includes registration: cafeteria, aftercare & athletics revenue; Home & School & Development fund raising.
- (4) Includes church repairs, maintenance, utilities, insurance, residence, printing, postage & general office expense.
- (5) Includes school repairs, maintenance, utilities, tuition aid, cafeteria, athletics, Home & School programs, field trips & student functions, training, technology & other non-classroom expenses.
- (6) Playground equipment & ground cover paid by Home & School.
- (7) Includes Haiti, S.V.D.P., Men's Club, Women's Club, Why Catholic, Respect Life unused restricted donations.
- (8) Includes School operating surplus, Endowment fund, Home & School reserve funds, interest on savings, depreciation reserves, and tuition deposits collected for the upcoming school year.

If you would like further explanation, please contact the church business office at the parish center.

*Saint Henry*  
*Church*

6401 Harding Pike  
Nashville, TN 37205

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ST. HENRY CHURCH  
2011 Seasonal Schedule

Advent Penance Service  
November 28 at 7:00 p.m.

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Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

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Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and Midnight  
No confessions, no 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening Mass.  
Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 a.m.

*There is no childcare on December 24 & 25*

