

Agenda
Annual Parish Meeting
February 4, 2024

- I. Opening
 - a. Divine Liturgy
 - b. Opening Prayer
- II. Roll Call
- III. Reports
 - a. Approval of 2023 Parish Meeting Minutes
 - b. Parish Rector
 - c. Parish Council President
 - d. Vice President
 - e. Treasurer
 - i. Financial Report
 - 1. Balance Sheet
 - 2. Income
 - 3. Expense
 - ii. 2024 Proposed Budget
 - f. Audit Committee
 - g. Cemetery
 - h. Financial Secretary
 - i. Investment
 - j. Education
 - k. Outreach
 - l. Technology
 - m. Choir
 - n. Myrrh Bearing Women
 - o. O Club
 - p. Nominating Committee
- IV. Elections
 - a. Parish Council & Officers
 - b. 2024 Diocese Council Representative
 - c. Auditors
 - d. Nominating Committee
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business
 - a. Church Activities
 - i. Golf Tournament – October 5, 2024
 - ii. Myrrh Bearing Women Peroghi Sales
 - iii. O Club Events
 - 1. Cookie fundraiser
 - 2. Others
 - iv. Parish Feast Day - Sunday, September 8, 2024
 - b. Other
- VII. Adjournment & Closing Prayer

**Annual Parish Meeting
Nativity of the Virgin Mary Parish
February 5, 2023**

The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer.

Attendance was taken. 28 voting members present; 1 member via Google Meet.

Roll call of council members:

Fr. Nicholas Finley

Robert Butchko, President

Lori Billy, Vice President

John Derr, Treasurer (via Google Meet)

Sarah Butchko, Secretary

George Smith, Financial Secretary

Members at large: Jason Basso, Peter Lecko

Robert Butchko asked if everyone had reviewed the 2022 annual meeting minutes and if there were any questions or corrections.

A motion was made by Steve Rydgig and seconded by Justin Brannon to accept the minutes as written; motion carried.

Reports were reviewed (see packet for reports).

Rector Report:

Father Nicholas' report is as written.

There were no questions.

President Report:

Robert Butchko presented his report for the year. There is a cost of living increase, so now the council's spending limit is \$12,460.

There were no questions.

Treasurer Report:

Robert Butchko presented the report on behalf of John Derr.

There is some handwritten information in the report and that is because we had some difficulty purchasing CD's; it was counted as an expense and should not have been. We are not manipulating the report; it was a glitch in the program.

Highlights from report:

Operating Expense: \$166,927.41

Adding the capital items brought it to \$190,033.91 (audio system)

Current Assets: \$270,000

Jason Basso motions to accept the treasury report and Brian Prince seconds; motion carried.

Sandy would like to thank John for the wonderful services he is doing as treasurer. It was very organized and able to audit.

Budget is as presented.

Mike Butchko asked is the budget assuming we don't raise candle prices? Answer is yes. We may have to raise the price with the costs increasing.

Steve Rydgig asked if we should add the refrigerator next door to the budget because it is not working? The ladies usually take care of it and are going to talk about it later.

Andrew Konan asked about sidewalks and grading-are these the ones on the property? Yes, the city takes care of the rest.

Total budget is \$166,685.

A motion was made by Steve Rydgig to approve the budget as presented and seconded by Karen Butchko; motion carried.

Financial Secretary Report:

George Smith presented his report for the year.

Investments have taken a loss this year. We are hoping things will change this year.

If you would like a statement of your donations for 2022, please let George know.

No questions.

Audit Committee Report:

Sandy Ellis and Christine Schilling are the committee. Christine presented the report. No questions.

A motion was made by Jason Basso to accept the audit committee report and seconded by Peter Lecko; motion carried.

Building Committee Report:

Lori Billy presented her report as written. No questions.

Cemetery Report:

Sarah Butchko presented the report.

A special thank you to Mike Macek for all of his work.

There were no questions.

Education Report:

Father Nicholas orally presented the report.

Justin Brannon has been helping teach the church school. Education is not just for the kids.

There is a weekly book group. This Tuesday they are starting a new book. Everyone is welcome to join!

Justin added that there is Bible study on Thursdays and Catechism classes are on Wednesday.

There were no questions.

Investment Committee Report:

George Smith presented the report as written.
There were no questions.

Outreach Committee Report:

Father Nicholas presented the report orally.

We have had very limited foot traffic for the Blessings Barn, however, we do have some basic needs that we keep downstairs for people who come by in need. We are limited in the interest around the church. Father Matthew from St. Louis has reached out from FOCUS to do a dinner for them. Father Nicholas and George Smith have an open house every Wednesday and Friday for people to come in from the community and learn more about the church. Father Nicholas has a grant stipend that maybe they will use to plan a BBQ on the lawn to try to draw more people in.

Andrew Konan asked if the open house is posted on the website? The answer is no, but we can do that.

Technology Committee Report:

Peter Lecko presented the report. There are no questions.

Choir Report:

Karen Butchko presented the report. No questions.

Ladies Sodality Report:

Sharon Butchko presented the report.

We have a new range hooked up and working. The refrigerator stopped working, so we are going to try to get it repaired or will have to buy a new one.

Everything is marked in the hall kitchen, please put things away in the proper place and please take extra items home with you. Please clean up after yourselves. There is a stick vacuum and brooms to help clean up. The directory is updated and as soon as Father reviews it, it will be sent out to the parish.

No questions.

O' Club Report:

Andrea Davies spoke and report as written.
There were no questions.

Nominating Committee/Elections:

For the office of President: Robert Butchko

Vice President: Lori Billy

Secretary: Sarah Butchko

Treasurer: John Derr

Financial Secretary: George Smith

Members at Large: Jason Basso, Michael Butchko, Andrew Konan, Christine Schilling

Father Nick asked for any further nominations from the floor. Helen Allen made a motion that the nominations be closed and the slate of officers be accepted; Peter Lecko seconded; voted on; motion carries.

Are there any nominations from the floor for the open positions? There were none.

Peter Lecko made a motion that the nominations be closed for the nominations for members at large and the slate be accepted; Sandy Ellis seconded; motion carried.

Diocesan Assembly Representative:

Lori Billy is willing to serve as our Diocesan council representative. There are no additional nominations.

A motion was made by Karen Butchko for Lori Billy to serve as Diocesan council representative; Christine Schilling seconded; motion carried.

The parish voted; motion carried.

Auditors:

Bob Butchko nominated Sandy Ellis and Lori Billy nominated Pat Lecko. Both accepted.

The parish voted; motion carried.

Nominating Committee:

Justin Brannon nominated himself as lay person and a council representative will be selected at our next council meeting.

Jason Basso motion; Brian Prince seconds

The parish voted; motion carried.

Old Business:

We will talk about all of the projects together so that each cost can be considered.

Icons: we hope that the parishoners looked at the drawings and went to Michael's website. We received a recommendation for Michael Kapeluck. He has been an iconographer for 30 years.

The council decided to select him as an iconographer. He came in to see the church and met with council members to come up with a plan. We are not replacing the iconostas. The walls in the altar are pretty blank; there are some icons on the wall that we can find a new home for.

Father Nicholas went over the plans with the parish and explained where all of the icons would be located in the altar area and throughout the rest of the church. We would like to determine what we would like to do as a parish, if anything at all.

Justin Brannon asked if the style of iconographer will be the same as what we have here? It will compliment the style.

Andrew Konon asked will the sides be duplicated? The answer is no; the sides will be different.

Elizabeth Sweet asked: what would be the priority? We didn't set anything, however, St.

Theodosius would probably be first because of the donations already given. Are there church

rules? Father said there is a bit of a priority to do the altar from a church perspective. Father said it's not a huge priority, however, we have the donation for St. Theodosius.

Christine Schilling: What is the cost? Everything \$213,250

Icons of the Saints- \$2000 a piece (8 icons; total \$16,000)

Altar- \$64,000

Each side panel- \$40,000

Matushka Tanya: Has anyone seen his finished work? Yes on his website.

Karen Butchko: Is this on canvas? It's a special kind of vinyl and acrylic.

Justin Brannon: What is the repetition on the wall of the Annunciation? Father explained by showing around the church how there is repetition. Are we going to do this all at once or over time? We don't know yet, but probably over time. So, the cost may go up a little bit.

Helen Allen: Have we talked to any of the churches he has done work in? Lori Billy answered yes; the recommendation actually came from Maryann Sporcic who has seen a lot of his work and says it is just beautiful. Did he work well with the parish? Yes, he worked well with us and from others who have talked to he did with them as well.

Christine Schilling: Does his cost include scaffolding? No-we will have to cover that and shipping.

John Derr: How are the icons delivered? Are they rolled and framed here? The lower icons will be framed and shipped and the panels he will bring and install.

Mike Butchko: In regards to the wall, is there anything we have to do to the wall? No, he has a special adhesive.

Bev Capek: What is the proposal for the icons right now? We put \$5000 in the budget to start with 2 icons. Bev suggested we have a plan-order the first 2 icons, see if we like it, start building up the fund, and go from there.

The icon fund currently has \$2300 in it. If we accumulate more money, next year we can go and add more.

Sandy Ellis: I can see moving forward with a plan. I can understand Father's need to concentrate on something in the altar. In the meantime, since we can't afford to do the entire altar right now, my former church ordered printed icons on wood. Would we consider ordering a couple of those in the meantime?

Todd Sweet asked about the money that has been set aside for the icons. He was wanting to know if this was a donation and Bob explained that it was. Jason Basson suggests that we up the amount to \$8,000 and start off with 4 icons and move on from there. We will plan some town hall meetings to discuss this further.

Sidewalks: we've tried to have accessibility to all of our buildings. We have some ramps for temporary accessibility. The sidewalks would level up to the lip of the entrances, so we wouldn't need ramps anymore. We would pitch more of the lawn away that can help with some of the water issues we are still having. They can take the downspouts to the curb, so the water will go directly to the street. The bid is \$10,800 plus some time costs. Estimate \$12,000-13,000.

These sidewalks will have rebar and be drilled into the building so we don't have to worry about movement. Mike Macek knows the contractor and has done work with them and if we proceed he will be here each day to monitor the project.

Father: if the bid includes the automated door; Mike said no that would be an additional cost.
Steve: What will the fill in look like? The sides will be filled in so it would not be a trip hazard.
Christine Schilling: Do we need city approval to move the downspouts? Mike said he will take care of it.

Andrew Konon: Does this include the driveway? No. Does the bid include removal? Yes

Karen Butchko: Construction time? We don't know yet-when the weather gets better and before Easter.

Bell: We had a roofer checking things out and while he was up there he noticed the bell is flattened. The bell company said the bell is in good shape, but while they were here we had him look at it to mechanize the bell. It's about \$6,000. Father can push a button from his phone to ring the bell. If the Wifi goes down, we can push a button and it will still work. We also get some water in from where the rope is. It would probably preserve the life of the bell because they can put it to hit in a different place. The clapper would be removed and replaced with a box.

Justin Brannon: Would the rope be gone? Yes

We have put money in the budget for all of the projects

Icons: \$5000

Bell: \$6000

Sidewalks: \$12,500

All 3 projects around \$25,000

Jason Basso makes a motion to put all three projects on the table for approval. Steve Rydgig seconds the motion. Jason is saying to do 4 icons so that ups the cost to \$30,000; motion carries by count of 23 in favor; 5 opposed.

We need to look at the donations and we are asking everyone to do 5% more to help with each project. Our investments dropped quite a bit so we are hoping that we regain some of that lost money. On the envelopes you can designate what you want. Janice Kren wants to prioritize the sidewalks if we are only doing one project but since we are doing all three she is fine with that. Bev Capek is wondering if we have only \$15,000 we could take the money out of our funds to cover so that we do not have to stop any projects.

Steve Rydgig: asked about the clear choice box- we proposed some changes to the contract to them. They turned it over to their legal department and haven't heard back from them.

Cemetery: we have petitioned to annex the city of Glen Carbon and February 14 it goes before their board for approval.

Andrew Konon: concerned that we will have to pay to annex? We may have to pay a bit, but it will bring a water source to the property for the future.

John Derr: Will they bring electricity? No-we would have to go through the electric company.

Don Billy: What happened to Phase 3 of the construction project? We have put that on hold because of other expenses and things we are worried about in the future for replacements.

New Business:

Church Activities:

Golf Tournament is October 2023

Family Reunion/Picnic is September 10, 2023

Father Nicholas announced that we will have the second week of Lenten service here

Other:

A motion was made by Peter Lecko and seconded Jason Basso to adjourn the meeting; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Butchko, Secretary

Father Nicholas Finley, Parish Priest

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Nicholas Finley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "F".

Rector's Report 2024

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As of September 1, 2023 (for the period between September 1, 2022 and September 1, 2023):

Supporting Membership - 62; Average Sunday Attendance at Divine Liturgy - 39; Average Sunday Communicants 38; Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance - 9; Number of Catechumens - 1; Baptisms - 2; Funerals - 2; Marriages - 0; Receptions into Orthodoxy - 2; Church School/Number enrolled - 10; Adult Education Participating - 7.

We add the following since September 1 - Funeral - 1 (upcoming this week - John Derr). May John's memory be eternal! This will be included with the 2024 report submitted to the Diocese in September.

We continue to serve and give glory to the Lord in all things. The availability of adult education and Church School for the children continue to be a significant asset to the life of our parish. We include with the Adult Education the preparation of adult catechumens for reception into the Orthodox Church. This is an important aspect of the life of our parish and needs particular emphasis. It is being identified that we desire to grow in numbers. How might we welcome other people as members of the Church? In all likelihood this effort would be best supported by a highly educated congregation of parishioners; those who are able to share their faith with others in Truth and in Love. I submit this report for our annual summary of activity in our parish and it is my hope that this need for increased education will inspire you and others to learn more about our Church. Read! Study! Learn! Become a vessel that is able to share the faith with others. If we desire others to join our parish but we ourselves are not comfortable helping to instruct about matters of faith, it will be much more difficult to grow our current membership. There are many resources available. I recommend in particular "The Orthodox Faith" by Father Thomas Hopko, of blessed memory. This resource is available FREE on the OCA webpage at www.oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith.

We are very blessed and fortunate to welcome His Eminence, Archbishop DANIEL who recently visited our parish. May God preserve our Arch-pastor for many blessed years!

Reaching out to the community around us continues to pose many challenges. It seems a reasonable approach, for the present, is to say hello to our neighbors in the homes adjacent to the Church building and the surrounding community as much as possible and to present ourselves as servants willing to help those in need. Emphasizing a desire to be neighborly ourselves so that we approach others in the name of Christ. Offering our hearts and souls as those who must render account before the Dread Judgment Seat of Christ. Whatever we visit upon those around us, we do to Christ.

In Christ,

Very Reverend Nicholas Finley, Rector



Parish Council President's Report February 4, 2024

This was a year of much activity in our parish highlighted by the blessing of our new icons of St. John Kucherov, St. Theodosius, St. Moses and the Myrrh Bearing Women. The sidewalk project grew from its original scope but now has our facilities accessible to all. Many ancillary projects and repairs have probably gone unnoticed but have helped us modernize, repair, update or make more efficient the physical property, such as security lighting, bell ringing programming, icon frames, and Zapivka cart. Most of this can be attributed to much hard work from Mr. Michael Macek, who has spent many a day at the Church and Hall working and saving us costs by providing his labor and skill to address pressing issues. Thank you, Mike for your dedication and commitment to helping us. All of the building projects will be detailed and explained under the Vice-President's report.

Our activity was not limited to construction and repair. To address the needs of the Church, Council members were tasked with responsibility for different activities within the Parish with, in some cases, the assistance of interested parishioners. The various assignments are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Building & Grounds | Lori Billy*, Mike Macek, Andrew Konon |
| Education | Fr. Nicholas*, Lori Billy, Sarah Butchko, Christine Schilling, Adina Prince, Justin Brannon and Maggie Fryntzko |
| Finance | John Derr, Bob Butchko |
| Investment | George Smith, Mike Butchko |
| Nominating Committee | Lori Billy*, Sarah Butchko, Justin Brannon** |
| Cemetery | Sarah Butchko*, Mike Macek, Craig Rydgig, Sharon Butchko |
| Outreach | George Smith, Fr. Nicholas |
| Training & Scheduling | Jason Basso* |
| Technology | Mike Butchko*, Peter Lecko |
| Audit | Sandy Ellis**, Pat Lecko** |

*Council Member and Chair

**Elected at Annual Parish Meeting

ACTIVITIES

Several of the committees have details of their activities in separate reports. Below is a listing of some of the more significant accomplishments:

Icons of Saints framed and installed between windows in the Church
Sidewalk accessibility project and front yard resodded
Bell automation
Neighborhood outreach program

Brass banners cleaned and polished
Hall wired to Church for Internet service
Cemetery landscape updated
Cemetery annexed into Glen Carbon from Madison County
Church School Education program expanded

I want to thank all of the Council members and parishioners for their assistance in working with these programs this past year. I encourage each of you to use your talents for the betterment of our parish and the Glory of God.

FINANCES

The national and local economies have played havoc with our financial stability and coupled with the expenses from this year's projects and increased operational costs, our financial outlook is suffering. Monies from the Church savings had to be used to meet the expenses this year. Our income rose slightly but was exceeded by our expenses. Fortunately, our financial position improved slightly due to a favorable stock market. The Cemetery Perpetual Care fund has grown to \$136,296 with steady contributions from parishioners and families of departed interred at the cemetery. Fortunately, cemetery donations exceeded our costs this year.

To address our future financial needs, we are looking at a three-pronged approach to meet our growing financial needs:

1. How to increase income from our current membership?
2. How to grow our membership?
3. How to reduce/maintain our expenses?

We hope to have productive discussions about how to address these issues. We ask that each parishioner address their own situations and consider whether they can make an increase to their church offerings. Some of our parishioners have increased their giving to help meet the operational and project needs of the Church. Thank God for your generosity. For this next year, if you are able, please consider increasing your giving to help meet the growing needs of our Church.

We have prepared a plan to reach more people who may have an interest in Orthodoxy and to reach those who do not know about the Orthodox Church. We are also proposing an outreach program using social media to spread the word of Orthodoxy to the community, particularly targeting young people or people who use social media platforms. More information will be provided at the Parish meeting.

And lastly, we are and have reviewed our expenses and will explain how each of us can make a conscious effort to watch for waste, cut usage or purchase of unneeded items or simply turning off lights not in use. Each of us need to be better stewards of God's house and by so doing, we can maintain it and this community for future generations.

UPDATES

The Parish Cemetery has continued to be beautified with additional landscaping installed and clearing of perimeter scrub trees. Also, our petition to the Village of Glen Carbon to annex the Cemetery into the Village was approved and we are now part of the Village and receive police protection and have access to their water system. We are considering extending the water to our landscape beds to provide water. If approved, this would cost \$3,000 for the tap from the Village and costs to install a water line.

As I mentioned earlier, we have added four new icons, written by Michael Kapeluck of Archangel Icons. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, the fund collected \$8,635 over the past three years and almost met the cost of the iconography. We have not proposed any more for 2024 because of the major building needs, but hope to get back to the program next year. Please continue to donate toward future iconography for the Church.

Some items that need updating are the Fiber Optic lease with Clearwave and the donation of property east of the Church. It appears that the fiber optic project has been dropped or delayed indefinitely. We have had no response to our inquiries and have not seen any installation of fiber optics in Madison. The proposed exchange of our parishioner's property and donation of the property east of the Church to our parish has ended with no action. It appears that our neighbor could not raise the additional funds necessary to renovate the other property in the agreement. If an opportunity arises to obtain the property east of the Church, we will advise the Parish.

PROPOSED PROJECTS

There are many needs to repair or enhance the Church and Hall but the most pressing is tuckpointing the Church. Bricks are spalling and in some cases are loose and allowing moisture into the building. This project is of the utmost importance to be completed quickly. It is also an expensive project that may limit others this year. A full explanation will be made at the meeting to provide details and costs.

I want to extend a special thank you to John Derr, for his dedication and perseverance with his duties as Treasurer under very difficult circumstances. May God bless John and his family.

Thank you to all who have assisted in parish events and functions this past year, and thank you to all for allowing me to serve as your Parish Council President. May God Bless each of you.

Yours in Christ,

Robert G. Butchko
Parish Council President

Parish Council Vice President's Report
February 4, 2024

The past year has been one that has allowed us to complete projects that have needed our attention. We once again have had to jump through some financial hoops, but by God's grace, we have been able to find ways to complete these items and not deplete the budget. The following items have been completed this year:

1. Icons were transported by Sarah and I from Pittsburgh and they have been framed and mounted. Thank you Mike Macek for the frames and mounting.
2. Sidewalks have been raised so that we no longer need ramps to enter the Church or the hall. The sidewalks were extended to the street and additional handicapped parking was added.
3. The bell has been mechanized and is now rung through a remote. It is obviously much easier and works without fear of the rope breaking.
4. We had a spring and fall clean up of the grounds and will plan on doing this each year.
5. The hall has been wired for the internet. Vacuums and mops were bought for weekly clean up after coffee hour. We are asking that each week people take a few minutes to clean up the floor and table where they have been sitting to help reduce the work for our custodian.

Throughout my tenure as Vice President, I have listed the need for having the bricks on the church repaired every year in my report. We are now at a point where this task must be completed. We have found that if we do not address this, we are risking having water damage to the church building. We have bids and we are going to need to make a decision. It's not if we are going to fix it but when. As always, we cannot do this without your support. We have also been looking into ways that we can reduce our expenses. I have contacted the company that I used for my solar panels and they have presented us with a bid for the church.

As the 125th anniversary of the parish approaches, there will be other items that we will need to address. Just know that your parish council is working diligently and responsibly to try and keep the building and grounds beautiful and structurally sound.

As always, as other items arise, we will address and prioritize them, working hard to maintain our grounds. We ask that you continue to remember the needs of our parish as you have always done. We have accomplished so much because of your continued generosity. The council's goal is to provide a facility that helps to bring you closer to God and his Holy Church.

I have enjoyed my time on the council and have found it to be a rewarding and positive experience. It has been my joy and honor to serve on the church council all of these years. Our parish is very special and we need to continue to work to keep the doors open and the church looking as beautiful as possible. It should be something that we all take pride in and want to be a part of! I pray that God continues to bless our parish and our parishioners.

With love in Christ,

Lori Billy

| 2023 Final Report | | Balance Sheet | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|--|--|-------------------|--------------|
| Total Funds | | 31-Dec-23 | 31-Dec-22 | Summary | | | Assets | |
| Checking | General Fund | \$21,748.06 | \$38,633.09 | Total Annual Income | | | General Fund | \$133,971.29 |
| Savings | Money Market-PNC | \$12,960.68 | \$7,877.38 | \$219,742.95 | | | Building Fund | \$19,988.66 |
| Investments | Mutual funds & Stocks | \$259,042.13 | \$208,679.50 | Total Annual Expense | | | Cemetery Fund | \$136,296.10 |
| St. Louis Investments, Inc | Building Fund | \$19,988.66 | \$28,757.42 | \$244,692.62 | | | Urgent Needs Fund | \$3,494.82 |
| St. Louis Investments, Inc | Cemetery Fund | \$36,884.55 | \$0.00 | NET BALANCE | | | Icon Fund | \$0.00 |
| AB Discovery Growth | Building Fund | | \$5,677.53 | -\$24,949.67 | | | Total Funds | \$293,750.87 |
| Invesco | General Fund | \$28,469.26 | \$21,167.71 | | | | | |
| AB Discovery Value | Cemetery Fund | \$31,061.37 | \$26,396.91 | | | | | |
| AB High Income | Cemetery Fund | \$62,396.86 | \$54,590.15 | | | | | |
| AB Large Cap Growth | General Fund | \$80,241.43 | \$72,089.78 | | | | | |
| Urgent Needs | Money Market-PNC | | | | | | | |
| Icon Fund | | \$0.00 | | | | | | |
| Edward Jones CD | | \$0.00 | | | | | | |
| Total Funds | | \$293,750.87 | \$290,189.97 | | | | | |
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Income/Expense Ratio
89.8%

2023 Final Report Income Report

| Income Category | | Income Totals |
|------------------------|--|---------------|
| ITEM | | Year to date |
| Offering | | \$140,292.96 |
| Building | | \$2,025.00 |
| Candles | | \$3,049.10 |
| Memorials | | \$4,885.00 |
| Flowers | | \$105.00 |
| Cemetery | | \$7,102.05 |
| Education | | \$0.00 |
| Urgent Needs | | \$500.00 |
| Fund Raiser Events | | \$10,374.00 |
| Building Renovation | | \$8,764.42 |
| Choir | | \$445.00 |
| Icons | | \$7,935.00 |
| Special Collections | | \$701.00 |
| Internal Acct Transfer | | \$33,564.42 |
| Misc Income | | 44.21 |
| Total Annual Income | | \$219,742.95 |

2023 Final Expense Report

| Expense Category | | Budget Comparison | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| ITEM | | Year-to-date | Budget | % of Budget |
| Compensation | | 91,141.39 | \$88,000.00 | 103.6% |
| <i>Priest Salary</i> | | 12,645.30 | | |
| <i>Priest Housing Allowance</i> | | 50,000.04 | | |
| <i>Priest Auto Allowance</i> | | 1,200.00 | | |
| <i>Priest Cell Phone</i> | | 1,059.96 | | |
| <i>Priest Pension</i> | | 7,517.52 | | |
| <i>Priest Health Insurance</i> | | 12,357.96 | | |
| <i>Priest Life Insurance</i> | | 1,151.65 | | |
| <i>Priest Misc</i> | | 245.00 | | |
| <i>Priest Self Employment Tax</i> | | 4,963.96 | | |
| Cemetery | | \$7,072.58 | \$6,000.00 | 117.9% |
| <i>Cemetery Mowing</i> | | \$4,782.15 | | |
| <i>Repairs and Improvements</i> | | \$2,230.43 | | |
| Building Maintenance | | \$18,916.05 | \$7,000.00 | 270.2% |
| <i>Improvements</i> | | \$9,838.83 | | |
| <i>Repairs and Supplies</i> | | \$5,806.22 | | |
| <i>Alarm Service</i> | | \$1,236.00 | | |
| <i>Lawn Care</i> | | \$1,661.09 | | |
| <i>Trash Service</i> | | \$373.91 | | |

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|--------------------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Candles | | \$4,062.60 | \$5,000.00 | 81.3% |
| Office Expenses | | \$9,528.14 | \$4,000.00 | 238.2% |
| <i>Land Line Phone</i> | | \$4,057.00 | | |
| <i>Postage</i> | | \$66.00 | | |
| <i>Website</i> | | \$300.00 | | |
| <i>Software fees & licensing</i> | | \$350.48 | | |
| <i>Internet</i> | | \$3,730.35 | | |
| <i>Office supplies</i> | | \$1,023.31 | | |
| Utilities | | \$18,569.42 | \$15,000.00 | 123.8% |
| <i>Electric & Gas</i> | | \$13,079.12 | | |
| <i>Water</i> | | \$4,401.65 | | |
| <i>Sewer</i> | | \$1,088.65 | | |
| Gifts and Charitable Donations | | \$9,950.00 | \$7,000.00 | 142.1% |
| Insurance | | \$8,328.50 | \$8,000.00 | 104.1% |
| Janitor | | \$5,400.00 | \$5,100.00 | 105.9% |
| Banking Administrative Costs | | \$539.86 | \$250.00 | 215.9% |
| Assessments | | \$15,503.18 | \$16,435.00 | 94.3% |
| Flowers | | \$522.33 | \$500.00 | 104.5% |
| Choir | | \$34.75 | \$200.00 | 17.4% |
| Education (Church School) | | \$430.80 | \$300.00 | 143.6% |
| Ecclesiastical Supplies | | | \$500.00 | 0.0% |
| Urgent Needs | | \$12,743.00 | \$2,000.00 | 637.2% |
| Fundraiser events | | \$2,931.39 | \$2,500.00 | 117.3% |
| Assemblies | | \$1,522.08 | | |

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|-------------------------|--|--------------|-------------|--------|
| Outreach Programs | | 656.33 | \$0.00 | |
| Misc | | \$1,810.22 | \$2,000.00 | 90.5% |
| Operating Budget | | \$209,662.62 | 169,785.90 | 123.5% |
| Special Projects | | | | |
| <i>Sidewalk Project</i> | | \$23,503.00 | \$15,000.00 | 156.7% |
| <i>Bell</i> | | \$1,800.00 | \$6,000.00 | 30.0% |
| <i>Icons</i> | | 9,727.00 | \$8,000.00 | 121.6% |
| Total Annual Expense | | 244,692.62 | 198,785.90 | 123.1% |

| Proposed Budget 2024 | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | 2024 Proposed Budget | 2023 Expenses | 2023 Budget | Comments |
| Assemblies | \$1,500.00 | 1,522.08 | \$1,000.00 | |
| Assessments | \$21,200.00 | \$15,503.18 | \$16,435.00 | Diocesan calculation |
| Banking Administrative Costs | \$50.00 | \$539.86 | \$250.00 | |
| Building Maintenance | \$10,000.00 | \$18,916.05 | \$7,000.00 | |
| Improvements | \$2,000.00 | \$9,838.83 | | |
| Repairs and Supplies | \$4,000.00 | \$5,806.22 | | |
| Alarm Service | \$1,100.00 | \$1,236.00 | | |
| Lawn Care | \$2,500.00 | \$1,661.09 | | |
| Trash Service | \$400.00 | \$373.91 | | |
| Cemetery | \$6,000.00 | \$7,072.58 | \$6,000.00 | |
| Cemetery Mowing | \$5,000.00 | \$4,782.15 | | |
| Repairs and Improvements | \$1,000.00 | \$2,290.43 | | |
| Choir | \$200.00 | \$34.75 | \$200.00 | |
| Compensation | \$94,619.00 | \$91,141.39 | \$88,000.00 | |
| Priest Salary | \$13,050.00 | 12,645.30 | | Increase of 3.2% Diocese |
| Priest Housing Allowance | \$51,600.00 | 50,000.04 | | Increase of 3.2% Diocese |
| Priest Auto Allowance | \$1,200.00 | 1,200.00 | | |
| Priest Cell Phone | \$1,060.00 | 1,059.96 | | |
| Priest Pension | \$9,051.00 | 7,517.52 | | Increase from 12% to 14% OCA |
| Priest Health Insurance | \$13,500.00 | 12,357.96 | | |
| Priest Life Insurance | \$536.00 | 1,151.65 | | |
| Priest Misc | \$0.00 | 245.00 | | |
| Priest Self Employment Tax | \$4,622.00 | 4,963.96 | | |
| Ecclesiastical Supplies | \$5,900.00 | \$0.00 | \$500.00 | |
| Candles | \$4,000.00 | \$4,062.60 | \$5,000.00 | |
| Cleaning & Repair | \$500.00 | | | |
| Robes | \$1,200.00 | | | Altar server robes |
| Religious Supplies | \$200.00 | | | |
| Religious Articles | \$0.00 | | | |
| Education (Church School) | \$250.00 | \$430.80 | \$300.00 | |
| Flowers | \$500.00 | \$522.33 | \$500.00 | |
| Gifts and Charitable Donations | \$13,000.00 | \$9,950.00 | \$7,000.00 | |
| Insurance | \$8,500.00 | \$8,328.50 | \$8,000.00 | |
| Janitor | \$6,000.00 | \$5,850.00 | \$5,400.00 | |
| Office Expenses | \$6,100.00 | \$9,528.14 | \$4,000.00 | |
| Land Line Phone | \$1,800.00 | \$4,057.00 | | |
| Postage | \$100.00 | \$66.00 | | |
| Website | \$500.00 | \$300.00 | | |
| Software fees & licensing | \$400.00 | \$350.48 | | |
| Internet | \$2,300.00 | \$3,730.35 | | |
| Office supplies | \$1,000.00 | \$1,024.31 | | |
| Outreach Programs | \$1,000.00 | \$656.33 | | |
| Utilities | \$19,750.00 | \$18,569.42 | \$15,000.00 | |
| Electric & Gas | \$16,000.00 | \$13,079.12 | | |
| Water | \$3,000.00 | \$4,401.65 | | Less watering this year |
| Sewer | \$750.00 | \$1,088.65 | | Sewer lower because of less watering |
| Urgent Needs | \$2,000.00 | \$12,743.00 | \$2,000.00 | |
| Fundraiser events | \$2,500.00 | \$2,931.39 | \$2,500.00 | |
| Misc | \$2,000.00 | \$1,810.22 | \$2,000.00 | |
| | | | | |
| Total Operating Budget | \$206,969.00 | \$210,112.62 | \$171,085.00 | |
| | | | | |
| Special Projects | \$35,000.00 | \$35,030.00 | \$29,000.00 | |
| Tuckpointing the Church/ Sidewalks | \$35,000.00 | \$23,503.00 | \$15,000.00 | |
| Icons | \$0.00 | \$9,727.00 | \$8,000.00 | |
| Bell | | \$1,800.00 | \$6,000.00 | |
| Total | 241,969.00 | \$245,142.62 | \$200,085.00 | |

Audit Committee Report

February 4, 2024

Auditors : Sandra J. Ellis, Patricia Lecko

Activity: Audit conducted on 16 January 2024.

Findings:

- The books were found to be in good order with some duplicate entries for income and expenses corrected. There were some missing receipts but notes of explanation were found and reconciled.
- The Church balance is in reconciliation with the bank balance.

Recommendations:

- The Treasurer should have receipts for posting to the charged accounts.
- Council members be more diligent for submitting receipts to the Treasurer. This will help to insure we have an accurate accounting of expenses and income balance and relieve some stress for the Treasurer.
- Treasurer is advised the cemetery mowing expenses comes out of general fund but cemetery landscaping comes out of cemetery maintenance fund. Please check with President for definition if required.
- Treasurer use consistent names when posting. We suggest no abbreviations so the name of the payee is clear and understood.
- Respectfully request Council counters be more diligent to posting the income into the correct category. That is, post income for cemetery into cemetery account, and so forth.

The Audit Committee commends and thanks Treasurer John Derr for his hard work and devotion of duty to our Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Audit Committee members Sandra J. Ellis and Patricia Lecko

Cemetery Committee Report

February 4 , 2024

Members:

Sarah Butchko, Council Chairman
Bob Butchko
Sharon Butchko
Mike Macek
Craig Rydgig

Activity:

- Cemetery mowed regularly during growing season
- Special cleaning in Spring and Fall
- Collected \$7102.05 (\$313.05 was for purchasing the replacement tree that died) this past year from Spring Appeal drive
 - 27 donors (not including some additional church members)
 - 17 donors were non-church members
- The cemetery was annexed into the Village of Glen Carbon
- A special thank you to Brian and Adina Prince for paying to replace the tree that died up by the cross
- The state removed the speed bump in the frontage road
- Installed a new drain culvert under the frontage road to drain the ditches on both sides of the driveways and cleaned the ditches
- Mike Macek cleared all the brush on the north side of the north driveway and also sprayed the brush on the north and east sides of the cemetery several times, which is now ready to be cleared at a cemetery cleanup day in the Spring
- Several gravestones were raised and/or straightened by the landscaper
- Several new bushes were planted in the front
- Please let anyone on the cemetery committee know if you are interested in helping with the clean up day in the Spring

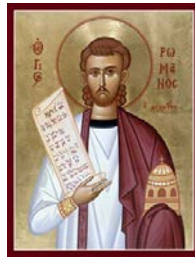
Proposed Future Activity:

- We are still working to bring water to the cemetery to help with watering

2023 INVESTMENT REPORT

| Brokerage Agent | Type | Fund | Beginning Balance 1/1/23 | Ending Balance 12/31/23 | Rate of Return | Total Gain | Funds Cashed during 2023 | Comments |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--|
| St. Louis Investment | Common Stock | Cemetery | \$35,000.00 | \$36,884.55 | 5.40% | \$1,884.55 | | Began as Edward Jones CD matured in October and moved to Stl Investments |
| St. Louis Investment | Common Stock | Building | \$28,757.42 | \$19,988.66 | 13.00% | \$3,731.24 | \$12,500.00 | |
| Invesco | Mutual Funds | General | \$21,167.71 | \$28,469.26 | 34.5% | \$7,301.55 | | |
| Alliance Bernstein Discovery Value A | Mutual Funds | Cemetery | \$26,396.91 | \$31,061.37 | 17.70% | \$4,664.46 | | |
| Alliance Bernstein High Income | Mutual Funds | Cemetery | \$54,590.15 | \$62,396.86 | 14.30% | \$7,806.71 | | |
| Alliance Bernstein Large Cap Growth A | Mutual Funds | General | \$72,089.78 | \$80,241.43 | 11.3% | \$8,151.65 | \$15,000.00 | |
| Alliance Bernstein Discovery Growth A | Mutual Funds | Building | \$5,677.53 | \$0.00 | | | \$6,064.42 | Cashed funds and closed account |
| | | | \$243,679.50 | \$259,042.13 | 13.8% | \$33,540.16 | \$33,564.42 | |

St. Romanus



The Sweet Singer

Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church Annual Meeting – February 4, 2024 Choir Report

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the choir for their dedication and efforts throughout the year.

In addition to singing at the various services, the Choir members also caroled to various Parishioners' homes – bringing the joy of the Feast and introducing some new carols this year.

We continue to update the choir materials, to add new arrangements of music to the Liturgy and the various Feast Days, drawing from the increasing number of websites that provide access to Orthodox liturgical music.

We have resumed regular Choir Rehearsals, which are held on Sunday mornings, prior to Divine Liturgy.

Thank you to the Parish Council and our parishioners for their continued support.

Thank you.

Karen Butchko, Choir Director
Lori Billy, Assistant Choir Director

Society of Myrrh Bearing Women
February 4, 2024

This past year was a very busy one for the sisterhood. We had eight pierogi sessions and made almost 5,000 pierogi. We have sold all of them and will begin replenishing our inventory in March. If you are able to find the time, we would love to have you join us for these sessions.

In 2023, we were able to donate \$500 to the renovation project and \$1500 to the icon fund. Thank you to the parish for commissioning the icon of the Myrrh Bearing Women.

In March we provided the desserts for the Orthodoxy Sunday dinner. We also sponsored the Lenten Dinner for the second Sunday of Great Lent. Thanks to all the ladies that contributed their skills to these events.

In September, we sponsored the Parish's anniversary dinner. We used our culinary skills to provide an ethnic theme for the dinner that everyone seemed to enjoy.

This past year we sponsored our first annual Ethnic Eats event on November 4. It was a great success and we have scheduled next year's event for Saturday, November 9. Please mark your calendars.

We continue to provide supplies for coffee hour and other essentials needed at the church. This past year we incurred some major expenses. We replaced the downstairs gas range, made two unexpected repairs to the downstairs refrigerator, and purchased two roasters. This year we will be replacing the upstairs range.

Don't forget to check out the bookstore in the Fellowship Hall. There is a variety of educational as well as ethnic items available for sale.

In September, 2024 we will be celebrating the 90th anniversary of this organization. We thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed on us.

Yours in Christ,

Sharon Butchko
President

FOCA (O Club) Report 2023

This past year our club consisted of 18 members.

Our first activity this year was Bunco. We raised \$120 with 3 tables of people gathered for fun and food.

Through “Gifts of Love” we raised \$245 for restoration work in Alaska.

A special gift to the Icon Fund in March was \$1000. And we gave \$100 to help Amy Lojan. Memory Eternal!

We gave \$289 to St. Andrew’s Charity this past year, and \$110 to the Stewards of the O.C.A.

Our annual donation of \$100 was for hole sponsors for our golf tournament. Our members played or helped out with the organizing.

Again, with the Youtube channel for F.O.C.A., we could participate in a St. Andrew’s Akathist (including our Fr. Nicholas), as our patron saint. Also, a Christmas concert was held on December 25, with many churches participating.

Our cookie sale improved with an increase in prices. We made a profit of \$632.70. I again give thanks to our bakers and customers.

Andrea Davies

President