

“Stewardship At Work In Our Parish” April - September, 2007

Our parish participates in an annual stewardship renewal season known as “Called To Serve”. This brief report is an attempt to share with you some of the most recent ways we have served God gratefully in our church and local community. Thanks for all the ways you share your time and talent with us!

A **new website** hosting site was established for the parish and school over the summer thanks to Navigator Technologies and a couple generous and talented parishioners. The website address is www.olphna.org.

New computers were installed in the school and the parish offices this past summer.

46 new families/households were welcomed to the parish by parishioners bearing a gift bag of goodies.

Last Spring, over **100 parishioners attended “An Evening with Tim Staples”**. The evening included two talks by this nationally renowned speaker along with mass and a catered dinner.

OLPH School received two grants for 2007 – 2008. \$10,000 from the Caesars Foundation for enhancements to the aftercare and daycare facilities and \$1,399 from the Crusade for Children.

Hundreds of parishioners attended our **annual Parish Picnic/Feast Day** on June 24. Many parishioners expressed their gratitude for Fr. Paul’s nine years of service by donating money for his new car.

Hundreds of parishioners gave their time, talent, and treasure to support a **successful Capital Campaign** this past spring. Total pledges as of September 13 is \$1,183,609. Total receipts to date is \$214,374.

20 adults and 10 youth worked to make **Vacation Bible School** a success for more than 40 children.

Our annual **Mother’s Day Brunch** held on May 12 was attended by over 100 people. The theme was “Saying Yes to God” and presented by Sr. Nicolette Etienne.

Dozens of parishioners are accepting Fr. Eric’s invitation to **“Fellowship with Father”** this fall to introduce themselves to him and to share their vision of parish life.

18 more parishioners participated in our most recent **parish retreat “Living With Christ”** September 6 – 8. This was our sixth installment now totaling over 100 parishioners who have made this retreat.

As of September, our **school enrollment** is 355 with 313 students in grades K – 8 and 42 in preschool. The **school theme** for the 2007 – 08 school year is “Building the Kingdom Day by Day.”

Over 50 children are being taught by 20 faithful catechists in the **Wednesday Faith First Classes**. **Adult faith formation** is also being offered at the same time focusing on the Bible and it’s application for life.

Junior High and High School students boasts a **newly redecorated Youth Room** in the Parish Center which was recently dedicated and named “John Paul II Place”.

8 youth of our parish attended **“Faith In Action”** – a hometown mission trip helping local residents. 50 junior high youth participated in our annual **Summer Daze** parish and community service program.

From June through August (3 months) our **St. Vincent DePaul** Organization made 86 home visits, 29 nursing home visits, & 19 telephone contacts helping a total of 569 people. They also distributed \$9,151 with most of this aid helping people with rent and utilities.