



Saint Mary Magdalene Parish

St. Columba †
118 Wilsey Road
Fredericton Junction

Sts. John & Paul †
272 New Maryland Hwy
New Maryland

St. Dunstan's
120 Regent Street
Fredericton

Mary Magdalene encounters the Risen Christ



St. Mary Magdalene was the first to announce to the world
the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection

*"Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,
"I have seen the Lord", and she told them what He had said to her." Jn 20:18*

MISSION

St. Mary Magdalene Parish is a community of the Christian faithful; we are committed as a community to worship, to celebrate the word and sacraments and outreach in service to others, parishioners and non parishioners, with love, respect and support.

ANNUAL PARISH REPORT 2023

Table of Contents

❖	Message from Father Suresh and Father Peter.....	Page 3
❖	Part One: Pastoral Life of the Parish	
	Parish Pastoral Council	Page 4
	A. Liturgy.....	Page 5
	B. Religious Education (Family Faith Formation).....	Page 6
	C. Communion to Shut-ins and Sick.....	Page 8
	D. Adult Faith Formation.....	Page 8
	E. Outreach.....	Page 9
	F. Funeral Ministry.....	Page 10
	G. Ministry of Hospitality.....	Page 11
	H. Catholic Women’s League (CWL).....	Page 11
	I. Couple for Christ.....	Page 12
	J. Knight of Columbus.....	Page 12
	K. Truth and Reconciliation.....	Page 12
	L. Development and Peace.....	Page 13
	M. Parish Statistics/Sacraments.....	Page 13
❖	Part Two: Finance and Administration.....	Page 13
	A. Building and Grounds.....	Page 14
	B. Financial Reports.....	Page 15
	C. Cemetery.....	Page 24
	D. Policies.....	Page 24

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTORS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am happy to share with you our 2023 Annual Parish Report. This report presents the various ways in which we are working as one to respond to Jesus' ministry as "proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God" (Luke 8:1).

Since my arrival in July 2022, we had many challenges such as COVID as well as Father Peter's illness, but we have put our faith in Christ. In him, who walks with us, he guides us in the way of hope. That great hope is the heart of all that we do together as a united parish.

During the last year we have witnessed many important developments such as:

- ❖ Disciple Maker Index Survey;
- ❖ Truth and Reconciliation Ministry;
- ❖ Participation in the Synod on Synodality;
- ❖ Volunteer Engagement Survey;
- ❖ A parish mission, led by Bishop Christian Riesbeck was held in May;
- ❖ A BBQ was held to celebrate St. Mary Magdalene's feast day in July;
- ❖ A rummage sale was held late fall;
- ❖ A turkey supper was held at St. Columba church in October.

As we reflect on the past year, I would like us to take time to thank God for our many blessings we have received. Saint Mary Magdalene Parish thrives because of your support. Your gifts allow our parish to serve you and to continue to grow as a multicultural community. Our ministries seek daily to be a light to those around us and none of it would be possible without the consistent gift of your service and prayers. As we look back in gratitude to God for his many blessings, we also look to the future of the mission that is in front of us. I hope you will join us in living that mission daily, to love and serve God and your neighbor. What better way to live our beautiful faith than to serve joyously and generously.

As the pandemic gradually lifted, we have noted it was time for us to begin to discern how our parish is changing, and to look deeper at the challenge we face. The number of parishioners who regularly participate has dropped considerably during the pandemic, and, while many returned, some did not. It is necessary to discern how we can work together to foster a church that is healthy, vibrant, and alive to the wonderful richness of being a community of faithful disciples of Jesus. Especially, to have more people coming back to serve on the various important Ministries which do beautiful work within our parish. I encourage you to reflect on this call and, if your heart discerns this call, to put your name forward for one of these beautiful Ministries.

God is faithful. As it is written in Luke 24:13-35 "It is true! The Lord has risen." "Let our hearts burn within us" as he talks to us. Let us ask Jesus "Stay with us" and rejoice. He will guide us to come together and bring our community to the active life it used to be.

May we all be among those who announce the Good News of God's presence and life within us and among us. May we see the abundant life of Christ reflected in the story of our Parish Community as proclaimed in these pages.

Blessings!

Father Suresh and Father Peter

My cup overflows with your blessings! (Psalm 23:5)

Part One: Pastoral Life of the Parish

Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Pastoral Council unites the laity and pastors in a community of leadership and service.

The purpose of the Pastoral Council is to promote the spiritual and pastoral growth of the parish community and to plan ways to carry out the mission of the Church. The Parish Pastoral Council and The Parish Finance Council work collaboratively as is described in the Diocesan Policy on Parish Finance Councils. The Pastoral Council represents interests and pastoral needs of the entire Parish. The Pastoral Council looks to the Finance Council for sound financial guidance and planning regarding the resources needed to develop and implement the parish plan and programs.

More specifically, it is concerned with the full pastoral mission of the parish which includes liturgy, faith formation (children, youth and adults), pastoral visitation, hospitality, social action and every area of pastoral life that needs attention. They develop and support committees and other structures that come from the visioning process of the Pastoral Council with the whole parish in living the call of being on mission with Jesus Christ.

A review was held of the Pastoral Council structure as membership had not changed since inception of the new Parish. It was determined that there would be 10 members of Pastoral Council: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and seven general members. A selection of a new Council was held in the fall to fill all positions.

The following are the Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Father Suresh Savariraj
Father Peter Osborne
Nadine LeBlanc, Chair
Evert Garcia, Vice-Chair
Shelley Knorr, Secretary

Mary Coates
Juanita Gaudet
Eden Laranjo
Lisa Ley
Neyda Long

Mericar Martin
Mark Tejares
Rodney Savidge

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is with great enthusiasm that we are presenting this beautiful annual report filled with blessings and good work. I have been a proud member of St. Dunstan's church (St. Mary Magdalene Parish) for many years. I have witnessed many times how parishioners come together in good times and in challenging moments. We are a strong community who take pride in what we do and what we believe in. Little by little we are coming out of COVID and have taken progressive steps to return to the smoother operations we had before. We are presently working hard to rejuvenate the Ministries and to bring them back to their previous heights. We are hopeful current members and new ones will come forward to be part of these important different ministries. I am sure you remember how it was fulfilling to be part of a team, the sense of belonging and the joyful atmosphere which was created among each group. It is our wish to see this sense of belonging to be back again. I pray you will feel the call to take part in any one or two of the many ministries. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who stuck around and helped keep the ministries going during our downtime. You have shown tough times really do bring out the good character of our parishioners. Let us pray we can sustain this uplifting energy to new heights!

Blessings,

Nadine LeBlanc, Chair

St. Dunstan's

Masses time:

Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Thursday at 12:00 p.m.
Friday at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday at 4 p.m.
Sunday at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m

Sts. John and Paul

Masses time:

Monday at 9 a.m.
Sunday at 11 a.m.

St. Columba

Mass time

Sunday at 9 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

*Saturdays @ 3-3:30 pm, St. Dunstan's
Before and after weekday Mass, and any other time by
appointment*

Rosary and Divine Mercy: McMahon 457-0093)

Tuesdays @ 2 pm, St Dunstan's (Contact Mary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays @ 1-5 pm, Sts. John and Paul

*Wednesdays @ 6 pm (before Mass), St. Dunstan's
FIRST Friday @ 7 pm, St. Dunstan's*

Rosary before Mass:

Sundays @ 10:20 am, Sts. John and Paul

Prayers for Peace in the World:

*First Monday of each Month, May 6, 7 pm – 7:45 pm,
St. Dunstan's
Everyone is welcome, enter Church on King Street side
by Tim's*

Livestream link for Mass: <https://www.stmarymagdalene-parish.ca>

Preparation time for the Sacrament of Marriage is 6 months prior to the marriage date.

Preparation time for the Sacrament of Baptism is one month prior to the Baptism date.

A. Liturgy

There is a single whole parish liturgy committee with representatives from all three churches. The committee meets twice a year with Fr Suresh, once prior to Advent and once prior to Lent. The committee is concerned with the organisation of all aspects of the liturgy. The representatives organize the following site-specific activities: scheduling and training of sacristans, altar servers, greeters, lectors and communion ministers; scheduling of music ministers and ensuring that these ministers have the resources they need; seasonal decoration of the churches.

St. Dunstan's

Sunday Mass attending: 500

Members:

Bonnie Boudreau
Ned Carroll
Helen Chenier
Lilia Cozzarini
Willard Davidson
John Denning

Anne Doyle
Evert Garcia
Linda Giudice
George MacMullin
Gus Mazzuca
Linda Roach

Margaret Savidge
Lizeth Serrano
Angel Tang
Vivien Zelazny
Jose Zeron

**St. Columba's:
Sunday Mass attending: 35**

Members:

Lynn Butler	Francine Jones-Harnish	Bob Mott
Joe Braedley	Shelley Knorr	Pauline Mott
Neala Breadley	Eleanor McCann	Keith Muzzerall
Juanita Gaudet	Sheila McCarthy	Heather Shannon

**Sts. John and Paul
Sunday Mass attending: 70-80 people**

Members:

Lorraine Bird	Lisa Ley
Georgina Jones	Gerald Mercer

B. Religious Education (Family Faith Formation)

In 2023 the parish continued with Family Faith Formation style delivery for catechism for families with children in kindergarten to grade 7. This model for faith formation focuses on family catechesis and coaching families to share and grow in faith together. Families met once or twice a month for in-person sessions at St. Dunstan's Church using resources from Growing Up Catholic "*Faith Stories*." Attendance for sessions averaged 80 to 100 per session. Materials for home use were made available to families at Sts. John and Paul and St. Columba Churches who were not able to attend sessions at St. Dunstan's.

Throughout the summer of 2023 we participated in Diocesan meetings to share our experience of family catechesis and to look at options for adopting the model for the Diocese of Saint John.

Family Faith Formation Catechists

Members:

Patty Cameron	Patricia Roussy	Tim Sarty
Sherri Egers	Theresa Saad	Liseth Serrano
Adaobi Oneyor	Xiomara Sanchez	Sneha Stanley
		Laura Romero de Zeron

Sacrament Preparation (Reconciliation and 1st Eucharist)

On May 23, 2023, 24 children received their 1st Holy Eucharist at Masses held at St. Dunstan's and Sts. John and Paul. Receptions were held at both locations. In the fall of 2023, 30 children registered to begin Sacrament Preparation.

Children are prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and 1st Eucharist through a combination of at home lessons completed with parents and in person sessions with catechists.

Sacrament Preparation Catechists

Members:

Fr. Suresh Savariraj	Neala Breadley	Lisa Ley
Patty Cameron	Sherri Egers	

Confirmation Preparation

On June 4, 2023, Bishop Christian Riesbeck confirmed 34 parish youth at a Mass at St. Dunstan's Church. These youth were the first group to complete the new two-year Confirmation Preparation program implemented by the Diocese of Saint John in March of 2021.

A Confirmation Retreat for Confirmation Candidates from St. Mary Magdalene and Our Lady of Peace Parishes was held on April 15th at St. Dunstan's Church with Sr. Karen Kelly as retreat facilitator and Confirmation Catechists assisting.

Throughout 2023, 12 additional Confirmation Candidates, preparing for Confirmation in 2024, continued preparation monthly with catechists.

In the fall of 2023, 13 youth registered to begin Confirmation Preparation and completed a 11-week Alpha Youth Course with Confirmation Candidates and leaders from the Fredericton region (Our Lady of Peace, St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. John Paul II Parishes). A retreat was held on November 25th at Our Lady of Peace Parish (St. Therea's Church).

Confirmation Preparation Catechists

Members:

Fr. Peter Osborne
Jeannie Bail
Amos Bell
Neal Breadley
Patty Cameron

Paul DeDecker
Sherri Eagers
Amelia Flogeras
Kim Flogeras
Lisa Ley

Sarah Grace McDonald
Karen Morris
Rob O'Kane
Adobie Oneyor

2023 Special Events

Diocesan Catechist Retreat

In January 2023, 5 Catechists and others involved in parish ministries attended the annual Diocesan Catechist Retreat led by Bishop Riesbeck at the Villa Madonna Retreat House.

Walk With Jesus (Lent Event)

An interactive Lent event hosted by Family Faith Formation leaders, parish volunteers and Confirmation Candidates was held on Saturday, April 1st. Participants experienced the events of Holy Week through activities and dramatizations.

Family Faith Formation Year End Celebration

Family Faith Formation held an end of year celebration on Sunday, June 18th at Sts. John and Paul Church. While the weather did not cooperate for our outside picnic and activities the event was well attended and quickly changed to an indoor event.

Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference

Twelve high school age youth from the parish attend the Steubenville Atlantic Conference in Halifax on the weekend of July 7th to 9th. Fundraising in preparation for the conference took place in the spring.

Diocesan Youth Rally

On Saturday, August 27th 13 parish high school youth and 2 leaders attended a Youth Rally hosted by the Diocese of Saint John and the Villa Madonna Retreat House.

NET Retreat

The parish hosted a NET Team Retreat on Saturday, November 18th for 60 youth in the Fredericton Region from grades 6 to 12. Members of the parish Hospitality Ministry prepared lunch and snacks. NET Team members were hosted overnight by 3 families in the parish.

A Night in Bethlehem

An Advent event hosted by Family Faith Formation leaders, parish volunteers and Confirmation Candidates. Approximately 200 guests visited interactive market stalls in the gym at the Msgr. Boyd Family center that was decorated to represent a market in Bethlehem to learn about Jesus' birth.

C: Communion to Shut-Ins and Sick

Along with priests, we have faithful and dedicated parishioners involved in this ministry who bring communion to the sick and shut-ins on request. If anyone is interested in receiving the communion, or if you are interested in providing this service, please call the office to provide your name and contact information. We also pray for the sick during the Eucharistic celebrations.

Presently this Ministry is coordinated and carried out in each Church as follows:

St Dunstan's Church

Members:
Esther Archibald
Anne Doyle
Mary McMahon
Beatriz Sainz

St Columba Church

Members:
Lynn Butler
Pauline Mott
Al Landry

Sts John and Paul Church

Members:
Georgina Jones

D: Adult Faith Formation

At St. Dunstan the Adult Faith Formation is based on Little Rock Scripture Study coordinated by Jayne Nicki and has been offered since fall of 2003 and is very active. This is a diocesan-supported, parish-based program that originated in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1974. It has been offered at St. Dunstan's since the fall of 2003 with two studies chosen each year- one for the winter and one for the fall term. They may be books of the Bible or thematic studies. The purpose is to lead participants to a greater understanding and appreciation of Scripture through prayer, personal study, weekly small-group discussion, and video lectures.

In the winter of 2023, we studied *Revelation* for seven weeks, followed by *The Holy Spirit in the Bible* for six weeks in the fall. Participants may attend on Tuesday mornings or Thursday evenings. During Lent 2023, parishioners were invited to weekly sessions to watch and discuss season one of the series "The Chosen."

At St. Columba, there is a Monday Night Prayer Group activities offered seasonally for Advent and Lent and are coordinated by Shelley Knorr and Pauline Mott. Last year they also watched the first season of Chosen.

Marriage and Baptisms Preparation

Fr. Suresh and Fr. Peter are responsible for the sacrament preparation of marriage. There were seven registered for this sacrament. Some marriage happened outside of the parish or outside of the country. Others are convaladation. There were 23 baptisms in total.

RCIA

Fr. Suresh coordinates the RCIA. When someone is inquiring about the Catholic Faith, Fr. Suresh connects them with a team of two or more members of our parish and they move through a process of regular meetings and use the Journey of Faith Pamphlets Press published by Ligouri Press as the input resource. They follow an adult faith formation format for their regular gatherings which include prayer, faith sharing, input on a particular theme, and social time together. The number of candidates for this year is four. Baptisms take place on Easter Vigil.

E: Outreach

Financial donation through the weekly offertory over the year is necessary to help the less fortunate.

St Dunstan's Church

Members:

Pam Breau Richard Brennan Lynn Justason
John Brennan John Denning Beth Nicholas

Presently, the following programs are being supported: Christmas Exchange Program; Development and Peace; The Community Kitchen; The Health Center (Downtown); Outreach at Wilmot United Church; The Greener Village Food Bank; Out Of The Cold Drop In Center" at the old Reid's Book Store on King street.

Christmas Exchange Program Update

During Advent, special offertory takes place to help less fortunate for Christmas. Gift cards of \$200 each were distributed to 67 individuals, most of whom have been recipients of our help in previous years. We distributed a total of gift cards valued at:

YEAR	AMOUNT \$
2023	\$13,400
2022	\$29,200
2021	\$24,200

We are limited to \$7,300 in 2024 due to a much lower than usual giving toward this cause in 2023.

The Community Kitchen

Members:

Kim Baxter	Paola Marusic	Alynn & Gary Morrison	Richard Duke
Darren Baxter	George MacMullin	Robert & Grace Martin	Wanda Lyons
Lorraine Bird	Mary McMahan	Barb Ramsay	Gerry Mercer
Mary Beth Gorey	Karen Finley	Ned Carroll	Roberta Birhane
Roly McSorley	Larry Cochrane		Doreen Whelan
Linda Roach	Jeannine Cochrane		Jolene Mills

Our parish initiative with the Fredericton Community Kitchen began in 2017 when we partnered with Wilmot United Church to cover the supper shift on Sundays. During COVID, our parish continued to send volunteers for food preparation when the Kitchen provided take-out meals only. When the Kitchen reopened for full meal service, Wilmot United no longer had volunteers available on Sundays. St. Mary Magdalene Parish put out a call for more volunteers. There was a good response and four teams of 6 were formed to cover the 4 p.m.-6 p.m. shift every Sunday at the Community Kitchen. Each team is scheduled every fourth Sunday. There are currently eight spares who are available to cover when team members are unable to make their shift. New volunteers are always welcome. It is a good way to meet fellow parishioners and work together as a team to serve the most vulnerable of the greater Fredericton community who are experiencing food insecurity. Many of the guests express their gratitude for the service, which is heart-warming.

The Refugee Committee

The Committee sponsored a family which ended in March 2023. The family is well settled and now the proud owner of their own home. They have also increased their family by one more child.

St Columba Church

Members:

Lynn Butler, Juanita Gaudet and Pauline Mott

Presently St Columba support the following programs: Christmas Exchange Program, the Food Bank and the Homeless Shelters.

Sts John and Paul Church

Members:

Jim Ley and Lisa Ley

Sts John and Paul has collected for organizations such as Greener Village, Salvation Army, the Homeless Shelters, local community members in need, and so on.

F: Funeral Ministry

St Dunstan's Church

Members:

Bonnie Boudreau	Linda Giudice	Verna Shaw
Ned Carroll	Linda Roach	Jose Zeron

Whenever there is a funeral, these members come together to help in this very important Ministry. If you are interested to help in any way, please call the office to provide your name and contact information.

St Columba Church

Members:

Lynn Butler
Juanita Gaudet

Pauline Mott
Judy Simpson

Sheila McCarthy

Sts John and Paul Church

Members:

Georgina Jones and Gerald Mercer

We have people who come together to provide whatever is needed when there is a funeral.

G. Ministry of Hospitality Committee

Members:

Shannon Briand, Chair
Mary McMahan

Felipe Serrano
Claire Tuason

Vivien Zelazny

There is a pamphlet that New Parishioners and Parishioners who would like to be more involved can fill out. The Ministry will assist them in making connections to activities these people might want to know more about or be involved in. You can leave the pamphlet filled out at the office. Some of the activities being hosted by this ministry are: Pancake supper; Coffee Sunday; Parish Picnic; Reception for funerals; Multicultural lunch; Ethnic festivities (Africans/Philippines); Family Faith Formation activities.

Sunday Coffee Committee

Members:

Samson Awuapila
Lynn Justason

Margaret Savidge
Joshua White

H: Catholic Women's League

January 15th, St Dunstan's Church - A new executive was elected:

President: Mary Sorensen

Treasurer: Phyllis Burke

Secretary: Linda Guidice

Faith: Mary McMahan

Membership: Bonnie Boudreau

Corresponding Secretary: Jeannine Cochrane

Total number of members: 60+

This group meet once a month between St. Dunstan and Sts. John and Paul churches. Some of the activities organized are: sending birthday and Christmas cards; participating in the World Day of Prayer; organizing Right to Life march on May 6; the CWL Provincial Convention

which was held on April 28th with the opening Mass at Sts John and Paul Church; draw of the Spring basket; scholarships; gifts to the Confirmation and Communion candidates; the annual Twilight Retreat at St Theresa's Church for CWL Members held on September 11; a rummage sale; a gift card tree; donations to shelters; donation of \$50 given to the Net Retreat.

I. Couple for Christ

Members:

Myra Torralba

Couples for Christ (CFC) is a community of family evangelizers. It is recognized as an international association of the faithful of Pontifical Right. Its presence in Fredericton started in 2018, and currently there are 25 families involved in different ministries within the CFC community. In 2023, CFC conducted various spiritual formation activities for its members as well as evangelization programs for future members. CFC is also actively involved in its social ministry called ANCOP (Answering the Cry of the Poor). Under this social ministry, members can sponsor or support a child's education; can donate to funds intended to build houses for the homeless; or can participate in humanitarian relief efforts. For more information, please contact the office.

J. Knight of Columbus

Members:

Mark Depow (Chair)
129 members in total

We held 12 community breakfasts, the majority of which were fundraisers for other worthy groups including three for Special Olympics, Diocese Seminary Fund and Our Lady of Grace School. We held an Acadian Night Chicken Fricot Dinner with an auction as a fundraiser for New Brunswick Right to Life. We also helped during the Freddy Beach Student welcome party helping with the Barbeques and assisted with the Feast Celebrations for the St. Mary Magdalene barbecue at the St. Dunstan's Church site. Many of our members put in countless other volunteer hours.

K. Truth and Reconciliation

Members:

Father Suresh
Katie Crawford

Chris McAloon
Judy Ingram

Beth Nicholas
Graydon Nicholas

The St. Mary Magdalene Parish Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC) was formed in September of 2023 by a group of concerned parishioners for the purpose of raising awareness about Indigenous issues within our parish, and the desire to move forward with concrete steps toward Truth and Reconciliation. At our monthly meetings, in an effort to educate and inform ourselves, we have reflected on and discussed historical documents including excerpts from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, the speeches and homilies of Pope Francis during his Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in 2022 and the February 2023 Pastoral Letters of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Some of our initiatives have been the return of the use of a Land Acknowledgement within our Parish, a special Mass

on December 12, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, when the Banner of Our Lady was blessed by Bishop Riesbeck, a Blanket Exercise on January 27, the Residential Schools Way of the Cross on February 27 and information in the Bulletin. We welcome new members and would be happy to give presentations to groups and committees within our parish.

L. Development and Peace Committee

Our committee members met in person two – three times during the year, as well as participating in several Zoom on-line meetings, with the larger Diocesan active members, to advance the cause of Development and Peace, both within our Parish and our Diocese. Some of the activities happening are: attendance at a D & P Regional Spring Assembly in Nova Scotia; a Diocesan Share Lent hybrid spring campaign workshop held at our Parish; our Parish committee was involved in helping to plan for solidarity visitor from Cambodia, along with St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish as the hosting site; “Stand for the Land” campaign with a collection of signatures on a letter to address land rights and injustices in Honduras. Informational brochures and various pamphlets regarding D & P, collection envelopes, posters, and other materials were kept visible at Church exits for parishioners to take home. Some young people have come together again on their own initiative, to organize a bake sale during Advent. In two years, they raised almost \$2,000.00.

Chris McAloon, Chair and the members of D&P Committee

M. Parish Statistics/Sacraments

Baptisms of children under one year of age	22
Baptisms of all persons over seven years of age	1
Confirmations of children and adults	35
First Communion of children and adults	23
Marriages between two Catholics	5
Marriages between one Catholic and one non-Catholic	2
Deaths	37
Approximate number of children in Catechetical Program	150

Part Two: Finance and Administration
The Parish Finance Council

The purpose of the Finance Council is to assist the pastor in the administration of parish goods. The Parish Finance Council have the responsibility of assuring solid financial accounting and reporting, wise counsel on investments, maintenance of the buildings and grounds, fundraising and up-keep of cemeteries and other administrative activities in the parish. The Council adheres to the ***Policy on Parish Finance Councils – Diocese of Saint John*** in fulfilling its responsibilities and the conduct of meetings. The Finance Council looks to the Pastoral Council for a statement of the parish mission of the parish and some type of pastoral plan with parish priorities. The following are the Parish Finance Council Members:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Father Suresh Savariraj | Georgina Jones | Sheila McCarthy |
| Father Peter Osborne | Anne Macies | Gerald Mercer |
| Bernadet Samulski, Chair | George MacMullin | Jim Partington |
| | | Bob Scott |

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The year 2023 was a busy and challenging year for the Finance Council. The year started with COVID restrictions still in place. They were later eased; but there was still great uncertainty if and how quickly the Parish would return to a sense of normalcy. The rising rate of inflation which affected all operations did not help to quell that uncertainty. But the Council tried its best to accommodate the slowly returning use of Parish facilities and to keep costs down. The Council did not have to dip into investments nor incur any debt during the year; however, this is not at all ensured for the coming year.

There are approximately 300 households that make regular financial contributions.

No. of envelope users:	170
No. of PAD users	134
No. of regular e-transferers	<u>6</u>
	300

Another challenge was a large turnover in the membership of the Council and the suspension of regular Committee meetings. Many people serving on the Council kept on serving during COVID even though their term of office should have formally ended. So as COVID restriction eased, a number of those took a well-deserved leave of their duties. We extend our thanks and gratitude to the following for their dedicated years of service on the Finance Council: *Kevin Roherty, former chair; Courtney Mason; Debby McQuade; Donna DeLong and Francine Jones-Harnish.*

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who faithfully contribute to the financial well-being of the Parish.

The work of the Council would not be possible without all the volunteers who contribute by sitting on the Council and its committees; by fundraising, in the counting, recording and depositing of collections and other activities. Thank you!

And the work of the Council greatly aided by the dedicated work of the Parish staff who assist in the fulfillment of the Council's responsibilities and serve parishioners in so many wonderful ways. Thank you!

Bernadet Samulski, Chair

The Following reports reflect the efforts of the Parish Finance Council and Administration.

A. Buildings and Grounds:

The Committee was re-established following COVID and had its first meeting in late October. Among other matters, they were tasked with coming up with an inventory of the state of the parish properties, which is now underway. The Sts John and Paul's rectory basement was refurbished, and the heating system is updated. A security door system was installed at Monseignor Boyd Family Centre.

Members:

Gerald Mercer, Chair
Norman Beaulieu

Richard Brennan
Raju Kurian

Rodney Savidge
Bob Scott

B. Financial Reports

St. Mary Magdalene Parish							
Consolidated Revenue & Expense Report							
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023							
				Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
				2023	2023	2022	2024
REVENUES							
	Offertory Collection			\$ 533,637	\$ 544,775	\$ 506,564	\$ 541,688
	Rental income (1)			40,553	16,500	18,150	22,728
	Sales			4,341	1,700	(809)	2,854
	Advertising			120	-	-	360
	Interest Income (2)			5,825	2,400	1,437	7,008
	Recoveries (3)			35,081	21,312	20,284	22,352
				\$ 619,557	\$ 586,687	\$ 545,626	\$ 596,990
EXPENSES							
	Salaries & Benefits (4)			\$ 325,773	\$ 314,498	\$ 315,793	\$ 335,585
	Administration			27,905	30,743	50,240	32,052
	Buildings & Grounds (5)			121,750	119,836	111,061	138,862
	Insurance (6)			25,274	22,610	-	27,939
	Priest Related Expenses (7)			67,517	63,136	-	67,937
	Rectories (8)			11,166	12,726	22,260	11,302
	Committees & Ministries (9)			16,890	23,150	14,568	19,065
	General Expenses (10)			12,491	19,901	55,731	11,463
	Chancery Assessment			93,478	107,988	99,282	80,652
				\$ 702,244	\$ 714,588	\$ 668,935	\$ 724,857
	ORDINARY SURPLUS (Deficit)			\$ (82,687)	\$ (127,901)	\$ (123,309)	\$ (127,867)
SPECIAL ITEMS							
	Investment income, unrealized			\$ 165,451	\$ 134,976	\$ (247,282)	\$ 144,000
	Investment income, realized (11)			\$ 84,838			\$ 10,392
	Bequests/Donations			-	-	5,000	-
	Building fund			17,360	-	121,680	-
	Investment management fees			(13,808)	(13,200)	(14,944)	(14,400)
	Capital expenditures (12)			(15,684)	-	-	22,500
				\$ 238,157	\$ 121,776	\$ (135,546)	\$ 162,492
				\$ 155,470	\$ (6,125)	\$ (258,855)	\$ 34,625

Supporting Notes					
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023					
(1)	2023 rental income benefited from 3-month lease of Sts. John & Paul's family centre to ElectionsNB.				
(2)	Interest income is from earnings on bank balances, which kicked in as the bank's prime rate increased over the past couple of years.				
(3)	Recoveries include 40% of Faith Formation Co-ordinator's salary charged to Our Lady of Peace Parish plus HST rebates.				
(4)	Salaries and Benefits are for a staff of 2 Priests, 4 full-time employees and 2 part-time employees.				
(5)	Buildings & Grounds is mostly comprised of utilities, repairs & maintenance and snow removal.				
(6)	Insurance was reported under Administration prior to 2023.				
(7)	Priest Related Expenses were largely reported under Rectories and General Expenses prior to 2023.				
(8)	A portion of Rectories has been reported under Priest Related Expenses since 2023.				
(9)	Committees and Ministries is largely faith formation plus some small balances related to music and outreach programs.				
(10)	Priest Related Expenses, such as for household and mileage have been stripped out of General Expenses commencing in 2023.				
(11)	Investment Income was broken down into realized and unrealized income lines in 2023 for more clarity around tangible returns.				
(12)	The \$15,684 in 2023 is made up of \$12k for converting the main access doors of the MBFC to a secure inter-com system and \$4k for a half share of HST related to the insured restoration of Sts. John & Paul Rectory basement, which had suffered flood damage. The budgeted credit of \$22,500 for 2024 is a refund of a portion of the deductible on the rectory claim that we had paid, which we received in March.				

St. Columba							
Revenue & Expense Report							
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023							
				Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
				2023	2023	2022	2024
REVENUES							
	Offertory Collection			\$ 27,215	\$ 28,200	\$ 28,082	\$ 27,721
	Sales			127	-	(26)	100
	Interest Income			291	120	71	348
	Recoveries			5,356	5,328	1,005	5,588
				\$ 32,989	\$ 33,648	\$ 29,132	\$ 33,757
EXPENSES							
	Salaries & Benefits			\$ 44,053	\$ 42,971	\$ 15,495	\$ 45,089
	Administration			3,028	3,412	3,142	3,496
	Buildings & Grounds			8,716	7,680	7,231	10,164
	Insurance			3,156	3,387	-	2,921
	Priest Related Operating Expenses			13,590	10,169	-	13,587
	Rectory			-	-	-	-
	Committees & Ministries			3,027	948	511	1,090
	General Expenses			1,195	1,403	2,766	1,172
	Chancery Assessment			3,399	2,304	4,964	2,691
				\$ 80,164	\$ 72,274	\$ 34,109	\$ 80,210
ORDINARY SURPLUS (Deficit)				\$ (47,175)	\$ (38,626)	\$ (4,977)	\$ (46,453)
SPECIAL ITEMS							
	Investment income, realized			\$ 1,495	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,582	\$ 3,048
	Building fund			780	-	565	-
				\$ 2,275	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,147	\$ 3,048
				\$ (44,900)	\$ (37,126)	\$ (2,830)	\$ (43,405)

St. Dunstan's
Revenue & Expense Report
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

		Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022	Budget 2024
REVENUES					
Offertory Collection		\$ 411,767	\$ 422,850	\$ 386,710	\$ 417,913
Sales		4,013	1,700	(1,268)	2,604
Rental income		2,378	-	600	2,928
Advertising		120	-	-	360
Interest Income		4,369	1,800	1,182	5,256
Recoveries		24,369	10,656	16,664	11,176
		\$ 447,016	\$ 437,006	\$ 403,888	\$ 440,237
EXPENSES					
Salaries & Benefits		\$ 225,651	\$ 216,824	\$ 260,010	\$ 233,075
Administration		17,640	19,932	39,347	20,596
Buildings & Grounds		85,239	95,536	87,497	99,349
Insurance		17,922	15,012	-	20,837
Priest Related Operating Expenses		40,363	42,793	-	40,763
Rectory		-	-	12,278	-
Committees & Ministries		10,626	20,167	12,800	14,886
General Expenses		9,005	15,698	45,103	8,402
Chancery Assessment		77,345	95,808	81,411	63,582
		\$ 483,791	\$ 521,770	\$ 538,446	\$ 501,490
ORDINARY SURPLUS (Deficit)		\$ (36,775)	\$ (84,764)	\$ (134,558)	\$ (61,253)
SPECIAL ITEMS					
Investment income, unrealized		\$ 165,451	\$ 133,200	\$ (249,444)	\$ 144,000
Investment income, unrealized		\$ 83,063			\$ 6,780
Bequests/Donations		-	-	5,000	-
Building fund		13,255	-	118,772	-
Investment management fees		(13,808)	(13,200)	(14,944)	(14,400)
Capital expenditures		(11,771)	-	-	-
		\$ 236,190	\$ 120,000	\$ (140,616)	\$ 136,380
		\$ 199,415	\$ 35,236	\$ (275,174)	\$ 75,127

Sts. John & Paul							
Revenue & Expense Report							
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023							
				Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
				2023	2023	2022	2024
REVENUES							
	Offertory Collection			\$ 94,655	\$ 93,725	\$ 91,772	\$ 96,054
	Sales			201	-	(115)	150
	Rental income			38,175	16,500	18,150	19,800
	Interest Income			1,165	480	185	1,404
	Recoveries			5,356	5,328	2,614	5,588
				\$ 139,552	\$ 116,033	\$ 112,606	\$ 122,996
EXPENSES							
	Salaries & Benefits			\$ 56,069	\$ 54,706	\$ 40,288	\$ 57,421
	Administration			7,238	7,399	7,751	7,960
	Buildings & Grounds			27,795	16,620	16,332	29,349
	Insurance			4,196	4,212	-	4,181
	Priest Related Operating Expenses			13,564	10,172	-	13,587
	Rectory			11,166	12,726	9,982	11,302
	Committees & Ministries			3,237	2,034	1,257	3,089
	General Expenses			2,291	2,801	7,862	1,889
	Chancery Assessment			12,734	9,876	12,907	14,379
				\$ 138,290	\$ 120,546	\$ 96,379	\$ 143,157
ORDINARY SURPLUS (Deficit)				\$ 1,262	\$ (4,513)	\$ 16,227	\$ (20,161)
SPECIAL ITEMS							
	Investment Income			\$ 280	\$ 276	\$ 580	\$ 564
	Building fund			3,325	-	2,343	-
	Capital expenditures			(3,913)	-	-	22,500
				\$ (308)	\$ 276	\$ 2,923	\$ 23,064
				\$ 954	\$ (4,237)	\$ 19,150	\$ 2,903

Cemeteries							
Consolidated Revenue and Expense Report							
For The Year Ended December 31, 2023							
				Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
				2023	2023	2022	2024
REVENUES							
Sales, net of cost of goods sold				\$ 61,085	\$ 60,700	\$ 87,193	\$ 59,400
Offertory collection				6,058	6,850	6,620	6,058
Recoveries (HST)				5,446	6,500	5,679	5,450
				\$ 72,589	\$ 74,050	\$ 99,492	\$ 70,908
EXPENSES							
Salaries & benefits				\$ 9,124	\$ 9,042	\$ 9,585	\$ 9,411
Administration				3,049	2,085	2,469	2,652
Insurance				941	600	-	912
Buildings & Grounds				48,684	52,320	38,764	50,183
General expenses				97	-	279	-
				\$ 61,895	\$ 64,047	\$ 51,097	\$ 63,158
ORDINARY SURPLUS (Deficit)				\$ 10,694	\$ 10,003	\$ 48,395	\$ 7,750
SPECIAL ITEMS							
Investment income, unrealized				\$ 11,952	\$ 17,100	\$ (27,705)	\$ 18,840
Investment income, realized				\$ 12,582			
Fundraising				\$ 3,459	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500
Investment management fees				(1,825)	(1,716)	(1,953)	(1,884)
Capital expenditures				-	-	-	-
				\$ 26,168	\$ 15,384	\$ (29,658)	\$ 20,456
NET SURPLUS (Deficit)				\$ 36,862	\$ 25,387	\$ 18,737	\$ 28,206
St. Columba's 2023 portion of revenue \$6,126; expenses \$4,119; and share of net income \$2,007.							

St. Mary Magdalene Parish			
Balance Sheet			
As at December 31, 2023			
		2023	2022
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank accounts		193,834	265,187
Accounts receivable		25,325	31,182
Inventory		554	2,683
Prepaid expenses		98	135
Total Current Assets		219,811	299,187
Other Assets			
Investments, Parish		2,658,235	2,425,786
Investments, Cemeteries		313,774	291,287
Total Other Assets		2,972,009	2,717,073
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 3,191,820	\$ 3,016,260
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable		70,299	37,528
Due to local programs		2,906	2,644
Payroll liabilities		6,545	8,817
Total Current Liabilities		79,750	48,989
Equity			
Net assets, unrestricted		1,462,344	1,839,525
Net assets, restricted		1,152,775	1,157,947
Net assets, Hermitage cemetery		339,225	319,987
Net assets, St. Columba Cemetery		7,754	6,998
Net income, Churches		113,110	(376,424)
Net income, Cemeteries		36,862	19,238
Total Equity		3,112,070	2,967,271
Total Liabilities & Equity		3,191,820	3,016,260
Restricted Funds Include:			
Mass intentions		9,529	12,469
Building fund		217,731	212,963
Poor & needy		58,636	57,068
Refugee sponsorship		1,393	9,960

Investments as at December 31, 2023			
(Market Value)			
		2023	2022
St. Columba			
Inter-Parish Loan Fund		\$ 75,424	\$ 73,929
Sts. John & Paul			
Inter-Parish Loan Fund		\$ 14,133	\$ 13,853
St. Dunstan's			
Marketable Securities		\$ 2,399,941	\$ 2,169,267
Inter-Parish Loan Funds		\$ 168,737	\$ 168,737
		\$ 2,658,235	\$ 2,425,786
Hermitage Cemetery			
Marketable Securities		\$ 313,774	\$ 291,287
		\$ 2,972,009	\$ 2,717,073
Notes:			
Income earned from marketable securities was reinvested in the portfolios.			
Earnings on St. Columba's and Sts. John & Paul's IPLF's were re-invested in their respective funds.			
Earnings on St. Dunstan's IPLF's were credited against billings from the Diocese.			
As of January 1, 2024, interest earned on <u>all</u> IPLF's is being re-invested back into the IPLF. Also as of January 1, 2024, interest is paid monthly on these deposits at the quarterly posted prime rate at Bank of Montreal less 1%.			

Financial Support to Others

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Offertory Receipts re. Financial Support for Others:		2023	2022
For Poor and Needy (General Use)		\$ 23,661	\$ 10,167
For Poor and Needy (Christmas Exchange)		7,300	14,600
For the 2022 Papal Visit		10	24,865
For our Local Communities		2,062	902
For our Extended Communities		32,947	43,312
Total Receipts		\$ 65,980	\$ 93,846
Disbursements to our Community from The Poor and Needy Fund:			
12 Neighbours Community		\$ -	\$ 7,553
Assistance for Individuals/Families		1,399	1,875
Bus Voucher program (Wilmot United)		2,000	2,000
CCSA Conference (STU Campus Ministry)		-	1,000
Christmas Exchange		13,400	29,323
Fredericton Community Kitchen		1,000	-
Fredericton Homeless Shelter		1,000	3,500
Fredericton Youth Orchestra		-	2,000
Greener Village Food Bank		500	370
NB Right to Life		1,000	-
Our Lady of Grace Catholic School		1,000	2,000
Out of the Cold Project (Wilmot United)		1,000	1,000
St. Mary's First Nation Gala		-	1,500
Steubenville Youth Conference		-	650
Student Hunger		-	1,000
Taxi Vouchers (Transportation to Mass)		3,320	978
		\$ 25,619	\$ 54,749
Disbursements for the 2022 Papal Visit		\$ -	\$ 38,831
Disbursements to our Local Community from designated offertories:			
Fredericton Community Kitchen		\$ 114	\$ 114
Fredericton Emergency Shelters		125	240
Fredericton Food Bank		164	149
NET Team		1,529	780
Kehkimin School		869	-
NB Right to Life		-	349
Other		10	50
		\$ 2,811	\$ 1,682

Disbursements to our Extended Community from designated offertories				2,023	2,022
Cathedral Restoration				\$ 2,361	\$ 4,200
Catholic Missions in Canada				3,703	3,618
Development and Peace				7,612	9,486
Development and Peace (Ukraine)				-	100
Diocesan Collection for Life				1,627	1,495
Diocesan Priest's Illness				2,561	2,635
Indigenous Solidarity Fund				5,670	11,009
Needs of the Canadian Church				2,290	2,077
Papal Charities				2,134	2,078
Upkeep of the Holy Land				3,406	5,061
World Mission Sunday				1,583	1,553
				\$ 32,947	\$ 43,312
Total Disbursements				\$ 61,377	\$ 138,574
Other Distributions within our community:					
Scholarship for violin instruction in memory of Kathleen E.E. Wade				\$220	\$220
(Funded from annual earnings of a specific IPLF)					

C. Cemetery

This committee had a turnover in membership and held its first meeting as reconstituted in late November. There were issues in the Hermitage Catholic Cemetery with vandalism, particularly with graffiti. Cameras for summer use were installed and approximately \$1,300 was spent on clean up. Costs for lawn care and mowing rose from \$21,000 to \$28,000. Prices for plots were increased by 15%.

With respect to the St. Columba Catholic Cemetery: the committee considered administration and possibly using the same system as at the Hermitage Catholic Cemetery. A fund-raising dinner was held to cover the costs of upkeep of the cemetery.

Number of burials: Full Body – 4; Cremation; Ground – 11, Niches – 8

Members:

Bob Scott, Chair
Michelle Brzak

Peter Fitzpatrick
Gerry Kennan

Michael Minifie
Mark Shannon

D. Policies

During the past year, the Council adopted: *Lay Employees Policy* which outlines the Parish commitments to employees as well as the Parish expectations of employees; *Protocol for Parishioner Participation in Finance Council Meetings*.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Pastors, Pastoral Council and Finance Council
April 21, 2024, Saint Mary Magdalene Parish, Fredericton, New Brunswick.