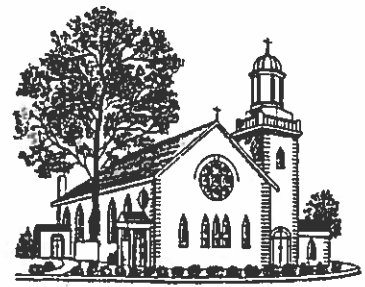


**SACRED HEART CHURCH**  
SUFFERN, NY  
**PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT**  
**September 1, 2013-August 31, 2014**



Dear Parishioners,

While it is my duty to present an annual report to the parish, it is also a joy to be reminded of how important this parish is to so many. Consider the following statistics:

**The Church's way of organizing activities runs from September to August of the following year. From September 1, 2013 until August 31, 2014, in addition to our regular schedule of Masses and confessions...**

**We had:**

- † 77 Sacrament of Baptism
- † 123 First Holy Communions
- † 120 Sacrament of Confirmation
- † 10 Marriages
- † 52 Weekly visits to the homebound  
and to the Nursing Home and Hospitals
- † 60 Anointing of the Sick
- † 99 Funerals

**There were:**

- † 2653 registered families
- † 1032 active contributors
- † 107 new parishioners
- † 257 children in Sacred Heart School
- † 604 children in Religious Education
- † 55 Eucharistic Ministers
- † 26 Lectors
- † 9 Ushers
- † 77 Altar Servers

In reviewing the previous eight year-end reports I have prepared over my years as pastor, I see both similarities and differences. The sacraments and education and care for the sick and needy always take place but with varying participation of parishioners. We should be grateful to God for the vibrancy of this parish, even if we wish more people would join us for Mass. As we know, not all parishes are as vibrant and there are changes taking place all around the Archdiocese.

One aspect of church life that has changed over the past year or so is that most Catholic Schools are now regional (not belonging to an individual parish). We had projected a sizable deficit a year ago for the fiscal year ending in August 2014 since costs were rising and we were not certain to what extent the Archdiocese would reimburse for parish expenses for the school. Thankfully, the Archdiocese is reimbursing the parish and for our part we have cut spending wherever possible. Hence we had a budget surplus instead of a deficit. Due to a few one-time sources of revenue (like bequests), we have a sizable surplus, but we would have been better than break-even even without them in fiscal year 2013-2014. Also, we continue to use resources carefully to make necessary repairs and improvements to our large physical plant to enhance safety and beauty.

All in all, in this brief space, I thank all of our parishioners who make this a wonderful parish. Parish clergy and staff help me in every way, as well as our volunteers. Of course, there are our regular parishioners who are always here. (We all pray for Deacon Witt and all of our departed loved ones in this month of November especially.) I ask everyone to continue to live the faith and support the parish, the Archdiocese and one another as best we possibly can with God's help. There is no greater gift than God's love and the faith He revealed in Jesus.

**May the Lord, in His Sacred Heart, Bless us and Sustain us always.**

**Gratefully yours in Christ,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monsignor Gian Durco". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

November 2014

# SACRED HEART PARISH

129 LAFAYETTE AVENUE, SUFFERN, NY 10901

September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

## Pastor's Annual Report to the Church

Summary of Revenues and Expenses Fiscal Years 2012-2013 & 2013-2014

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>12-13 Total</u>	<u>13-14 Total</u>
Regular Sunday	747,927	727,066
Christmas/Easter/Holy Day	141,728	142,805
Perquisites and Votives	26,140	24,687
Fund Raising-Net	114,121	113,270
Rel. Ed. Tuition	98,245	90,542
Donations /Bequests	406	52,357
Poor Box	11,656	6,006
Other Income	<u>15,798</u>	<u>20,561</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>1,156,021</u></b>	<b><u>1,177,294</u></b>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Salaries and Taxes	497,897	444,125
Benefits	134,385	126,984
Utilities	42,743	51,827
Insurance	24,140	25,422
Contract	98,477	116,576
Services/Maintenance		
Rel. Ed. Expenses	23,935	22,143
Office	76,353	77,443
Chapel	12,361	9,068
Cathedraticum	77,308	74,276
School Tax/Support	*	*
Food and Supplies	18,973	24,736
Poor Box	7,418	6,519
Other	<u>2,985</u>	<u>2,840</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>1,016,975</u></b>	<b><u>981,959</u></b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Loss)before</b>		
<b>School Tax / Support</b>	<u>139,046</u>	<u>195,335</u>
<b>Parish Support of School</b>	<b>*336,658</b>	<b>*86,971</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Loss)</b>	<b><u>(197,612)</u></b>	<b><u>108,364</u></b>

.....  
It is now difficult to compare previous years' finances to the present, since Sacred Heart School is regional. In the past, all church and school salaries and expenses were recorded as parish related. Indeed, some years (like '12-'13) the parish gave hundreds of thousands to support the school. Currently, like most parishes, we pay a hefty school tax (in addition to the regular Cathedraticum assessment) and the Archdiocese splits many 'school building' costs with us.

As I mention on the reverse side, we received some sizable bequests last year and we made some major improvements to our property (eg. Organ repair, roof repair, parking lot maintenance, heating-cooling repairs). Some numbers had to be adjusted from last year's report, but overall, the news is good for our parish and we continue to be a strong family in Christ. Thanks to all of you!

(Totals do not include \$137,703. In 2014 Cardinal's Appeal Donations)