

FRUIT OF OUR GIVING

Transformed Lives





FOREWORD

Transforming parishes to transform lives

BY FR. MICHAEL LECLERC

2022 was a big year at St. Ignatius.
Can I boast a bit?

I am so proud that despite all the difficulties we faced last year we continued to push forward with our vision to transform our city by transforming parishes to transform lives. Most notably, I am proud and grateful that we were able to launch our missionary partnership with St. Willibrord's parish. A lot of work went into this project, and we quickly saw the fruit of our labour.

Thanks to your generous support we were able to invest in a team that is driving the work of parish renewal in Verdun. To learn more, I invite you to read the testimony from Mark Lesauvage. Your giving made it possible for us to bring Mark on board, and his efforts have been central to the success of the partnership.

The launch of the partnership also relied heavily on the support of St. Ignatius parishioners who moved to St. Willibrord's.

Two of our disciples, Bonnie and JP Bederian, have graciously shared their reflections on their role as missionary disciples.

Not all our efforts shifted to Verdun, however.

We continued to offer our Alpha program both in person and online at St. Ignatius, and 112 guests participated in our 2022 Alphas. Our kids' programs, Catch The Wave and the Atrium of the Good Shepherd, also continued to not just grow, but thrive. Updates on these programs are also contained in this booklet.

These successes are due to your generosity and continued support of the parish. Thank you! And I hope you enjoy reading about some of the ways you are helping transform our parish.

God Bless,

We've grown, but there's room for more

BY THE WARDENS

2022 was another exciting year marked by the transition back to full in-church activities as well as new projects and new beginnings.

Once again the parishioners of St. Ignatius continue to overwhelmingly support the parish and its mission.

The increased activity and the lack of space at St. Ignatius was a leading factor in the decision to pursue the acquisition of the near-adjacent property at 4567 West Broadway which will free up required office and meeting space at the Rectory. Although closing of the acquisition is expected only this year, over \$50,000 in donations were already made in 2022 in advance of launching our Room to Grow capital campaign.

All of the activities included in this booklet require lots of resources, time and organizers to lead our vast team of volunteers. The current economic situation has not evaded the parish, and all of our costs have increased substantially while revenues remained relatively steady, which resulted in a deficit for the year 2022.

That is why we are asking all parishioners to reflect on their current level of support and to become even more intentional in their giving. We are asking each parishioner to consider an increase of 10% of their regular giving and to reflect on what impact that would be for them personally. For those of you not yet using online giving, we would also invite you to consider doing so in order to simplify your financial participation and allow us greater ability to forecast revenues so that we can better plan our activities and ministries.

Thank you for your support

REVENUES	2022	2021	2020
Weekend Collections & Maintenance	396,632	384,944	374,185
Other Special Offerings	210,000	222,000	127,688
Subtotal Offerings	606,632	606,944	501,873
Capital Campaign	52,435	-	-
Other Income ¹	92,425	105,732	83,419
Total Revenues	751,492	712,676	582,292
EXPENSES	2022	2021	2020
Salaries	427,484	370,498	353,696
Employer Taxes & Benefits	65,428	52,142	49,391
Ministry/Other Stipends	16,915	14,258	11,378
Faith Education Expenses	11,436	11,564	5,512
General Pastoral Expenses	6,480	3,550	3,584
Leadership Training	3,903	4,642	13,920
GST & QST Taxes	18,211	11,110	9,667
Office Expenses	16,382	12,648	17,634
Maintenance & Repairs	29,522	35,668	14,470
Insurance	16,517	15,830	14,753
Heating & Utilities	36,924	25,647	24,954
Diocesan Support Tax (9%)	64,171	60,000	49,849
Clergy Room & Board	14,743	14,454	15,190
Miscellaneous Expenses	26,426	13,162	15,818
Capital Project Expenses	7,706	-	-
Special Collection Payments	22,307	12,046	13,989
Total Expenses	784,555	657,219	613,805
Surplus (Deficit)	(33,063)	55,457	(31,513)



MARK LESAUVAGE

MISSIONARY PARTNERSHIP

The renewal of St. Willibrord's

BY MARK LESAUVAGE

In the spring of 2022, Fr. Robert Assaly and the vision team at St. Willibrord's in Verdun discerned that the Spirit was moving them to transform their parish from maintenance to mission.

The parish was seriously struggling after the pandemic, averaging just 25 to 30 parishioners every Sunday.

The job of transformation is a big one, so Fr. Robert reached out to Fr. Mike, and the result was the creation of our first Missionary Partnership.

St. Ignatius has undertaken to support the revitalization of St. Willibrord's and the transformation of Verdun through the investment of resources, talent, and experience.

At Pentecost, almost 30 people from St. Ignatius discerned a call to leave our parish and go out on mission to St. Willibrord. The group included members of our music and hospitality ministries, Alpha leaders, and more.

In just a few months following the September 25, 2022 launch mass, the partnership has begun to bear fruit. The almost 60 combined parishioners and missionaries have grown to over 120 coming together for mass on Sunday. Each week we welcome new faces and families to Sunday mass at St. Willibrord's.

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The leadership teams worked hard to improve the Sunday experience by launching ministries in the areas of hospitality, liturgy, music, and children's programming. After only four short weeks, Catch the Wave, the children's program during mass, currently has 16 children registered, compared to only one or two children that could be seen at St. Willibrord's weekly prior to our partnership.

This is just the beginning at St. Willibrord's. Beyond wholehearted collaboration, transformation requires continued empowerment of St. Willibrord parish so as to raise up leaders who can reach out and welcome others into a life-giving relationship with Jesus. Genuine and sustainable transformation at St. Willibrord, in Verdun, and across the city requires ongoing investment of time, talent, and prayer. To our knowledge, no other Catholic church in North America has undertaken anything quite like this.

Come, Holy Spirit!





BLESSING OF OUR MISSIONARIES AT THE LAUNCH MASS

A Blossoming Friendship

BY VANESSA GANGAI

French toast and maple syrup. Fresh scrambled eggs and sausage. Black bean burritos with pico de gallo.

No – this isn't the menu of your local breakfast joint... these are some of the scrumptious meals shared by the guests at the most recent Alpha on Saturday mornings at St. Ignatius! I had the privilege of being a part of the team and hosting a table, and that's where I met my friend, Kimberley.

Kimberley was a guest at my table. Upon asking what brought her to Alpha, she explained that she was from St. Willibrord's, our partner parish, and she decided to join the Saturday Alpha at St. Ignatius as the schedule better suited her busy life. I could completely relate to her. Managing a household with two young kids alongside her fiancé, in addition to her full-time job was no easy feat. Kimberley went on to share that doing Alpha was the first step in the pursuit of her baptism. Wow! How amazing!

I was so excited to have the opportunity to be part of her journey of discovering Jesus.

Without it, I would not have been able to witness the blossoming of a new relationship with Jesus nor experience the spiritual growth that comes with that.

Sharing with Kim and the other guests at our table from week to week as they asked questions and shared their insights helped me along in my own faith journey. It helped me realize the magnitude of God's love for us and how very well he knows our hearts.

Over the course of the 11-week program, Kimberly and I grew closer, and a beautiful friendship formed. Kimberley has even given me the honour of accompanying her as her sponsor while she receives the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation on Easter Sunday. I am so appreciative of the St. Ignatius community and its generosity that is allowing the Missionary Partnership with St. Willibrord's to thrive. Without it, I would not have been able to witness the blossoming of a new relationship with Jesus nor experience the spiritual growth that comes with that. I am forever grateful.

Sharing our gifts

BY BONNIE AND JP BEDIRIAN

We decided to go on mission because we felt called to go. We just knew it would be a good thing for us to say yes to.

Alpha teaches you to step outside your comfort zone, and trust that the Lord is leading you on the right path. We had received such wonderful spiritual gifts at St. Ignatius and at Alpha, and we wanted to bring these gifts to St Willibrord and share them with others.

Stepping outside the comfort of the familiar is something we have tried to embrace over the last few years, since first taking Alpha in 2018. Leaving our friends behind was not easy. But we have found the very same familiar community feeling among our new friends at St. Willibrord.

We are excited to see St. Willibrord Parish growing before our very eyes! There are more and more people in the pews every Sunday, new programs (such as children's liturgy) are being offered, and the coffee hour after mass is overflowing. It is a privilege to be a part of this special project, which we know is having a positive impact on the people of Verdun.



BONNE & JP BEDIRIAN



ALPHA IN THE LOUNGE

Back to in-person Alphas

BY ADRIAN ROJO DE LA VEGA

2022 marked a return to in-person Alpha after several years of online-only gatherings.

The Alpha series remains our primary tool for evangelization in our goal to make missionary disciples and bring people to Jesus, not only in our parish, but in all NDG, Verdun and the whole island of Montreal.

For some adults, Alpha is an opportunity to rediscover their faith and find a new, welcoming spiritual home. For others, it is a first step towards becoming Roman Catholic.

Our hybrid (in-person and online) Alphas welcomed more than 110 guests in 2022. In addition to the large team of volunteers who make Alpha possible, we could not offer this important program without your generous financial contributions. Your donations fund the technical requirements, the hospitality and the weekend retreat which together make Alpha an enriching and life-changing experience.

A joyful, spiritual home for our children

BY REBECCA MALONE

We are blessed that so many families with young children have chosen to call St. Ignatius their spiritual home.

Our Good Shepherd Atrium allows children to spend an extended amount of time coming to know Jesus in a special place designed just for them. Each week we now welcome over fifty children ages 3 to 9 to one of our six 90-minute sessions. While in that beautiful space they sing, pray, contemplate scripture and the liturgy using handmade materials designed just for them.

As the first parish in Montreal to offer this internationally-acclaimed program (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd), we've hosted three multi-day formation courses for new catechists from neighboring parishes.

Each week we now welcome over fifty children ages 3 to 9 to one of our six 90-minute sessions

With support from Pillars Trust, this special approach to children's faith formation is enriching the lives of families at St. Ignatius and beyond.

Inspired with games, stories, songs and visuals that allow them to be engaged with the Mass

During Sunday Mass each week, our Catch The Wave team of energetic and dedicated volunteers are there to share with the kids the good news about Jesus's abiding love for them. They're inspired with games, stories, songs and visuals that allow them to be engaged with the Mass and to deepen their understanding of God and the Gospels. Any child can join at any time. All are welcome.

In 2022, anywhere from 50 to 80 children participated in Catch the Wave each week, and we are grateful for the support which makes it possible for St. Ignatius to continue to offer this innovative and uplifting opportunity to enrich our children's faith.



GOOD SHEPHERD ATRIUM



**We are a
welcoming
and joyful
spiritual
home**

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