



St. Andrew the Apostle

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

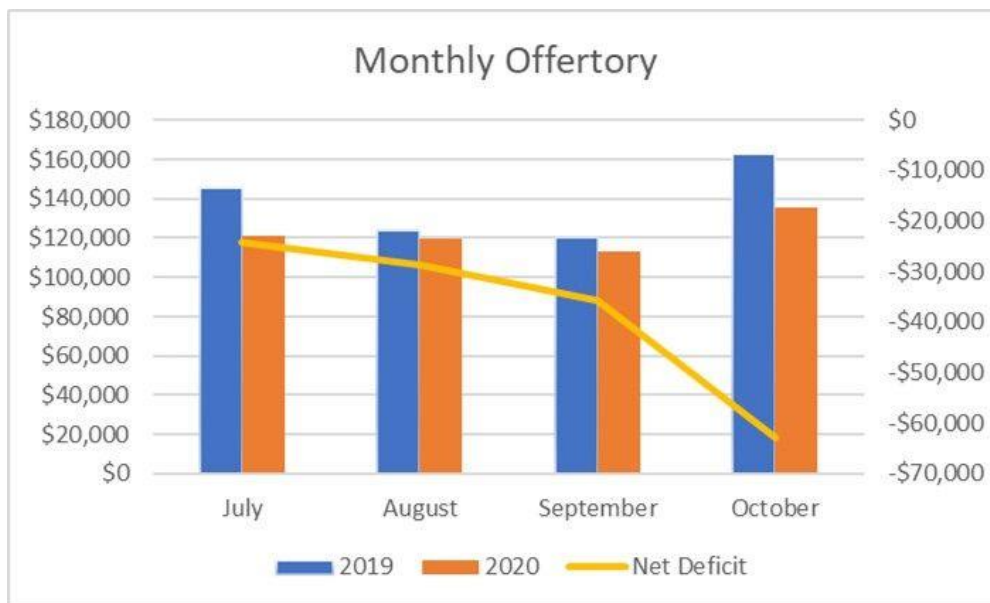
Love God, Serve Neighbor, Nurture Disciples

December 1, 2020

A Letter from the Parish Finance Committee

As the pandemic continues to prevent all of us from gathering at church, Fr. John and the staff continue to work hard every day to keep the parish connected. As mentioned in the Annual Report, local relief charities such as Western Wake Crisis Ministry, Catholic Parish Outreach, Catholic Charities, and several others, continue to receive support from our parish. Even more important is the number of individuals and families seeking assistance in paying bills. These financial hardships have been brought about or made more severe by the extended pandemic.

With the pandemic entering its 9th month, we want to take the opportunity to share two parish offertory trends. The first trend compares our monthly offertory for July-October in 2019 to July-October in 2020. As of the end of October, offertory is down by approximately \$63,000.



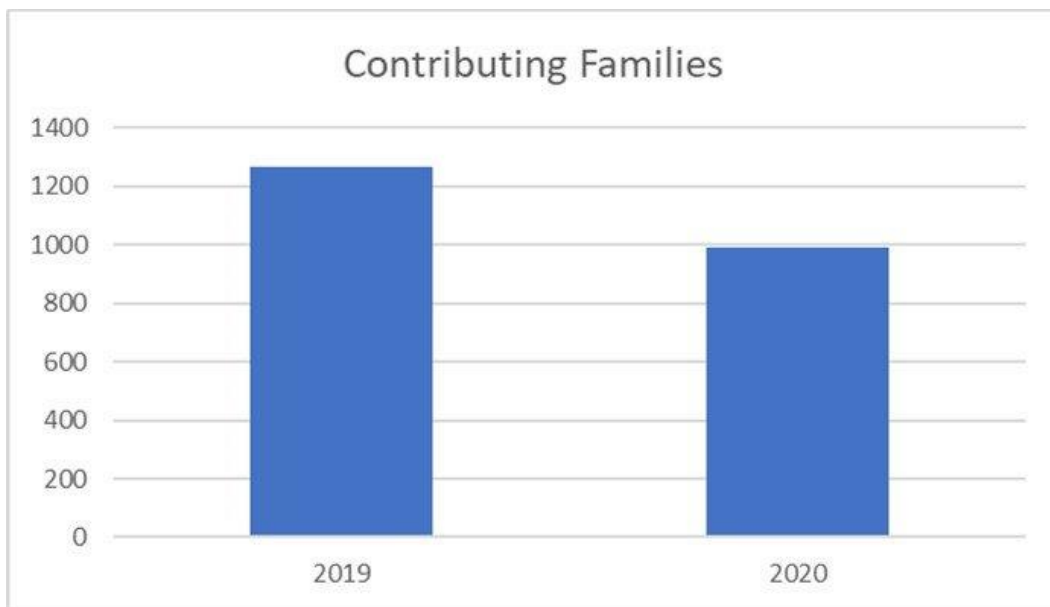


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The number of contributing families is down by 274; this is in addition to the approximately 1100 families/individuals who have no offertory records for either time period. We are so grateful to those families who continue to give – even when times are uncertain – and we invite our remaining families to prayerfully consider their financial stewardship.



We understand that for many individuals and families the pandemic has brought on financial, physical, and emotional hardship. If there are needs to be met, the parish is here to help you however possible, and we want to continue to be able to do that.

The purpose of our letter is to remind everyone that the parish's work, as well as the community need, continues during this unprecedented time. St. Andrew is incredibly fortunate to have a thriving parish that has always answered the call, but the concern is that an extended slump in offertory can eventually lead to the parish's inability to live its mission to the fullest. So, if you are still financially able to share your treasure and tithe, please continue to do so. We are so thankful to you.

NOW THE PARISH CHALLENGE

Two families have come forward with generous donations totaling \$35,000; this is **in addition** to their regular tithing, as their way of answering the call to increase stewardship. Both have asked to remain anonymous, but they wanted to offer a challenge to the parish. We understand that most families are not able to give so substantially, but these families would like to challenge everyone to contribute to a matching gifts fund . . . to dig deep and renew your connection to the parish.



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These families would like to see if we can turn their \$35,000 into \$70,000 by the end of December. As we enter the “Season of Giving,” prayerfully consider answering this challenge. Any donations you would like to send – outside of the ordinary – please designate as CHALLENGE FUND, so we can track these donations and allocate accordingly.

We will keep you up to date on the progress of both the offertory and the challenge over the coming weeks. In the meantime, WE WILL continue to pursue the vision to *Love God, Serve Neighbor, Nurture Disciples*.

If you would like to reach us directly with questions or comments, please email finance@saintandrew.org.

Ways to Respond

1. Give online [here](#).
2. Fill out your 2021 Commitment Form [here](#).
3. Please join in prayer for our parish.

O God,
Inspire in our hearts a deep sense of gratitude,
and move us to share what we have received with the same immensity
of spirit in which it was given.

You call each of us to play a unique role in the
unfolding of your divine plan.
Give us the grace to answer your call:
Who will? ... We will!

We ask this with grateful hearts
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.