

STATE OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH: FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019

Church is the people of God, gathered by the Spirit that professes one faith in Christ by celebrating its faith through the sacraments. Every baptized person is given divine gifts and a mandate to build the church, the Body of Christ. The state of this parish report reflects the programs Christ the Redeemer offers to nourish your faith and how your sacrificial contributions help our church in its effort to become a vibrant faith community, radiating Christ.

The year of 2019 was filled with the year-long celebration of the 100th Anniversary of a Roman Catholic Parish Life in Manville. An impressive milestone and testament to the strength of our catholic community, scheduled to remember the past of Sacred Heart and Christ the King parishes, celebrate our present and secure our future as Christ the Redeemer Parish. By creating a video that depicted 100 years of parish life in Manville, we honored generations of those who dedicated their lives to building a vibrant catholic community. The centennial celebrations helped to renew our faith, reconnect with our community and revive our commitment. As a result, we commemorated our centennial jubilee with an exciting year of festivities that brought together all our parishioners.

It was a year of changes that demanded a test of our faith and flexibility, with Fr. Wojciech Kusek C.Ss.R. transferred to Philipsburg in October and the delay in the arrival of Fr. Marcin Gacek CSsR due to the work visa process. We pray that with the support of Fr. Marcin, our committed parish staff and dedicated parish volunteers we will continue to build up our parish and strengthen our faith community.

2019 was very exciting and demanding, but we made it! Some highlights of the year are listed below.

- All councils and committees worked well to ensure a very successful year. Thank you for your hard work. The new Mass Schedule has proven to be effective.
- In January 2019 we visited 716 households during the annual House Blessing – Koleda. 39% of our parishioners welcomed and prayed with the visiting priest -- a 10% decrease from 2018.
- In Manville 62 and 25 out of town sick and homebound were visited regularly by Fr. Stan, Fr. Wojtek, Deacon Tom and Deacon Bill as well as by Eucharistic Ministers.
- In addition to their regular duties, both priests continued as hospital chaplains at RWJ Somerville Hospital and as monthly ministers to the elderly Catholic residents at Eastern Star Rehab Center in Bridgewater.
- Our Jubilee Parish Mission in March, led by Fr. Richard Bennet C.Ss.R, prepared us for the 100th Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bp. Checchio. Furthermore, the Advent Retreat, led by Fr. Mark Owen C.Ss.R, deepened our faith.
- Once again, the public manifestation of our faith by the Outdoor Stations of the Cross and the Corpus Christi Processions were well received.
- Because of the small number of candidates, Confirmation of 19 took place at St. Joseph's Parish in Raritan.
- Bishop James Checchio visited us twice, on March 10 for the main celebration of our 100th Anniversary and on October 13th.
- Religious Education: with 148 CCD participants 4 RCIA participant, 9 English and 12 Polish Bible Study participants, and 48 children in the Summer Camp, these programs continue to educate.
- Christ the Redeemer Feast with Cardinal Joseph Tobin of Newark was truly a celebration of joy that we are one.
- Our 51st Annual Summer Festival was a great success and community building experience enhanced by the Polish folk music ensemble "Vechi Acum". Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it happen.
- In September, after months of arduous work our 2020 parish calendar and over 50 bulletin inserts were developed featuring all the upcoming parish events and activities.
- Our first Country Western & Mega Raffle Dinner was very successful due to the hard work of Celeste Onka, along with many dedicated parishioners and staff. Through the Mega Raffle the parish received \$8,000
- Celebrating All Saints Day Devotions gave us an opportunity to unite our prayers with the saints in heaven for our loved ones. Like previous year the prayer service for Wreaths Across America was conducted at SH Cemetery with many participants.
- A 100th Anniversary Concert by St. Peter by the Sea Orchestra coordinated by Dolores Finlan, who tirelessly worked for months, was very successful.
- As recommended by Bishop James Checchio, after the homily on the Third Sunday of Advent, we solemnly entrusted our Dioceses of Metuchen & our CTR Parish to Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- The Memorial Plaque is installed at the back of the church as a visible sign of 100 Anniversary.
- The total revenue for fiscal year 2019 was \$1,076,458; total expenses were \$1,170,008 with a deficit of \$93,550. We need to do more and increase our Sunday Contribution. Every year we need to collect \$153,600 for the diocesan assessment and \$130,000 for the insurance. Please help us to balance CTR Parish finances by increasing your weekly contribution. The CTK School building is used for CCD & Polish Saturday School, parish sports and social activities. The cost of maintaining the building is significantly offset by rental income from the gym and a portion of the school.
- In order to increase our weekly collection, the annual "Take a Step Campaign" reminded our parishioners that like theirs, our costs also increase; on-line giving is also encouraged and has proven to be convenient and safe. Please use it! (<http://www.ctrmanville.com/Home/Donations>). The envelope system was also updated.

- Social and fundraising activities (e.g. Parish Picnic, Summer Festival, Mega Raffle, and the Fall Dance) were very successful and brought a profit of \$52,754.
- CTR Parish App and Parish website are successfully updated as a source of preparation for Sunday Mass (video reflection, Sunday Readings), information about our parish, annual registration for CCD and Summer Camp, and volunteer signups for the Summer Festival. Our free parish App and the parish webpage gives an easy access to view instant notifications about parish events and ministries, the parish bulletin, the parish calendar, the bimonthly newsletter, and real-time news feed from trusted catholic sources. Moreover, you can find the most popular prayers, follow the daily readings from home, and much more.
- Our Parish Newsletter is emailed to over 900 email recipients. The main focus of each Newsletter is on current parish events and programs. Register now to receive our bimonthly newsletter.
- Ongoing maintaining and updating of the parish website (www.CTRmanville.com) and Face Book (www.facebook.com/CTRManville/) continues to provide you with the newest info about our parish with weekly video reflections as our priority.
- Big and small improvements were made to some parish facilities \$49,213. Among them was repaired sewer pipe system at CTK School; boiler at CTK Church, air conditioning unit at CTR Parish Office was replaced.
- Our Caritas program continues to provide food and necessities for the needy and has grown in the last year. The food pantry is open every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 4-6PM. Discretion and privacy is guaranteed. Growing our Caritas program is an explicit example of putting into practice the Corporal Works of Mercy.
- Our Adult Choirs continue to enhance our celebrations as do the members of our Monday Guitar classes. Keep up the good work. We look forward to and are thankful for your singing and music.
- Various ministries/groups in our parish continue to meet regularly; e.g., Knights of Columbus (75 Members), Holy Name Society (6 Members), Altar Rosary Society (95 Members), Eucharistic Ministers (40 Members), Lectors (39 Members), Ushers (36 Members) among many others. If you feel called to one of these ministries, don't hesitate – join now.
- Our Polish Apostolate was also very busy.
 - On Saturdays, the Polish Supplementary School continued to teach Polish as a second language to children with a Polish background.
 - The Polish Children's Choir continues to sing on third Sunday of each month at the Sunday 11:30AM Polish Mass.
 - In January, the Polish apostolate prepared the "Oplatek-Radio Maryja Rally" for those who listen to and support this Catholic radio station and the TV station TRWAM run by the Redemptorists.
 - The "Domestic Church" group continues to meet on Thursdays.
 - Off-site retreats were conducted in May and June for married couples, one for husbands, one for wives.
 - In July, Fr. Wojciech and a group of 35 Polish parishioners made a bicycle pilgrimage to the American Czestochowa Shrine in Doylestown.
 - In August a larger group made a walking pilgrimage from Great Meadows, NJ to the shrine.
 - A prayer group meets regularly on Wednesdays for adoration at SH after Mass and OLPH Novena.
 - The jubilee Parish Mission in Polish were led by Fr. O. Witold Romanowski C.Ss.R. and Advent Retreat in Polish were led by Fr. Piotr Chyla C.Ss.R.
 - A 100th Anniversary video was developed in Polish
 - For five months Redemptorist's seminarian, Br. Almar Suchan C.Ss.R. helped the Polish Apostolate as a part of his practice program. He was a great help to our pastoral team.

In summary, celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Roman Catholic Parish Life in Manville in 2019 helped us to rediscover our Catholic identity. I THANK YOU for your support and involvement! Now let us join our efforts because in Christ the Redeemer we are ONE!" Working together we can unleash our great potential and growth by remaining focused and seeking the will of God that guides us through this life and secures our future.

I trust that this State of the Parish Address has been informative and helpful in understanding where we are in the process of growing our parish and ourselves. So get involved! Stay involved! May God bless you and your families in 2020.

Fr. Stanislaw Slaby C.Ss.R.
Pastor

Below are numbers that give a better idea of how much we've grown, how much work was done, how many people are actively involved in our parish and where we need to further concentrate our efforts..

PARISH STATISTICS

2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	Categories
1213	1241	1262	1288	1591	1746	Registered number of families.
2369	2376	2457	2,453	3,364	3,819	Total number of People in CTR Parish
(28)	(21)	4	(303)	(155)	0	(Decrease)/Increase of Families. <i>(In 2015 we conducted Parish Census. Then in September 2016 we conducted a supplementary census to make sure our data was up-do-date. The number of registered families has decreased in 2015 and 2016. These are families who have died, no longer live in the area or worship at our parish for a number of years)</i>
940	950	1180	1150	1119	1300	Parishioners who regularly attend Sunday Mass and participate/support the life of the parish
1144	1050	1131	1267	1283	1315	Number of Masses said
700	600	695	675	650	640	Approximate hours spent hearing confessions
185	180	200	168	158	145	Approximate hours of adoration
716	762	900	1000	1000	1100	Approximate home visits / Koleda in January
16	13	14	15	29	15	Number of Baptisms
148	149	150	169	178	187	Students enrolled in our Religious Education Program
20	24	24	29	33	51	Boys and girls received First Communion
20	12	12	26	23	48	Young adults received the Sacrament of Confirmation
0	2	4	6	4	6	Number of Marriages
48	38	39	55	95	61	Number of Funerals
20	28	32	45	38	45	New families registered
262	256	265	190	196	250	Parishioners involved with the Liturgy as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers and Adult and Children Choir Members etc.
48	58	56	49	58	52	Campers at Summer Camp <i>(SH church grounds)</i>
1,076,458	\$1,037,289	\$967,068	\$914,332	\$898,473	\$1,018,233	CTR Parish Revenue FY July 1 - June 30
1,170,008	\$1,156,456	\$1,141,746	\$1,273,301	\$1,392,506	\$1,300,475	CTR Parish Expenses FY July 1-June 30
(93,550)	\$(119,167)	\$(174,678)	\$(358,969)	\$(494,033)	\$(282,242)	CTR Parish Deficit FY July 1-June 30 <i>(Generated by Christ the King School Subsidy/building maintenance/insurance/diocesan assessment)</i>

Please Note. All the information for all parish supported events throughout the year is in our 2020 Parish Calendar. Please make an effort to attend these parish activities and become a more active member of the Redeemer's Family of Christ the Redeemer Parish.