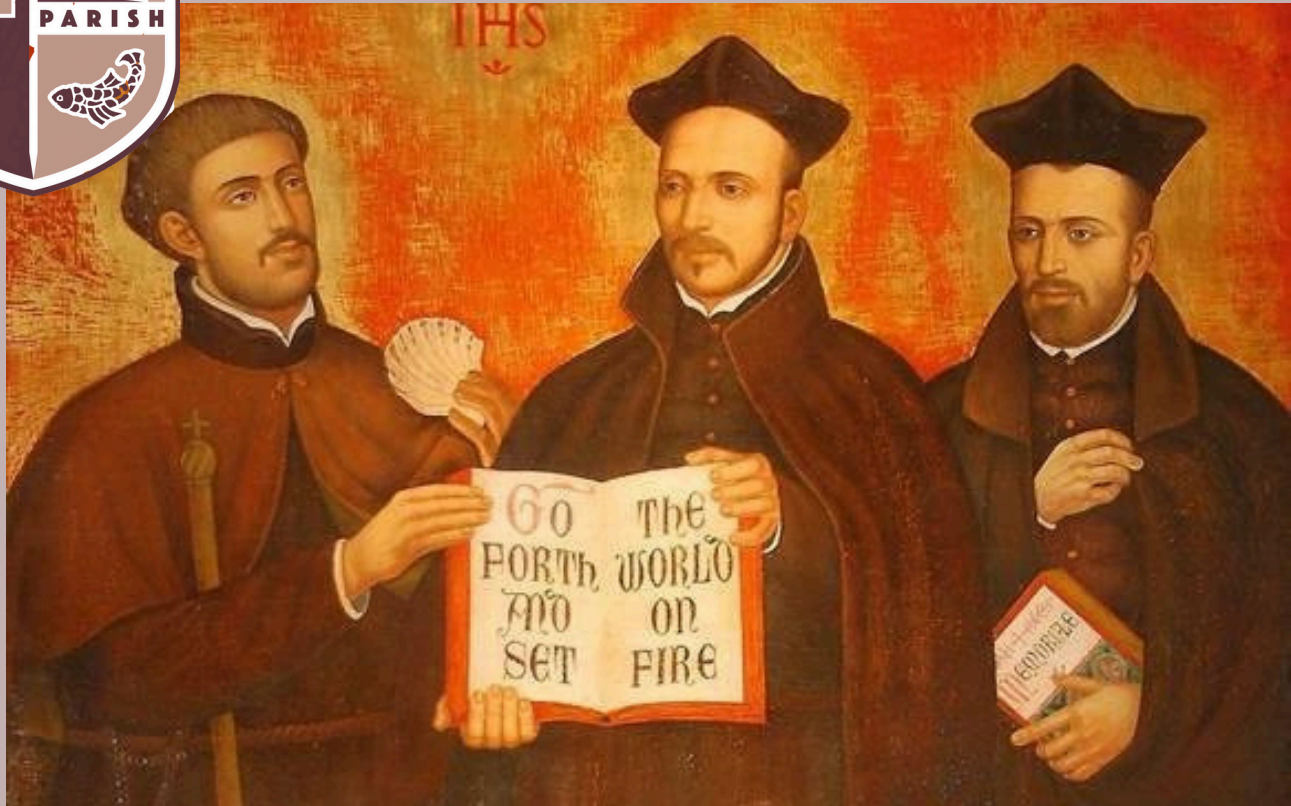




# ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH

2023-2024

*Annual Report*



## *Inside the Issue*

### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Fr. Daryl Miranda provides an overview of the challenges faced at our parish as well as the blessings our community can be grateful for.

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Reports from:  
\* The Principal  
\* The School Board Chair

### SPIRITUAL EDUCATION CENTER

Reports from the following church ministries:

- \* Parish Pastoral Council Education Center
- \* Building and Grounds
- \* Finance Committee





## PASTOR'S REPORT ST. IGNATIUS PARISH AGM 2024

I arrived in Winnipeg in early August and took over as pastor on August 18, 2024. On October 13th I was officially installed as Pastor by Archbishop Gagnon. It was a wonderful celebration in the Church and then we gathered in the parish hall to share food and drink and continue the celebration. I am glad to return to Winnipeg and be part of this community. Welcome everyone. Thank you for coming this evening!

I would like to begin with a special thanks to Fr Frank Obrigewitsch and Fr Con Mulvihill who served the community over many years. Thank you to so many who have enabled us to worship and to keep building our community here at St Ignatius. Fr Joe Newman returned to Winnipeg and is part of the pastoral team and I am happy for his support. I am happy to see altar servers back as they help us remember that the young people are the future of the parish.

This year the Archbishop hired a fundraiser to help with the Sharing God's Gifts campaign. We were chosen as a pilot parish to help with this effort. We had a target of \$73,315. I am happy to report that parishioners were very generous and we exceeded our target by about \$42,000. This rebate to the parish will be put towards refurbishing the front doors of the Church and also installing accessibility buttons which will allow people in wheelchairs or people using walkers and strollers to safely and easily access the Church.

We have had some changes in staff at the Church. Some of our staff moved on to other jobs and our students decided to focus on their studies and left their positions in the office. We now have a new administrative assistant – Maria Carattino– and 2 part-time office assistants – Shakiba Nayel and Femi Ajani. We also have a new bookkeeper, Shannon Schellenberg. They are all learning the ropes and gradually settling into their new positions. Shannon is looking after bookkeeping at the parish and the school.

This year we were also able to install new windows in the Church. Fundraising efforts were underway before I arrived and parishioners were very generous. Because of this generosity we were not only able to replace the aging windows but also repair the plaster and paint the sides aisles of the Church.

This past summer Fr Frank started an experiment with the Sunday evening Mass at 7:30 pm. This experiment ran from July to September. After consultation with many parishioners and visitors it has become clear to me that we need a Sunday evening Mass once again. I am in the process of putting together the pieces so that we can launch an evening Mass which will probably be at 8:30 pm to accommodate healthcare professionals and other shift workers who normally finish their shifts at 7:30 pm.





## *Pastor's Message continued...*

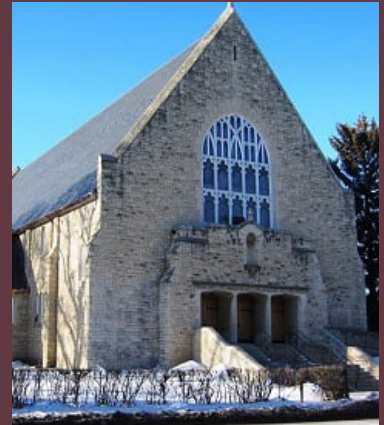
As you know, we now have a new Archbishop-elect Murray Chatlain who will be installed on April 4th of this year. I had a good working relationship with Archbishop Richard Gagnon and I look forward to working with the new Archbishop.

This year we hosted a St Ignatius Fall Fellowship event which was a joint venture between the parish and school. It was a great way for the parish community to connect with the school community and to welcome new members to our school. We also organized a Helping Hands Philippines Initiative where we collected non-perishable food items, gently used summer clothing and simple toys for children. These items were collected throughout the Advent Season at the parish and at the end of the year the Knights of Columbus shipped these items to help the poor in the Philippines. This Fall we also supported the Hockey Helps the Homeless program through donations from our Poor Box.

For the first time the parish hosted a Christmas Fundraising Concert. We had many come from far and wide and were able to raise some funds for the parish. We also hosted an Epiphany Party which was a great way to gather in an informal setting and play board games etc. This year the Toastmasters Club organized a Trivia Fundraising evening which was also a great success.

Further, the parish sponsored a refugee family in 2023-2024. We were able to support them through the year and now they have successfully launched into Winnipeg society. The RCIA program is well underway and we look forward to welcoming new members into our faith community. Since Covid the Engaged Discovery -- marriage prep program -- was an online one where couples were prepared for marriage over zoom. I really wanted this marriage prep program to be in person and I am happy to announce that this year we have launched an in-person program and we look forward to having many weddings this year.

I continue to attend Deanery meetings with other parishes in the South Deanery. This is a good way to connect with other parishes but also cooperate with them on common projects. This year we are hosting two ethics panels. These are meant to be educational to help parishioners and visitors to learn about and reflect on important topics that impact our daily lives. Our first one will be on February 1st where we will reflect on advance medical care planning and surrogate decision making. The second panel discussion will be held on March 1st and it will focus on M.A.I.D. In the future we hope to have other events on important topics like reproductive health and mental health issues.



***"we are called to be like our God, to be creative!"***

I am grateful for Maria who keeps the front office organized and functioning. She guides our office staff Shabika and Femi.  
Thanks to Bob Pistawka in his third year in the new position at the parish, our Operations Manager.

Many thanks to our faithful readers, ushers, communion ministers and those who organize them - Lee Mensic, Bill Hrynko and Warren Reeves - so that our parish worship can proceed with dignity and holiness. Thanks to our music ministries, Chas and the choir, Dale and her cantors, Terence and his team of musicians and singers.

Thanks to David Androvic for using his expertise to keep our parish tech sound and current. Thanks to the Parish Pastoral Council ably lead by Martin Scanlon. Special thanks to our trustees Steve Ward and Liz Polakoff who with their wonderful enthusiasm and energy have guided our administrative team. Thanks to our Finance Council that consists of Steve Ward, Liz Polakoff, Emőke Szathmáry and Allan Stoski. They share their wisdom and expertise as we continue to navigate our financial situation. Thanks to Lucy Vogrig, our Sunday School coordinator, and her generous catechists. We have a cohort of 6 candidates for Confirmation in the Sunday school and 18 candidates for Confirmation from our St Ignatius School. Thanks also to Carmela Castellano Sinclair who continues to guide our Spiritual Education Centre. Our Knights of Columbus, under the leadership of Ethan Cabel, continue to be extraordinary in serving our community. They organize and run various events in the parish including our Christmas Fundraiser, Pancake Breakfasts etc. They are always willing and ready to help out at short notice. The Knights are hosting the wine and cheese tonight! Principal Jeannine Pistakwa with her staff provides our parish with a wonderful school. Thank you to them!

When I arrived a great concern was a financial one. As a result of COVID we lost a fair amount of revenue. We are gradually building up again and hopefully soon enough we will be back at pre-Covid figures. This is a great challenge and I suspect it will take generosity, imagination, and ingenuity to get back on track. We have been in touch with the Archbishop and his team to try and sort out our financial situation. The Archbishop has been generous as he is willing to forgive about 15% of our debt. This still leaves us with a substantial amount of debt which will be discussed when Steve Ward goes over our finances. I am happy to note that we are actively working with the Archbishop and his team to develop some ideas for some new construction where our current rectory and offices are located. The hope is to be able to work with a developer to construct a building which will offer some affordable housing and provide us with funds to deal with our debt and also renovate part of our Spiritual Education Centre to be able to offer a licensed daycare option. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

Despite the challenges we face and challenges we continue to address, we live with hope and trust that we will continue to seek out God's will for us and our parish, and that we will courageously and generously respond to fulfil it. I know we strive to continue to celebrate God's presence in our parish and world and to open our hearts allowing the Holy Spirit to inspire and renew us. This year is the Jubilee Year where we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope. I am certainly very hopeful that we will continue to grow and welcome new members into our faith community. I can never finish saying thank you to all of you. I have named a few people but there are many more unnamed heroes who work in the background and who make our parish a warm and welcoming place for all.

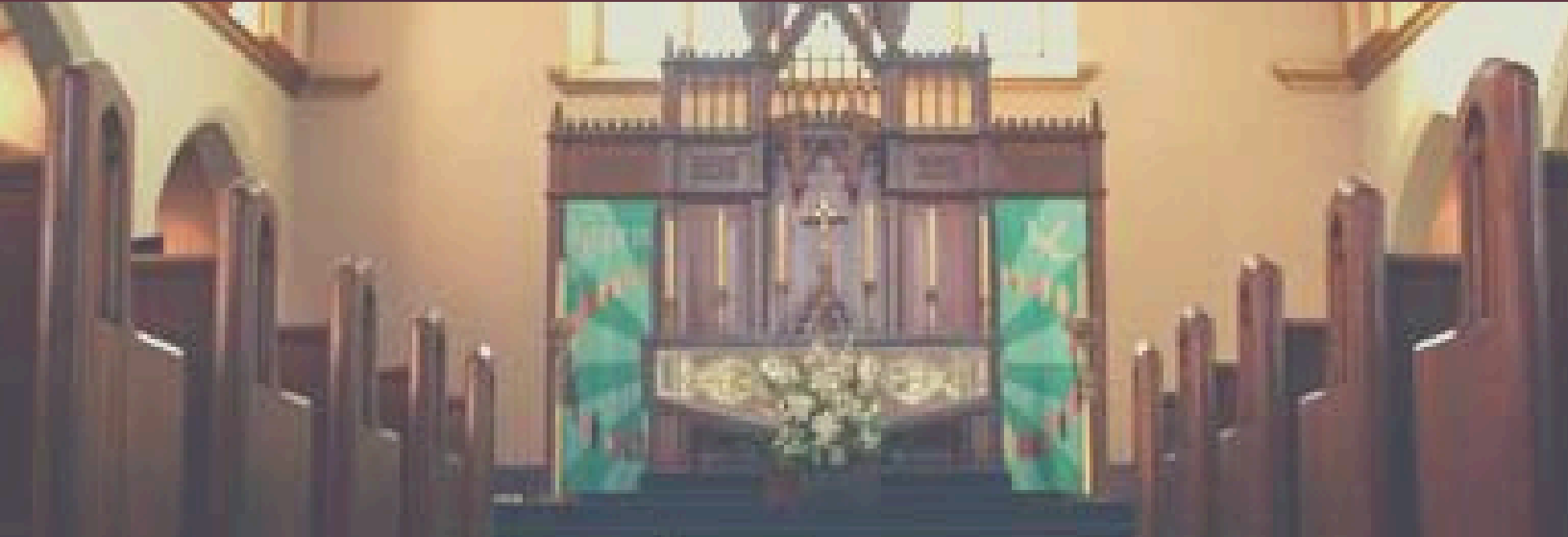
Our parish exists only because of your generosity and faith- Thank you to all!

Fr Daryl Miranda, S.J.  
Pastor  
*ad maiorem dei gloriam*  
*(all for the greater glory of God)*  
January 29, 2025



# ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH

Annual General Meeting



## SPIRITUAL EDUCATION CENTRE

**Annual General Meeting Report – St. Ignatius Spiritual Education Centre Presented by: Carmela Castellano Sinclair**

**Date: January 29, 2025**

Good evening, everyone,

I am so fortunate to present the highlights of our work this past year at the St. Ignatius Spiritual Education Centre. In my time as director, I've witnessed the incredible ways in which connection with God, through our programming, has been a source of hope, growth, and transformation for those we serve. Tonight, I'd like to share with you the key areas of service that have been at the heart of our efforts. These are organized through the lens of the four Apostolic Preferences of the Jesuits.

### **1. Spiritual Exercises Apostolate**

One of our central missions is to guide individuals in deepening their walk with Christ by offering the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola in Ordinary Life, also known as Annotation 19. This apostolate has had a truly fruitful year of accompaniment and growth.

The growth has to do with our team of Spiritual Directors. We bid a heartfelt farewell to two of our most seasoned directors, Mike Radcliff and Dr. Chriss Butterill, who both retired after many years of dedicated service. We are deeply grateful for their decades of commitment and the profound impact they have had on our ministry. We also welcomed two new directors to our team, and one more is currently training with us this year, discerning where the Holy Spirit is calling them.

The commitment to serve as a spiritual director is immense. Each director meets weekly with their directees, they also gather weekly as a team for peer supervision and participate in ongoing skill formation sessions. The training itself is a two-year journey, intentionally structured to allow ample space for discernment and reflection on where God is leading them.

I am continually in awe of the dedication, time, and love our directors invest in this apostolate and in their directees. Their motivation to serve comes from their own transformative experiences on retreat, and their desire to give back is truly inspiring. It is such a pleasure to work with them and I offer a heartfelt thank you to each member of our team for their faithful commitment and service to Christ's call.

So, who did we serve? This year, we coordinated and accompanied a group of 12 retreatants from September to May. Participants included parishioners, staff from other Catholic organizations, parents from St. Ignatius School, and parishioners from both dioceses and other Christian denominations. This method of daily meditation rooted in Ignatian contemplation practices and spiritual accompaniment was deeply transformative for them. We celebrated a year-end reflection and Mass to mark the conclusion of their journey. For our previous graduates, we hosted an Advent Day of Reflection, with 25 alumni coming together to pray and reflect on the season of Advent. We also hosted a spring "Come and See" event, introducing another 25 participants to the 30-week retreat.

Additionally, we continue to partner and support other Jesuit Apostolates. I had the pleasure to lead an "Examen" Workshop for the Spiritual Directors at St. Paul's High School, and we also coordinated a 5-Series Zoom Spiritual Directors Learning Circle with the Montreal Ignatian Spirituality Centre, as well as with directors from Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

Looking ahead, we are currently expanding the curriculum for our Fall Preparation Sessions, ensuring it remains relevant and inclusive of various teaching models.

# Spiritual Education Centre

## 2. Walking with the Excluded

Our commitment to fostering inclusion and dialogue, especially with marginalized communities, has been a significant focus this year. Our Truth and Reconciliation efforts have remained central and so we continue to partner with St. Kateri Parish while we offer Learning and Dialogue Circle Sessions. One of our topics included Truth and Reconciliation Through the Lens of Indigenous Art, that engaged conversations between 120 Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants. This was followed by an event at St. Kateri focused on Indigenous ways of learning and being, which drew 65 participants. This Fall we joined St. Kateri for a National Truth and Reconciliation service that brought people together to honor both spiritualities. The numbers are worth mentioning mainly as an indication that the center is serving in areas that resonate with others.

While keeping in line with the previous year's parish Synod discussions, and the request of our parishioners, we launched the Building Bridges Group, a bi-weekly gathering for Catholic 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and allies who come together to learn, support one another while working towards fulfilling a desire of the Holy Father to create a more inclusive, welcoming church for all.

This initiative has an outreach component as well and so we brought together 60 participants for a dinner, learning, and dialogue session on the topic of building bridges and a subsequent second session as well this past fall. At the request of the participants, plans are being made for a third spring session so that we can continue to deepen our understanding and pastoral response to Catholic 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and their loved ones.

This topic is proving important to others in various Catholic organizations and Jesuit apostolates. So much so that we receive requests for information and support from others as they look to grow around inclusivity. We even had the privilege of attending a learning event for St. Paul's High School on Pastoral Care for 2SLGBTQ+ hosted by Fr. Gilles and will continue to explore possible partnerships with others moving forward.

Other areas where we walk with others in need includes the ongoing welcoming and support where needed of various prayer ministries including Mother's Prayer group, Healing Ministry, Monday Morning Prayer group and others. These are mainly comprised of the women elders of the church who for years, week after week, continue to offer spiritual accompaniment for those in need. An absolute blessing to the parish! Thank you. The Refugee Committee also remains active, This year we also reached out to the addictions community and facilitated a closed small-group 12-Step recovery workshop for women, providing much-needed support and an introduction to our space for possible upcoming mtgs.

## 3. Supporting Our Youth

This year, we have made significant strides in engaging with youth and supporting their growth and leadership.

We were invited to offer a Praying with the Examen Workshop at World Youth Day Retreat and it was so well received that the team has been asked to provide a follow-up session is also being planned for spring.

With the help of a summer grant, we were pleased to hire three Catholic Youth summer staff, who focused on youth programming. We also hosted two days of Youth Leadership Training, attracting 14 participants from 8 different schools in Winnipeg, empowering youth to take on leadership roles in their communities.

A key initiative was our three-week summer camp, which provided childcare for families in need while employing these same three youth staff, five St. Paul's mentors, and two junior mentors from St. Ignatius School in training.

Children's Way of the Cross is becoming an annual event with 20 youth volunteers leading 180 attendees through a full-hearted experience of the Stations of the Cross.

## 4. Caring for Our Shared Homeland

Environmental stewardship is part of our mission, and we integrated this into our youth programming in meaningful ways. One week of our summer camp was dedicated to Caring for Our Shared Homeland. Children engaged in activities such as growing plants to share with their neighbors and learning about the local parks and green spaces.

## 5. Other Notable Services

In addition to our core programs, it is a pleasure to note that our library services have transitioned fully online, making spiritual resources more accessible to all.

We continue to host weekly adoration.

We offer one on one and family group spiritual direction to so many Catholics in the community and the need continues to grow beyond our capacity to support it.

We have offered day retreats, both guided and silent.

We have joined a RiverHeights InterFaith Leadership Coalition, whose aim is to collaborate on shared needs and be an example of unity for other communities.

We even began a new series called "Finding God in Song" that brings people together for an evening Taizé prayer.

Finally, we received several grants to support both our programming and the refurbishment of the Centre, ensuring that our physical space remains as welcoming and functional as our spiritual offerings.

## Closing Remarks

In conclusion, this has been a year of growth, learning, and connection for the St. Ignatius Spiritual Education Centre. We are deeply grateful to each of you for your ongoing support and for the trust you place in us to carry out this important work. As we move forward, we will continue to deepen our commitment to spiritual formation, to inclusion, reconciliation and accompaniment to those in need.

Thank you again for your support and for being part of this vibrant and compassionate center. I look forward to all that the next year holds for us. Praise be to God!

As always, let us end in a prayer that will enrich our commitment and openness to God's direction.

Respectfully Submitted, Carmela Castellano Sinclair

# PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT



Parish Pastoral Council meets every month between September and June. Our role is to work with Fathers Miranda and Newman to provide prayerful and discerning advice on pastoral issues and any other matters that Father Miranda wishes to discuss. This can cover a whole range of topics associated with Father Miranda's service of the needs of the whole parish and its members, and which includes the parish's teaching, prayer and worship, and its shepherding ministries.

The current members of PPC are myself, Tannis Scott, Greg Sylvestre, Carolyn Meadows, Charly Pazdor, Damir Stipanovic, Carmela Castellano, Jeannine Pistawka (the School principal) and Fathers Daryl Miranda and Joe Newman. On behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank all members of PPC for their participation on Council.

Following the news from the Provincial of the Jesuits of Canada that there would be a 2024 transition in Parish Pastors, PPC's activities in 2024 were mainly focused on facilitating the change in Pastor. Father Frank wanted to ensure that on-going priorities were completed, and that PPC would be proactive in welcoming the new Pastor to St Ignatius.



# Parish Pastoral Council Report

One of Father Frank's priorities was to ensure a smooth transition in personnel for the Parish Office. Consequently, PPC worked with Parish Trustees to participate in the hiring process for a new Parish Receptionist and Office Administrator, making a hiring recommendation to Father Frank.

Since Pope Francis has stressed that synodality "is an essential dimension of the Church", Father Frank encouraged PPC to help the new Pastor make synodality part of the daily life of St. Ignatius.

Youth engagement remained a focus for PPC, given its importance to renewal in the Parish. PPC worked with members of the Parish to explore a retreat format for young families in the Parish. PPC also sought to recruit younger members to join PPC. We had success in 2024 with recruitment, but not retention. Because a youth perspective would broaden PPC's perspective for advice to Father Miranda, I would invite parishioners under the age of 30 to learn more about the role of PPC. Please reach out to me or to Father Miranda if this is a role you would be potentially interested in.

In August, the Parish welcomed the returns of Father Miranda and Father Newman to St. Ignatius. PPC was encouraged by Father Frank to be proactive in introducing ourselves to the new Pastoral team. As part of the welcoming, members of PPC took part in the planning for the St. Ignatius Fall Fellowship Festival in September.

One of the activities that PPC helped Father Miranda with was the extension of the trial period for the Sunday Evening Mass into the Fall. The evening Mass was viewed as a liturgical service with the potential to attract youth to the Parish. Therefore, PPC wanted the Mass to be a welcoming environment to as many parishioners as possible. Further discussion and discernment within PPC on the format for the Sunday Evening Mass is to follow, with a potential timing change to allow it to be accessible to a broad group of people.

On behalf of all of Parish Pastoral Council, I wish all parishioners the peace and joy of Christ for this Jubilee Year of 2025, as we continue to provide a consultative role to Fathers Miranda and Newman.



"We would like to give parishioners an opportunity to learn and reflect on what we heard."





2024 AGM

# BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT

*PREPARED BY Bob Pistwaka*



Good evening everyone, my name is Bob Pistawka and I am the Operations Manager for St Ignatius Parish. A large part of my role here at the Parish is looking after the cleaning and building maintenance for the whole Parish, both church and school. I would like to take a few minutes to update everyone on the things we have been working on in the last year.

## Church Projects

Ed Center roof patch – in spring of 2024, we noticed small amounts of water in the basement, at the base of the old coal chimney in the north west corner of the building. When we went up to inspect the flashing around the chimney, we noticed that it had in fact come loose. We also noticed small holes in the spray foam roof. We had a company come in and fix the flashing and patch the holes. We will continue to monitor this roof annually and repair as needed until it becomes reasonable to replace it.

Rectory Roof – there was an issue with large amounts of water pooling on the roof, on the east half. This was because there is only 1 drain, and it is on the west side of the roof. The same company that patched the Ed Center roof added a scupper and downspout near the office entrance. This has solved the issue.

Office Stafford Entrance – this sidewalk had sunk significantly making it very difficult for some people to get through the door. It was close to a 12-inch step. We had Muddrucker's here in the spring and they raised the entrance 8 inches and sloped in properly.

Hall closet rads – they were starting to come away from the wall and needed to be addressed like the rest of the closet. Some may remember that many years ago, 1 rad was completely removed and another replaced. We purchased fin rads which are much lighter in the winter of 2023 and Hanson came and installed them last summer when the system was shut down. This was a large job as the old style rads are very heavy.

Rectory Trees – the last of the trees that were up against the foundation of the rectory were removed. The roots of these trees had grown under the wall and into the crawl space. We filled the holes with expansion foam, back-filled with gravel and limestone, and covered with dirt. I am happy to say that this has made a huge difference in the mouse sightings this fall/winter. This was definitely trending in an undesirable direction every fall/winter.

# Building and Grounds Report

Jessie Door Entrance – the interior and exterior entrance around the Jessie door was finally finished. Abraham made a carving for the top of the door, and then did the plaster patching around the door and painted.

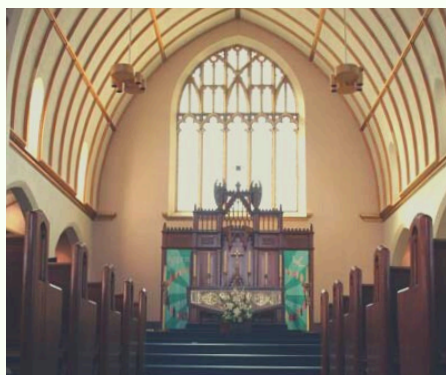
Jessie side loading zone – it took a year, but we finally got a loading zone installed outside the hall ramp entrance!

Window replacement – even though this project spilled over from one fiscal year to another, it is the biggest thing we did last year. We set out to try and raise enough money to cover the installation of the lower windows at the beginning of the year. Thanks to your overwhelming response, this project grew to be something much larger. Not only were we able to finish installing these windows, but we were also able to get a company in to fix the plaster around the windows, the cracks in the wall, fix the 2 stations of the cross that were coming down, paint the walls, paint the trim around the walls, refinish the ledges in front of the windows, and install the plaques. There is just enough money left over to do the upper and lower, exterior window trim in the spring of 2025.

These are most of the major projects that took place at the church over the last year but does not include all the minor things that pop up from day to day in an older building of this size. This building has a way of ensuring we stay busy and little things are always popping up.

Specific to the school, I would like to touch on a few major projects that were completed.

Field – the field was in rough shape with weeds, clover, and bare spots. Once the school was closed for the summer we gave it a makeover. First the field was sprayed to kill all the weeds, next it was aerated, fertilized, over seeded, and top dressed. We then had someone come in and replace all the sprinkler heads. The results were great, but we will need to do it again this year to get it back to where we want it long term.



Outdoor classroom – first phase of the outdoor learning space was completed during the summer. A 20x20 rustic stone patio was built with 3 benches for kids, 2 gardens built and filled with dirt, and playground grade mulch laid down. The space is ready for plants in the spring.

Drain beside basketball court – at the same time the contractor was working on the outdoor classroom, we had them install a French drain along the basketball court. Water still pools when it rains as everything comes to this point in the whole playground area, but at least now it drains quickly.

Galvanized pipe replacement – we did routine water testing in all the sinks and water fountains in the school. 2 fixtures came back with trace levels of lead. I stress, these were very low numbers that were below water testing standards, but at the time there was a government grant being offered to fix these issues.

We were able to get the section of galvanized pipe that fed these fixtures replaced and we got reimbursed for the project in full.

Gym ceiling – there was quite a bit of damage to the ceiling tiles in the gym from years of balls hitting them. Some were cracked, stained, had pieces missing, and some had fallen out of place. We had a company come in with a scissor lift and fixed all of them.

Light Upgrades – we were able to have someone come in and replace the florescent light fixtures with smaller LED fixtures. This was done in grades 3, 5, and 6. In total, it was 18 fixtures changed out.

Grade 5 classroom – the floor in grade 5 was in rough shape. Both the tile sections and carpet sections. A company came in and stripped the floor, added a new layer of subfloor, floated the low spots, and installed a commercial grade laminate plank.

Again, this does not include all the day-to-day things that pop up from leaky sinks, broken toilets, bathroom fans, smart boards, painting, etc. I am pleased to announce that we have no outstanding work orders and Abrahams turn around on requested work is down to days.

Thank you for your time!



# FINANCE REPORT

## Parish of St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Ignatius School Inc. Combined Statement of Revenue and Expenses

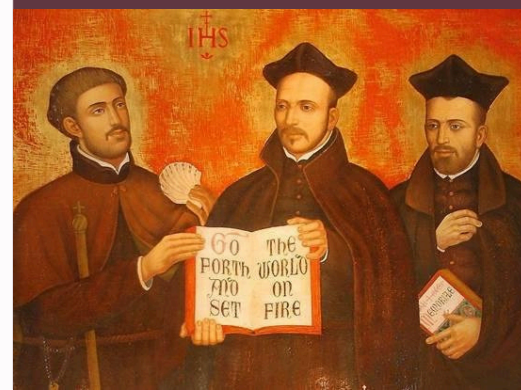
PARISH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA  
Summarized Financial Statements for the year ended June 30

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

	2024	2023
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Offertory Collections	\$ 626,157	\$ 551,171
Sharing God's Gifts Collections	63,724	52,323
Rent	150,000	150,000
Other Parish Revenue	36,777	18,668
	<u>\$ 876,658</u>	<u>\$ 772,162</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operating Expenses	683,034	687,521
Sharing God's Gifts and Diocesan Assessment	153,376	135,049
Repairs and Maintenance	57,256	76,422
Amortization	67,213	71,652
School Support - Bursaries	50,000	49,780
	<u>\$ 1,010,879</u>	<u>\$ 1,020,424</u>
<b>OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$ (134,221)</b>	<b>\$ (248,262)</b>
Other Revenue	156,369	101,423
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 22,148</b>	<b>\$ (146,839)</b>

BALANCE SHEET KEY ITEMS

Working Capital Deficit	<u>\$ (151,311)</u>	<u>\$ (280,860)</u>
Investment in Capital Assets	<u>\$ 990,763</u>	<u>\$ 1,087,318</u>
Accumulated Deficit	<u>\$ (107,310)</u>	<u>\$ (226,013)</u>



**ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL INC.**  
**Summarized Financial Statements for the year ended June 30**

**REVENUE AND EXPENSES**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Government Grant	\$ 1,482,317	\$ 1,341,711
Tuition Fees	685,666	653,806
Nursery, Before and After School Programs	210,576	173,847
Parish Bursaries	50,000	49,780
Fundraising	41,702	11,047
Special Needs Grant	40,130	19,000
Other Grants	67,123	28,027
Donations	27,167	41,477
Other School Revenue	39,034	31,058
	<u>\$ 2,643,715</u>	<u>\$ 2,349,753</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries, wages and benefits	1,932,552	1,867,226
Rent	150,000	150,000
Repairs and Maintenance	56,906	119,942
All other expenses	381,477	355,655
	<u>\$ 2,520,935</u>	<u>\$ 2,492,823</u>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 122,780</u>	<u>\$ (143,070)</u>

**BALANCE SHEET KEY ITEMS**

Working Capital Surplus (Deficit)	<u>\$ 58,044</u>	<u>\$ (111,052)</u>
Investment in Capital Assets	<u>\$ 137,822</u>	<u>\$ 159,026</u>
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	<u>\$ 51,065</u>	<u>\$ (71,715)</u>



## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by Steve Ward

### GOVERNANCE:

Our Parish Finance Council has consisted of Father Frank, Bill Burns and Steve Chipman. My personal thanks to this team for the role they all play in overseeing the financial and business affairs of the Parish. We serve to provide guidance to the Pastor and protect the financial health of the St. Ignatius Parish and School community.

Steve and Bill are at the end of their term - Lets thank them for their long - time service. Joining the Council this fall are two new faces: Emőke Szathmáry and Allan Stoski. Please stand Emőke and Allan. Also joining the Council is Liz Polakoff who is also beginning her term as a Parish Trustee. Liz please stand. Welcome aboard Liz, Emőke and Allan. Challenging times for us but we know you'll bring some great new perspectives to guide us in the years ahead.

To assist us in fulfilling our responsibilities and provide independent oversight, we engage the Exchange Group, Chartered Professional Accountants to review the Parish financial statements and perform a full audit on the school financial statements as required by Provincial Education authorities.



### JUNE 30

Let's look our results for the year ended June 30, 2024, and then talk about what's ahead.

We have two one pager financial summaries to review with you; one for the School and one for the Parish. Each summary has two sections; first a summary of Revenue and Expenses, and second, a summary of three key items from the balance sheet.

There were some handouts of these summaries available as you arrived.

### SCHOOL:

We will look at the School first.

As we work thru these summaries, please note I will refer to numbers, and changes in those numbers year over year, rounded to the nearest thousand. For example, the last number on the School summary is our Accumulated Surplus of \$51,065 – I will refer to it as \$51,000. And the number right above it, Investment in Capital Assets of \$137,822 – I will round up to \$138,000. And let's start with the bottom line. Our school achieved a significant turnaround in 2024, earning an Operating Surplus of \$123,000 compared to a loss of \$143,000 in 2023. That is a remarkable change of \$266,000. Well done to Jeannine and her team at the school, and to the School board for their continuing focus on moving the School to financial independence.

Let's look at some of the details behind this great story.

Total School Revenue for the year increased \$294,000 or 12.5% to \$2,644,000 driven primarily by increased Government Education Grants of \$141,000. Increases in Tuition Fees, the Nursery Program, the Before and After School Program, Fundraising Efforts (like the School Golf Day) and a number of special Provincial School Grants, all contributed to the increase in revenue. On the expense side, total expenses increased \$28,000 or 1.1%.

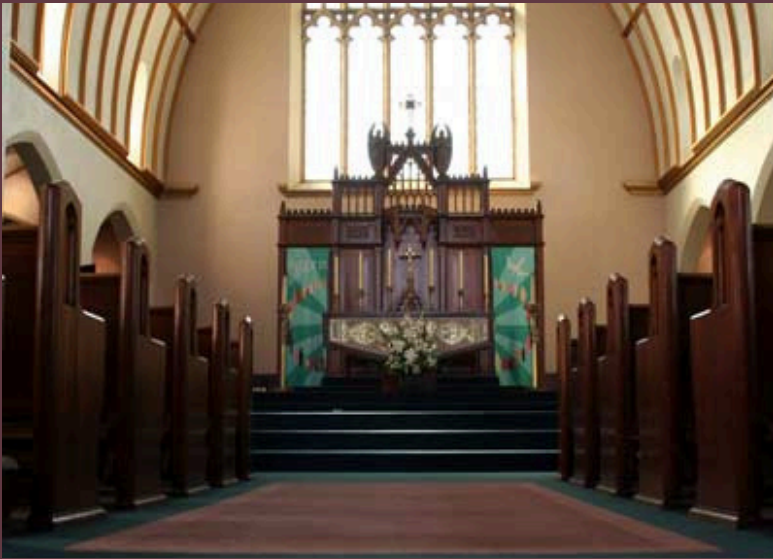
The School team has done a good job in managing their overall operating costs. A couple of items in the ups and downs of

operating expenses worth noting – Repairs and Maintenance decreased \$63,000 this year to a more normal level after catching up on many COVID deferred items back in 2023. Offsetting that decrease, Salaries, Wages and Benefits increased \$65,000 or about 3.5%. All other expense categories combined for a net increase of \$26,000.

I've included three key Balance Sheet metrics on the summary:

The Working Capital Surplus is essentially our Cash and Accounts Receivable less what we owe in Accounts Payable as at June 30th. This means we are in a positive situation of \$58,000 on a current asset and liability basis. This is a significant turn from last year's deficit, driven primarily by an improvement in cash in the bank of \$139,000.





## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

continued

The Investment in Capital Assets represents the School's investment in Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment, Music room improvements and other building improvements. This item increases as we invest in new capital assets and decreases as we amortize (or depreciate) these costs over time.

The Accumulated Surplus of \$51,000 represents funds we have available to finance future operations. The change from last year's deficit of \$111,000 is driven solely by our 2024 surplus of \$123,000. For the current year, and these numbers are not on the summary you have, the School is budgeting a surplus of \$136,000. And, as of today, cash in the bank sits at \$296,000. A good story all around.



### PARISH

Let's turn to the Parish results for the year. Please move to the one-page summary for the Parish. And again, let's go right to the bottom line first – It has been a number of years since I was able to report to you that we have a surplus but for the year ended June 30, 2024 I am pleased to report we had a small surplus of \$22,000. But, as I always say, there is a story the numbers tell us when we dig into them. This surplus is due primarily to the fact that we were blessed with \$101,000 in bequests in 2024.

Historically, bequests rarely exceed \$10,000 in total in any year. Bequests in 2023 were only \$50, and, for the current year, we have not yet received any bequests. So, with that as chapter 1 of the 2024 story, let's review the rest of the numbers and see what they tell us. Total Operating Revenue increased over 2023 by \$104,000 driven primarily by an increase in Offertory Collections of \$75,000 or about 13.6%. This is very encouraging, but, despite the increase, total collections are still \$60,000 short of the average collections in our last 3 pre-covid years 2017 to 2019, never mind the impact of costs inflation since then. If we factor in the effect of inflation since 2018 using Canada's CPI, we are actually behind about \$200,000.

On the expense side, I am pleased to report that total operating expenses were actually about \$10k less than the prior year. The management team is doing a good job of cost control. For 2023, our Operating Expenses were 89% of total revenue; for 2024, this declined to 78%. The management team continues to look for opportunities to drive savings and control costs. The increased revenue and the decrease in operating expenses combined for an Operating Deficit of \$134,000, an improvement of \$114,000 over 2023's Operating Deficit of \$248,000.

On the summary, below our Operating Deficit of \$134,000, you will note a category called Other Revenue. This represents revenue that our auditors do not consider to be part of regular operations due to its "one-time" or unpredictable nature. Things like bequests, Knights of Columbus donations (Thank you Knights) and funds directed our way through the Winnipeg Foundation or other charitable organizations are included here. This category of revenue increased \$55,000 over 2023 driven primarily by the \$101,000 in bequests that I mentioned, offset by increased expenditures in some of our ministry expenditures such as our Refugees and El Sitio funds.

# FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Let's look at the three Balance Sheet metrics:

Our working capital deficit of \$151,000 represents our cash and accounts receivable less what we owe in accounts payable. You will note this deficit has declined \$130,000 from 2023, a good story for us. We are still "in the hole" but have improved significantly. Cash has increased about \$200,000 over the prior year (but \$60,000 of that was designated for the window project which happened in this fiscal year) and our payable to the Archdiocese increased by \$84,000. More on the Archdiocese payable later.

The Investment in Capital Assets includes our Land, Buildings, Equipment and Furniture and Fixtures on a cost basis. This number increases when we invest in capital assets and declines as we amortize or depreciate these assets over time. Our Accumulated Deficit declined \$119,000 in the course of 2024, also a good story. This improvement comes from our surplus adjusted for items like amortization that get reported as part of our Investment in Capital Assets. This deficit still shows us our debts are exceeding our ability to pay our liabilities as they come due, but our position Those deficits beg the question "How are we staying in business?" The answer is, we have not been keeping up with our responsibilities to support the broader Winnipeg Catholic Community by supporting the Archdiocese with contributions through the annual Diocesan assessment. Our June 30th financial statements include a payable to the Archdiocese of \$440,000. In effect, the Archdiocese has become a second banker for us.

Some history, and as a reminder for us all, this debt could be described as "long COVID" for our Parish. During the COVID years, we lost \$437,000 in collections compared to the average of our last 3 pre-COVID years. We have not been able to recover from that lost revenue, and were not able to pay our annual Archdiocesan assessments.

Based on a financial review package we prepared which details the history since 2017 on how this balance owing to the Archdiocese has grown, the Parish Finance Council and Trustees have had 3 meetings (the first one in February of 2024) with the Archbishop and his team to discuss options to resolve this debt, including debt forgiveness, a monthly repayment plan, a formal loan and repayment arrangement and looking to a redevelopment of the rectory site into a revenue generating complex including retail, housing, and day care. Investigations are underway on what such a property redevelopment project would look like and what risks and revenue opportunities exist for the Parish and the Archdiocese. We look forward to picking up our discussions with the incoming Archbishop. The transition to the new Archbishop may slow this process a bit, but we will do our part to move it along.

We will keep you posted as the investigations and discussions unfold.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Let's see where we are today and look ahead a bit. These numbers are not on the summary you have.

Offertory Collections to the end of December are showing us a decrease of \$36,000 or about 10%, compared to the same 6- month period for last year. This is concerning. If this trend continues for the second half of the year, our collections will be down about \$72,000.

Our reality is that to achieve a breakeven 2025 fiscal year, we need Offertory Collections to increase about 12% over last year. If we're already behind by about 10%, that means we need collections to increase in the second half by about 22%.

Today, the Parish has \$155,000 in the bank and no debt, other than our debt to the Archdiocese. To the end of December, we are running a deficit of \$17,000 and projecting a deficit of \$100,000 for fiscal year 2025.

We ask that you prayerfully reflect on your on-going financial contributions – an increase to your weekly contribution and an additional Easter donation to the Parish will help us financially recover and continue the mission and ministries of the St. Ignatius community.

Thank You.

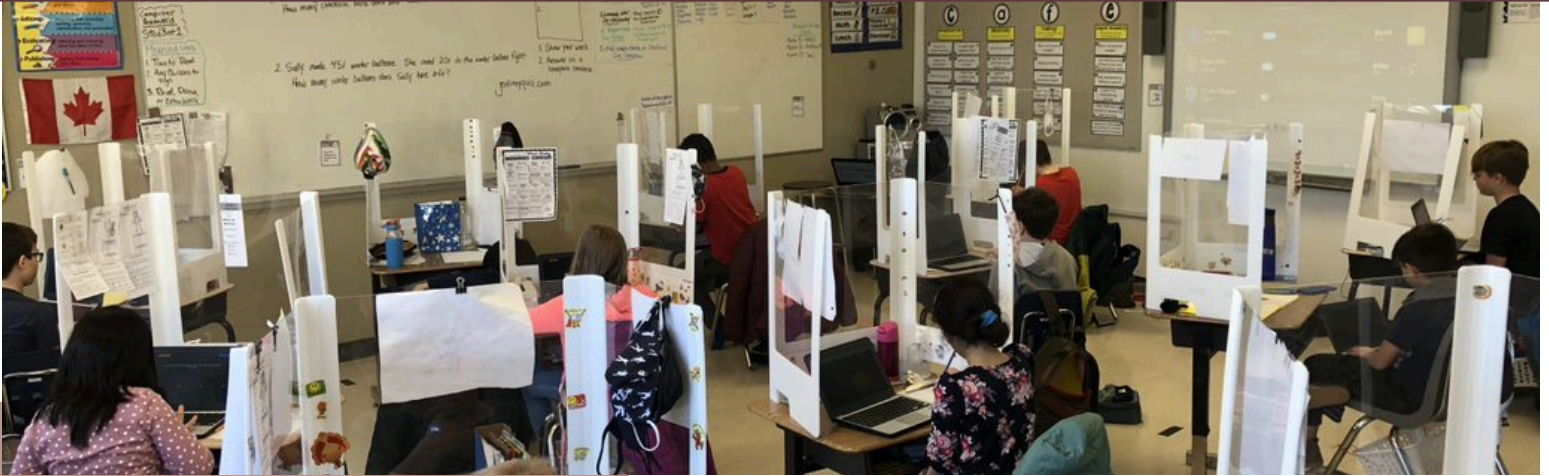
Respectfully submitted,

Steve Ward

Chair, Parish Finance Council



# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



"Teachers found innovative ways to keep their students motivated during these challenging times."

## A Year to Remember

by Jeannine Pistawka, Principal

Good evening and thank you for attending the St. Ignatius Parish AGM. My name is Jeannine Pistawka. I am currently in my 11th year as the Principal at St. Ignatius School. I am pleased to be making this report to the parish community. This report consists of a general overview of our school, a review of the past year and a look at our hopes for this current year.

St. Ignatius School is a pre-K to grade 8 Catholic School. Last year, the student population, including nursery school, was 251 students. Our staff consisted of 16 certified teachers, 9 educational assistants, an administrative assistant, one full-time custodian and two part time cleaners. We were also very fortunate to continue to benefit from the spiritual leadership of Fr. Frank and Fr. Con.

As well as providing the provincial core curriculum, the school offers daily religious instruction, a basic French program from Kindergarten to grade 8, a music program from nursery to grade 6, and last year we still had shops for our junior high students through Winnipeg School Division. We have a full-time resource teacher, a technology specialist, and we also receive clinical support services through a shared service agreement with Winnipeg school division.

Many wonderful things have happened over the past year at the School. Our faculty continues to grow professionally. Last year, we spent much of our professional development time implementing the new Framework for Learning from the Department of education which is based on the Global competencies as well as Indigenous Education. We continue to provide students with innovative and exciting opportunities for learning with technology. Our talented faculty continues to deliver a quality educational program that is challenging for students.



*continued on next page*



Our school goals for the 2023-2024 school year were:

1. Goal #1

Our purpose is to serve God. Therefore, we will focus on our relationship with nature and others through social justice initiatives and in how we interact with each other and out students each and every day.

As a Catholic School which is connected to a Jesuit Parish, we will continually seek ways to use the Four Apostolic Preferences.

1. Showing the Way to God
2. Walking with the Excluded
3. Journeying with Youth
4. Caring for our Common Home

2. Goal #2

Establishing Professional Learning Communities as outlined in 2022-2023. Each PLC will focus on one area of learning with their group. Each staff meeting will be an opportunity for each PLC to share their achievements in order for the entire staff to benefit from their learning.

Each member of the Faculty will join at least ONE of the following groups:

1. Indigenous Education
2. Interdisciplinary Learning
3. IT in the classroom
4. Numeracy program development
5. Outdoor Education
6. School-wide student behaviour planning

**Goal #3**

**Implementation of New Curriculum**

On April 28, 2022, the Manitoba government launched Mamahtawisiwin: The Wonder we Are Born With – An Indigenous Education Policy Framework. Every homeroom teacher will work toward full implementation of Indigenous Education and will become proficient in using the new ELA Curriculum Framework. The changes in the ELA curriculum as well as the Indigenous Framework will be reflected in a new report card template for the 2024-2025 school year.

St. Ignatius School staff continued to grow in their faith. All of our faculty has completed the “Foundations of Faith” program which is a five-day workshop that has been endorsed by Archbishop Gagnon. This course includes a study of The Scriptures, Liturgy and the Sacraments, Prayer and Catholic morality.

Our students continue to grow in their faith as well. We continue to celebrate Mass as a school community once a month; and we prepare our students for the sacraments of First communion in grade 2, First

Reconciliation in grade 3, and Confirmation in grade 8 - we are indeed blessed to share in these milestones with the students and their families.

St. Ignatius School maintains a strong extracurricular program. We have both developmental and competitive volleyball, basketball and badminton teams for boys and girls. Last year our teams had very successful seasons, adding some banners to our gym wall. Other opportunities included choir, and many clubs including chess, social justice, environmental club, intramurals, a running club and much more. Last year, we had a beginner band that practiced twice a week after school.

Our social justice committee participated in several programs. Last year, they held a student market where groups of students sold crafts like bracelets, home made comic books, and origami and raised money for several local charities like the Humane Society and Cancer Care Manitoba. The environmental committee even sold plants at the Fair that they had grown to raise money for future projects





The social justice team also did a Winnipeg Harvest campaign, Coats for Kids, and more.

I cannot say enough about how wonderful our SISPAC is! They did amazing things for our school including the Family Dance in October, in May of last year, they helped us celebrate all of the sacraments with proper receptions that included families gathering in the Hall. SISPAC also hosted a wonderful end of year school picnic in May. The turn out of approximately 400 people was a testament to the spirit of our school. At the end of the year, we were able to say a lovely Farewell to our grade 8 class.

The 2024-2025 school year is off to a terrific start. In August we welcomed Fr. Daryl and Fr. Joe back to our community. Approximately 400 people attended our back to school BBQ in September and almost 200 people attended the Family Dance in October.

In September we opened a satellite campus at The Rink on McGilvary. At that campus we have a grade 8 class that is comprised of a U15 hockey team that competes in the Canadian sports school hockey league. We also have a grade 7 class that is part of a hockey academy R1 program. This has allowed our student population to grow to 290 students.

We have also introduced new extracurricular programs through our Rink partners: Learn to Skate for grades 2 and up and hockey skills for grades 4 and up.

As Mrs. Logan will mention, our school board has very dedicated members who are very eager to begin to plan for the future. This August, our second annual golf tournament raised over \$40,000 which is a testament to the generous community we are so proud to be a part of. We will be embarking on a strategic plan this spring.

And, of course, because our purpose is to serve God, the faith formation of our students continues to be our highest priority. We do this, not only through our religious program, but also by finding ways to teach our students about the four apostolic preferences: caring for our common home by teaching students about our relationship with nature through Indigenous Education and the work of the Environmental Committee, and Walking with the excluded through social justice initiatives. We continue to seek opportunities to connect with the parish and the broader community. As we meet these goals, we continue to build leadership opportunities in our students.

Our open house was held on Tuesday, January 12th from 6:30 – 8:00. It was a great success. In closing, I would like to thank Fr. Daryl, and Fr. Joe, the St. Ignatius School Board, SISPAC, the Golf Committee the amazing staff, and all of our families who, together, make St. Ignatius School a wonderful place for the children.





## UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

*By Margaret Logan*

My name is Margaret Logan and I am the St. Ignatius School Board Chair. I am pleased to report that we have strong membership on our board with a team of dedicated individuals including Malcolm Bird (vice chair), Rob Sokolski, Celia Fergusson, Erin Webber, Alicia Dupasquier, Jenna Jones, Jamit Dhaliwal, Andrea Mancini and Elizabeth Kazina, who are focused on the future of our school and our ability to provide an outstanding Catholic education and community experience for our students.

Under the leadership and guidance of our principal, Mrs. Jeannine Pistawka and our pastor, Fr. Daryl Miranda, the school is a welcoming and warm place for learning, development and growth. Mrs. Pistawka leads a team of dedicated teachers and staff in our mission “to provide quality spiritual and academic growth based on the principle that every child is created in the image of God”. Our mission along with our guiding principles of Academic Excellence, Faith Formation, Community, Diversity and Social Justice create the core framework under which the school operates.

The school enjoys strong enrollment and almost every class is filled. The before and after school program, are not full but numbers are almost back to pre-pandemic levels and provide an extra source of revenue for the school. Our strong enrollment is a testament to our principal, teachers, staff and the dedicated individuals who help create our school community.





# UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

*continued ....*

Tuition fees and the before and after school program, assist in the day to day operations of the school. However, government funding of the school is capped at 50 percent of public funding and we have an aging school building which requires maintenance and improvements. As well, we are working hard to keep our staff wages as competitive as possible, so we can attract and retain the amazing teachers and staff that we have. With a need for school growth and the current inability to expand our building, last year, we were provided with the opportunity to form a partnership with The Rink Hockey Academy. After much deliberation, we have an agreement in place for a satellite campus for grades 7 and 8 at the hockey academy. The satellite campus started providing education to the elite athletes in September and while their classrooms are at The Rink for the majority of time, the schedule is such that the students can come to the main campus once a cycle and participate in the monthly school Masses. We are excited about the opportunity to provide a Catholic education to the student athletes and have them as part of our community. This year, the board will be embarking on developing a new Strategic Plan which will assist us with our future goals and growth opportunities.

In August, the board held our 2nd annual fundraising Golf Tournament and over \$40,000 was raised for capital improvements to the school. The board will host our 3rd annual fundraising tournament on August 26th, 2025 at Southwood Golf and Country Club. All members of the school and parish community are invited to attend. More details and registration packages will be available in February. We are also exploring ways to create a bursary program that is sustainable and will allow the school to aid families who require financial aid to attend our school.

The school community is an integral part of the Parish and we continue to strengthen and grow this relationship. A couple of examples of this are the school choir providing entertainment at the Knights' Christmas Fundraising dinner in December. As well, students are volunteering as Altar Servers and Greeters at the different Sunday Masses.

This involvement includes preparation and receiving of the Sacraments and monthly school Masses.

In conclusion, the board would like to thank Mrs. Pistawka, our teachers, the school staff and everyone who assists in supporting our school. It is the Board's privilege to serve the School and Parish.

The background features a watercolor-style design with soft blue and brown washes. There are two stylized leaf branches, one in the top right and one in the bottom left, drawn in a dark blue color. The overall aesthetic is artistic and elegant.

Thank You

For Your Support