Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It has been a year of blessings and grace. It has been a year of challenge and loss.

These are troubled times indeed with many issues and concerns consuming our thoughts and our lives: racism, sexism, abuses of power and privilege, anti-immigrant and homophobic rhetoric, natural disasters, global warming and Covid 19 surges to name a few.

Needless to say, our faith community is more important than ever as we navigate these challenging days and place our faith in Jesus Christ. He assures us over and over again that He is always with us, in times of joy and in times of desperation.

We hope you find our annual Pray, Serve, Share report enlightening. Our parish staff, parish leadership team and many volunteer leaders of our councils, committees and ministries have taken time to highlight our past successes and identify opportunities for the future. While our work and ministry are focused on the college/parish community, we also serve those in need both locally and globally. And assuredly, our doors remain open to all.

Given the many challenges in our world today, we remain an active, vibrant parish filled with parishioners who so lovingly pray together, serve others, and share gifts. May God continue to bless each and every one of us.

Kevin De Cleene, Pastoral Leader, Deacon, and Director of Parish Life. kevin.decleene@snc.edu 920-403-3559

Faith in Action

Zambia Parish Initiative

Walk to Mary/Shrine

Portico

Fr. Onwu Akpa, O.Praem.

Fr. Michael Brennan, O.Praem.

Fr. Matthew Dougherty, O.Praem.
Parish Student Success/Career Stories

Grace Brick 21’, I am the Director of Faith Formation at St. Edward Church in Jeffersontown, KY, which is just outside of Louisville. I don’t know if it was “Southern hospitality,” but every time I met somebody it reaffirmed that I made the right decision.

Kylie Rogers 21’, I am the Coordinator of Faith Formation for Grades 1-5 and First Sacraments at St. John the Baptist in Howard. Every day I strive to embody my nickname, Smiley Kylie, because I truly believe the following words of St. Teresa of Calcutta: “the smile is the beginning of love.”

Brianna Amore 21’, Aside from becoming a proud dog mom of a Great Pyrenees puppy named Sully shortly after graduation, I started working as an HR Specialist for Kemps Dairy in Cedarburg, WI. I graduated with a degree in Accounting, but decided to stay with my Kemps family whom I interned with for 2 years. Through my career, I hope to do God’s work by being a valuable resource for employees and promoting a positive work environment!

Cole Johnson 21’, On August 27th, I celebrated my Vestition into the Norbertine Order and received the name “Frater Gregory,” after St. Gregory of Nyssa. I have been immersing myself in the Order’s way of life since then, taking classes on spirituality, prayer, the history of the Order, the priesthood, and so on. I’m currently away from most forms of communication due to the “hermitage” period of my first year in formation, but know of my continued prayers for the St. Norbert College Parish community!

Andrew Gehring 21’, I began my first semester of a master’s in Higher Education Administration program at Central Michigan University. Everything is off to a good start over here. I hold a graduate assistantship in the Volunteer Center.

Faith Formation

A word from the desk of Jennifer Rapavi, Program Coordinator of Faith Formation

Converting to a Virtual Format for Faith Formation was not an easy task, but our Faith Formation teams impressed everyone as they navigated this new format through this past year. Thank you to the hard work of all our Vacation Bible School Volunteers, catechists, RCIA leaders, and adult faith formation organizers for your dedication and hard work during the 2020/2021 academic year. Our parish is a better and stronger place because of your willingness to adapt and serve.

Our RCIA program was alive and vibrant during a hybrid year of virtual and in-person participation. We had 14 participants go through the program, and on Easter four adults were baptized, several adults joined the Catholic Faith through Confirmation, and all received the Eucharist for the first time! It was a beautiful experience to witness.

Because of the dedication of our 14 college catechists, the children of our parish were able to continue to learn about Christ and His Church in the midst of the pandemic. Our team learned a lot about educating through digital formats, and the things the team learned will help our parish provide diverse learning opportunities for our children in the future. This year, our parish is able to resume in person learning. K-12 Generations of Faith programming was able to kick off its first night with in-person classes and a cupcake social outside. It was an exciting and uplifting way to start the academic year.

The adult portion of Generations of Faith was able to meet the needs of the parish family through impressive creativity and wonderful use of the technology the parish is blessed to have. While covering relevant topics through a Catholic perspective, this programming was not only well attended, but live streamed by record-breaking numbers of people after the events took place. This coming year, those involved in planning Adult Generations of Faith programming are excited to continue discussing relevant and interesting topics that help bring the Catholic faith to life.

God Bless Frater Gregory

GoF

GoF Adult Formation
Worship

Grace M. arrived on the campus of St. Norbert College in the Fall of 2017 with a passion for music and a commitment to her Catholic Faith. After becoming involved in the music ministry program, that passion turned into something more: a calling. She became a student employee of the parish, assisting with the coordination of liturgical music. As her talent developed, by the Fall of 2020, she was leading the music rehearsals and providing piano accompaniment at each Sunday liturgy. Though she graduated with a music education degree, her experience at St. Norbert College Parish not only assisted her in finding her career path upon graduation in the Spring, but offered “on the job” training preparing her for her future. She now serves full-time as the Director of Liturgy and Music at a parish in her home diocese.

A “note” from the piano of Brian Fogarty, Director of Worship and Liturgy

Liturgical life is at the heart of every parish, and we are blessed at St. Norbert College Parish to have a team of selfless, hardworking, and holy men and women ensuring that our liturgies are both prayerful and inspiring. Liturgy is public prayer, and the great challenge of this year will be inviting our parishioners back to the safe, comfortable worship space that is Old St. Joe’s. For those not comfortable returning to Mass in person yet, our high-quality live-stream will continue at the 10:00 AM Mass.

One of the best ways to grow closer to Christ in the Eucharist is to participate in a Liturgical Ministry. All people, young and old alike, are invited and encouraged to participate in one or more of these ministries. They are not time consuming or overwhelming, just simple, but necessary for the celebration of Mass. Let us thank God for our volunteers who allow us, no matter who or where we are, to participate in the liturgical life of our parish. May our worship continue to be beautiful, authentic, and may it lead us all closer to Christ.

Worship Committee members:

Elizabeth Brefka (Student Music Minister), Deacon Kevin DeCleene, Rita Dufour, Debra Fasse, Brian Fogarty, Jacob Nilles (Student Liturgy Coordinator), Bob Moeller, Rose Palmer (Student Music Minister), Kevin Ress, Yvonne Schauer, Katelyn Holmstrom (Student PPC Liaison), Paul Wadell

Liturgical ministries:

We strive to offer rich liturgical experiences and invite active participation by all in order to enhance our faith experience. We are grateful to our volunteer ministers for their work, which actively enriches the spirit of the Mass. We invite you to consider sharing your gifts with the community by serving as a: Sacristan, Greeter, Minister of the Word, Cross Bearer, Eucharistic Minister, Minister of Hospitality, Minister of the Alter, Camera Operator, or Music Minister.

Sacramental opportunities, All are Welcome

St. Norbert College Parish offers two Sunday Masses at 10AM and 7PM, daily Mass at noon, a Wednesday Novena to St. Joseph at 12:30, a Wednesday 8:00 pm “KnightMass” in Burke Hall, Eucharistic Adoration each Monday from 12:30-8:00 PM, as well as several weekly opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and other Liturgical events throughout the year.
Outreach Ministries

Parishioners involved with outreach ministries are making a difference in the lives of those who live nearby and those who live halfway around the world. These volunteers are indeed the hands and feet of Christ.

- Through our Advent Candle Project one mom who had received bundles of packages donated by our parishioners shared that her family has never experienced gifts at Christmas. There was simply no money. Her tears and her hugs expressed the gratitude she felt.
- Through the Prayer Chain, Card and Care Ministries, parishioners who request prayers and visits as well as those who receive notes of support have shared how much it means to them to know that others care and are holding them in prayer.
- A child in Zambia who is receiving a daily meal through our parish feeding program recently wrote, "Without the school feeding program, I would not be eating at all. Thank you. God bless you."
- Many people who have experienced marginalization within the Catholic Church have expressed their gratitude for our OUT|LOUD Ministry and its numerous inclusive initiatives. A member of this ministry shared, "This organization has blessed me with a home within a home. I have always felt welcome at St. Norbert College Parish but this ministry added an additional welcome by acknowledging and affirming my dignity as a person made in God's image alongside my sexuality as a gay man."

Currently, there are 14 Parish Outreach Ministries including Care Ministry, Cards of Support, Knitting for Peace, Prayer Chain, Advent Candle Project, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Ecumenical Partnership for Housing, House of Hope, New Community Shelter, Out|LOUD, Respect Life, St. John's Homeless Shelter, St. Pat's Pantry, Zambia Parish Initiative.

We are most excited to announce a new outreach ministry involving a partnership with Casa Alba Melanie, a local Hispanic Resource Center. Maria Webb is serving as ministry coordinator. Many volunteer opportunities will emerge from this partnership.

St. Norbert College Parish is also involved with a Habitat for Humanity project. The build will begin this October and is coordinated by Avery Garcia, St. Norbert College Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Services.

Outreach ministries are regularly featured in the parish e-newsletter with coordinators offering brief promotional presentations at Liturgies throughout the year.

Anne Danen and Judy Turba continue to serve as co-chairs of Outreach Ministries with SNC student Rae Ballinger serving as the Outreach Ministry intern.

Parish Pastoral Council co-chair Summary Report

The Parish Pastoral Council, with representation from SNC students and year-round parishioners, meets monthly to prayerfully consider matters of consequence to parish life. With special focus on student engagement, as well as the Sunday experience, faith formation and outreach, PPC members strive to be of support to all areas of involvement at St. Norbert College Parish.

Lucca Kenyon, Parish Council Co-Chair

I am very appreciative of the opportunity to serve on the St. Norbert College Parish Pastoral Council! I have gotten to learn so much of what goes on behind the scenes in order to make our parish a living, active community. It has been nice to get to know more students and year-rounders through this council, as well as learn how to run meetings efficiently and effectively. I look forward to serving this year, and making this senior year the best it can be.

Nancy VanderZanden, Parish Council Co-Chair

It has been such a blessing and pleasure to serve on the St. Norbert College Parish Pastoral Council for the past 5 years alongside so many engaged and committed individuals who have inspired and encouraged my faith. I find great joy in connecting through parish life with the students on campus, year-round parishioners and the extended SNC community.
Finance Council
A word from the desk of Jason Martin, Finance Council Chair
Our family joined the SNC Parish in 2017 after moving to the area from Sheboygan. My wife Kate and I are parents of Kara and Peter. Peter is a senior at SNC and a founding member of the SNC Men’s Swim Team. I’m employed by Foth Infrastructure & Environment as a Lead Environmental Engineer.

While the pandemic has turned a lot of things upside-down and sideways, our finances have done well this year. Our Pew Revenue was $265,912, exceeding budget by $7,000. Our Net Operating Income is $50,578. The $26,406 pandemic-related PPP loan which we received has been forgiven and is treated as a reduction in our General Office Expenses. Since this PPP amount is not likely to be repeated in the future, it should be removed for comparison purposes, thus giving us a Net Operating Income this year of $24,172 compared to $32,778 last year. We also had investment revenue of nearly $10,000 and an increase in the value of our investments of $151,000. The increase in fair market value of investments is not a revenue source we can rely on each year. While our finances are strongly positive, a substantial portion of our income this year was from non-repeatable events. Parish funding has contributed to several building and grounds projects, including upgrades and repairs to the projector, LED lighting, atrium floor, and the sound system (approved for winter break). The Parish contributed $39,000 of the $141,000 that went to Outreach and related mission work during the past year, with $103,000 coming from grants, estate donations and special restricted contributions.

Trustee Treasurer
A word from the desk of Sue Pankratz, Trustee Treasurer
As the new Trustee Treasurer of St. Norbert College Parish, I am excited as I meet the numerous, benevolent members of this parish and work to assist you in the pursuit of our Parish goals. I would like to thank all staff and volunteers for your support this past fiscal year. Despite the challenges of the world around us, our Parish met our budget and, as a tithing parish, continues to promote our faith through Outreach and Faith Formation programs. I ask that everyone look within to assess how you can best assist us financially and/or with your time and talents. Your smiles, your sense of community and your willingness to share will continue to support the great programs we pursue.
Parish and Student Affairs Goals and Objectives

The parish, in partnership with the College Division of Student Affairs, has set the following unit/department goals and objectives for the upcoming academic year 2021/22. This report will highlight new and existing programs and services we plan to implement this academic year.

- **Transformative Experience & Communities:**
  - Development of Liturgical Music Internship in conjunction with the College Music discipline.
  - Offering ample opportunities for students to serve in parish liturgical ministries and parish leadership opportunities, so that when students graduate, they are prepared and willing to serve in roles in their own parishes.
  - Making the church an accessible place for prayer, reflection, and rest for faculty, staff, and students during a sometimes stressful academic year.
  - Provide spiritual, occupational, and personal growth through regular one on one meetings with students, during which students are empowered to create and reach SMART goals (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely) they set for themselves.

- **Catholic social teaching:** Parish Outreach ministry created a student role to engage students with opportunities to grow in the area of Catholic social teaching through practical experiences. The parish offers more than 15 practical experiences including homeless shelter feeding programs; global Zambia ministry; OutLoud Ministry, which renders visible the parish’s overarching commitment to everyone, welcoming all persons of all gender, sexual, and racial identities. And we welcome our newest ministry, Casa Alba Melanie, which serves the local hispanic community.

- **Effective Stewards of Resources:** The parish leadership team has budgeted over $30,000 to support students and is committed to student thriving through goal setting, and effective feedback with over 20 students on staff in roles such as accounting, communications, catechist, worship and liturgy ministry and outreach ministry.

**Trustee Secretary**

A word from the desk of Matt Markowski, Trustee Secretary

Greetings from the Trustee Secretary of St. Norbert College Parish. The last year brought challenges and struggles for many of our families but I see light at the end of the tunnel. We are now back at Mass in person, running full speed ahead with our Generations of Faith program, and many other great programs that have eluded us over the past year. It truly tugs on our heartstrings when our 3yr old, Molly, asks "can we go to church today daddy" on a random Thursday night. Although she's not the quietest or most reverent attendee at Mass, it's heartwarming that she still asks to go! That tells us that our parish family is doing something right. Keep up the great work, everyone! My family and I look forward to seeing all of you back at Mass and other programs over the course of the next year.

Yours in Christ, Matt Markowski

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**Student Thriving**

- **Student Catechist Retreat**
- **SNC Day**
- **Student Catechist Retreat**
Get Involved at St Norbert College Parish

a vibrant Catholic community because of our active members and students.
We offer a variety of ways to participate.

**Spiritual Growth**

Daily and Weekend Mass schedule and Novena Prayers to St. Joseph (Wednesday’s following noon Mass).

Bible studies, Catholic Men’s Group (Frassati), Catholic Women’s Group (Chiara), Eucharistic Adoration, RCIA (Rite of Catholic Initiation), Sacrament of Reconciliation, Sports ministry, Vocations, Generations of Faith, Word and Table, Student Engagement Committee.

**Personal and Professional Development**

Catechist, Communications, Financial bookkeeping, Ministry leadership, Office management, Alpha Ministry, Community Care & Outreach Committee, Finance Council, Liturgical Ministry, Music Ministry, Parish Pastoral Council.

Contact parish@snc.edu for more information or visit the parish web at SNC.edu/parish

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

Guided by the Holy Spirit, the Sacred Scriptures, the Roman Catholic tradition, and the Norbertine ideal of communio, St. Norbert College Parish is dedicated to maintaining a welcoming, caring, and nurturing faith community grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**VISION STATEMENT**

St. Norbert College Parish provides opportunities for growing and maturing in our Catholic faith through liturgy, prayer, education and faith formation, and social justice ministries; respecting the religious traditions of other faiths, as well as the dignity of all God’s people regardless of gender, race or way of life.

**AMAZING PARISH IDENTITY STATEMENT**

Why does St. Norbert College Parish exist?
We invite all people* to experience and share in the Joy of the Lord.
*Students are a priority, a 4 year journey.

How do we behave?
We emphasize Mission over Maintenance. We emphasize that Relational is our name. We emphasize Engagement is our story.

What do we do?
We welcome, we serve (outreach ministries), we worship, we educate (faith formation).

How will we succeed?
We will prioritize our college students 4 year formation, providing them a safe place to find God in their lives.
We cultivate the Norbertine rich tradition of faith.
We will continue to pray and gather as people of God.
2021 Parish Council
*Student Member

Olivia Arza* olivia.arza@snc.edu
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2021 Finance Council
*Student Member

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Parish Staff
Amy Keehan—Administrative Assistant
Brian Fogarty—Director of Worship and Liturgy
Jennifer Rapavi—Coordinator of Faith Formation
Kevin DeCleene—Pastoral Leader and Deacon
Matthew Clark—Book Keeping

Norbertines on Campus
Fr. Mike Brennan, O.Praem.
Fr. Matthew Dougherty, O.Praem.
Fr. Onwu Akpa, O.Praem.
Fr. James Neilson, O.Praem.

Parish Student Staff
Music Ministry—Elizabeth Brefka, Rose Palmer

Operations/Support—Virginia Curcio Rodriguez,
Bennett Jelacic, Jacob Niles,
Sarah Jacobson, Rae Ballinger

Catechists/Babysitters—Meaghan Dutton,
Tessa Evers, Nora Farley, Catherine Grey,
Jennifer Grey, Katelyn Holmstrom, Lucca Kenyon,
Abby Krueger, Liz Laffey, Emily Landolt,
Faith Mertzig, Elizabeth Murray, Crystal Schuster,
Chloe Vandenhouten, Amy Walther, David Weber,
Nate Wessel