



ST. PETER'S
CATHEDRAL BASILICA

Update from the Business Manager

The last time that the Finance Committee or myself touched base with you, we were still not able to gather as a community. It is wonderful to see that due to the diligence of all Ontarians we have been allowed to open our doors, although, to a limited number of parishioners in order to maintain social distancing or parishioners making the prudent decision to not come to Mass due to the risk especially if they are immune compromised.

I have received some inquiries recently regarding the financial state of the Cathedral. As you might have surmised, our offertory during our mandatory closure was quite low. Since we have opened, the offertory amounts have improved but fall well below our regular offertory with attendance back to normal. In addition, our parking revenue has fallen both monthly, nightly and eliminated completely due to the Park Events being cancelled. Therefore, our revenue to cover expenses has been about 40-50% of our budgeted amount and last year's results. However, I would like to thank and recognize all who have contributed during this time---every dollar counts.

Expenses were very tightly controlled and no expense was made for anything that could be delayed or eliminated entirely. We only paid invoices that were bills for necessary items such as water, heat, hydro and labour (although labour was cut back by 25%). We delayed turning the irrigation system until mid-July, did not plant flowers and did not spray any pesticides. There are many other categories that expenses were low or eliminated completely such as the ones indicated above.

Despite our efforts, our cash flow has been reduced and our bank account continues to go down. However, at a much slower pace than was projected in March, April, May and June. The control of expenses was much better than estimated for those months and that has made our financial situation better than anticipated, however, we are down from budget.

Fortunately, people have asked how they can help. I have the same answer every time, please consider a donation. Every dollar does count, so any donation is a great help during this time of crisis. I have outlined many methods of giving below. If you have it in your heart to donate and have the means (not everyone does and we do understand) please consider a donation to the Cathedral. I have outlined the many methods of giving below.

- 1. When on the Donation Page, you can contact us to inquire about Preauthorized Giving. Your offertory amount will come from your account automatically at the beginning of each month. This is a very convenient way to give. This works the same way as having the amount deducted for your bills every month.**
- 2. Mail a cheque to the Cathedral Office -- 533 Clarence St., London, ON, N6A 3N1. Alternatively, you could drop a cheque in an envelope through our mail slot at the East Door of the Parish Center which faces Victoria Park.**
- 3. If you have a Parish Bulletin scan or tap the QR Code at the bottom of the cover page with your mobile device to access our donation page -- you will be prompted through a number of screens to donate with a credit card.**
- 4. On the parish website, there is a "Donate" button on the top and bottom of the Home Page screen which will prompt you to through a number of screens to donate with your credit card.**
- 5. Also, on the parish website, there are QR code instructions in the "About" tab at the top of the Home Page -- just scan or tap the QR code that appears on your screen and follow the prompts.**
- 6. Lastly, we have e-transfer capability through Interac that parishioners can also use. We have made it automatic, so a security question and answer is not needed.**

God Bless and stay safe,

Brian Galea
Business Manager
St. Peter's Cathedral