

October 19, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

We have all been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, whether through isolation, illness or financial challenges. Please do not hesitate to contact one of the parish staff or me if we can assist you during these challenging times. I am writing to update you on how we are doing as a parish faith community.

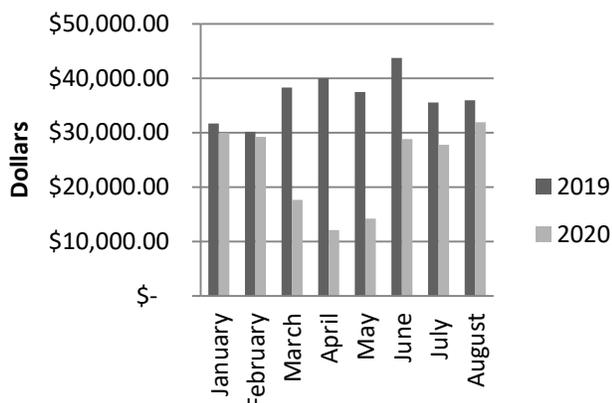
Since our re-opening in June, we are proud to have ensured a safe environment for worship here at St. John Fisher Parish through the hard work of many volunteer cleaners, ushers in addition to the continued involvement of readers, extraordinary ministers of the eucharist and musicians.

Social distancing has impacted attendance at Sunday Masses. Attendance is smaller than before (currently about 25 per cent of normal - with socially distanced seating in the church and parish hall). We know that this may continue for some time and are happy to provide you with some information via our website to those who cannot attend in person due to health or other issues at this time.

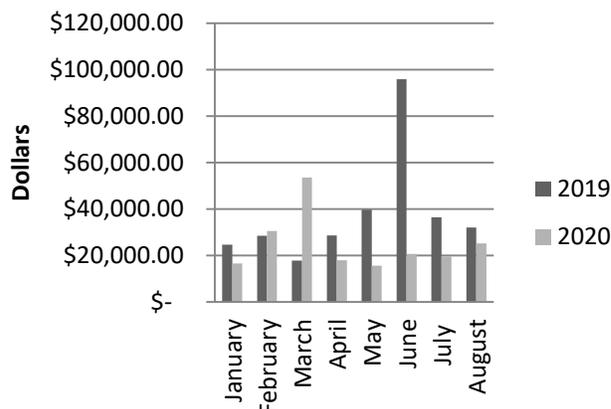
The pandemic has also had a negative impact on our financial health in 2020 as the charts on the following page indicate. I want to draw your attention to the following items:

- Offertory revenue in the March-August period declined by 43% as compared to 2019. We thank all those who have continued their contributions to the parish even though many of you cannot attend in person.
- In that same period, we noted a decline in operating expenses of 39% as we eliminated any non-essential costs and planned renovation projects. We have also benefitted from the 75 per cent government wage subsidy (CEWS) for all clergy and lay employees.
- From September onwards, the CEWS subsidy is greatly reduced, leaving us with a projected operating deficit of up to \$40,000 for the last four months of 2020.

**Monthly Church Donations  
(8 Months)**



**Monthly Church Expenses  
(8 Months)**



As we move into the fall season, we remain in a time of great uncertainty about the pandemic's direction and the possibility of another church closure. As a result, we ask your assistance with the following:

- Remember that whether the church itself remains open or closed, we are always ready to assist you or a family member via telephone message or email. When working remotely, we monitor our messages daily.
- Consider switching your support of the parish to Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG forms available through parish website) or by credit card, or single or monthly donations through the “Donate now” button at [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

Once again, I would like to thank each of you for your extraordinary support during these challenging times. I cannot express how much we appreciate your loyalty, ongoing support, and generosity. Should you have any questions, please be in touch with us.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Regulo Imperial*  
Fr. Regulo Imperial  
Pastor