



**ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Parish Annual Report  
July 2023-June 2024**



**Parish Staff**



**Jennifer Langham**  
Pastoral Assistant for Administration, Liturgy and Music



**Matthew Tolar**  
Pastoral Assistant for Admin, Bookkeeping, and Records



**Gabriela Makinster**  
Pastoral Assistant for Elementary & Adult Faith Formation



**Chad Lucero**  
Pastoral Assistant for Youth Ministry, Youth Confirmation & Tech Support



**Steven Slater**  
Facilities & St. Columban Maintenance



**Gilberto Espino**  
St. Peter Maintenance

**St. Columban Parish consists of two worship sites: the parish church in Yelm and the mission church, St. Peter, in Tenino.**

*We proclaim the Roman Catholic faith to the communities of McKenna, Nisqually, Rainier, Roy, Tenino, and Yelm in southeast Thurston and southwest Pierce counties. Our community has grown since its origins at the former St. Margaret Mary Church in McKenna, and our current church in Yelm is named for the Irish-born 6th century missionary to Europe St. Columbanus of Bobbio. This community dates back to its establishment in 1916. Our presence in Tenino dates back to 1891 through St. Peter Mission, named for the apostle and first pope.*

**This Annual Report is a snapshot of our parish community during the parish year ending June 30, 2024, which was the last year of our priest administrator Fr. Brian Thompson.**

We welcomed Fr. Thompson in July 2021, leading us out of the pandemic. He was responsible for hiring our current bookkeeper and for the continuation of our parish operations and the reconvening of our parish council, the St. Peter Advisory commission, and the finance councils.

For clarity, some statistics, finances, and sacramental data are reported separately for St. Peter Mission. As an overall parish, Religious Education programs are reported together, although classes and administration takes place in Yelm.

<b>Membership Census &amp; Contributions</b>	<b>St. Columban</b>	<b>St. Peter</b>
Registered Households/Families	<b>274</b>	<b>40</b>
Households/Families Contributing	<b>58</b>	<b>5</b>

**Community events this past year**

- Coffee Hours at both locations (Weekly)
- Daughters of Mary Fellowship (Monthly)
- Knights of Columbus (KofC) Breakfast (Monthly)
- Parish Picnic & Ministry Fair (August)
- Oktoberfest (September)
- St. Vincent de Paul Walk/Run for the Poor (September)
- Las Posadas (December)
- Spaghetti Dinner (January)
- KofC Big Game Watch Party & Chili Cook-off (February)
- Lenten Soup Suppers (March-April, both locations)
- St. Patrick's Day Dinner (March)
- Daughters of Mary Spring Bazaar (May)
- KofC Annual Outdoor Sale (May)
- KofC Annual Coats for Kids Car Show (June)

## By the Numbers

### Sacraments

#### Baptisms

**12**

Children & Youth



**2**

Adults

#### First Holy Communions

**10**

Children & Youth



**10**

Adults

#### Confirmations

**8**

Youth



**10**

Adults

#### Weddings

**8**

St. Columban



**0**

St. Peter

#### Anointings of the Sick

**60**

St. Columban



**24**

St. Peter



### Religious Education Enrollment

#### Elementary-age Children

**35**

Kindergarten to 5th Grade

#### Youth

**14**

Middle School  
(6th-8th Grade)

**7**

High School  
(9th-12th Grade)

#### Adults

**13**

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults  
(RCIA)

### Funerals

**8**

St. Columban

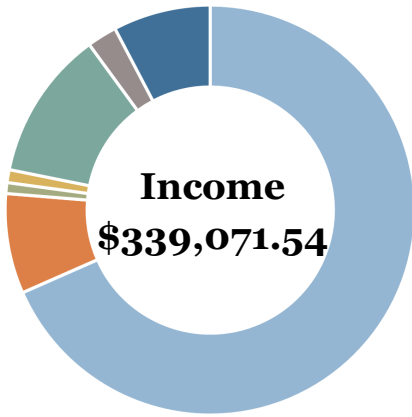
**3**

St. Peter

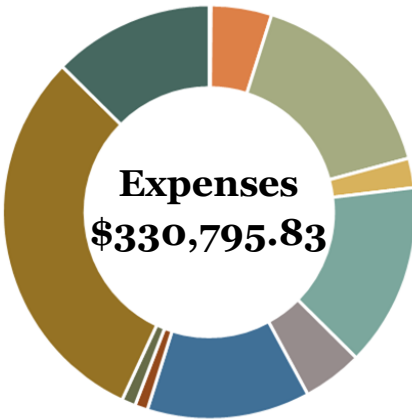
#### *May They Rest in Peace †*

*Ray North, Gary Henslee,  
Margaret Sampson,  
Eitan Hadayo  
Rose Montgomery,  
Shirley May Kelley,  
Teresita Reyes Aguon,  
Susan Kintzley, Drew Loyer,  
Joseph Rogers, Richard Suver,*

## St. Columban

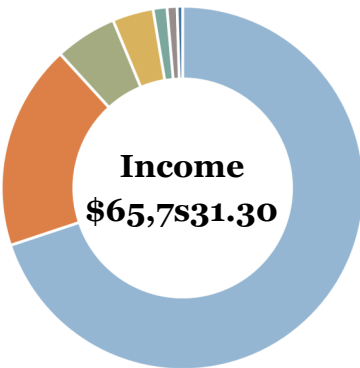


- Sunday Collection 68.4%
- Sunday Loose Collection 7.9%
- Holy Day Collection 0.9%
- Archdiocese Rebate 1.0%
- Pastoral Services 11.8%
- Rent 2.3%
- Misc. Income 7.7%

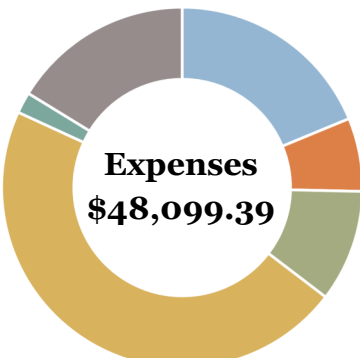


- Extra Clergy 0.1%
- Lay Benefits 4.7%
- Misc. Expenses 15.9%
- Office Supplies 2.3%
- Parish Assessment 14.3%
- Priest Benefits 4.7%
- Priest Salary 12.8%
- Religious Education 1.0%
- Sacristy 1.1%
- Staff Salaries 30.5%
- Utilities 12.6%

## St. Peter



- Sunday Envelopes 69.9%
- Loose Sunday Collection 18.3%
- Archdiocese Rebate 5.5%
- Misc. Income 3.6%
- Holy Day Collection 1.2%
- Called to Serve as Christ Rebate 0.9%
- Mass Stipend 0.5%



- Building Maintenance 18.8%
- Misc. Expenses 6.6%
- Parish Assessment 10.0%
- Pastoral Services 46.5%
- Sacristy 1.9%
- Utilities 16.2%

## Financial Stewardship

St. Columban received a slight increase in charitable giving this year, while also decreasing its expenditures by 119.4% from the previous year. This is due to no longer paying insurance for the organ in the hall and saving money on utility payments, such as gas expenses. This trend can be seen with St. Peter Mission as well. There was a slight increase in charitable giving with a very substantial decrease in expenses, allowing St. Peter Mission to save \$17,631.91. This is due to Pastoral Services dropping by 51.9%.

St. Columban gave \$2,321.18 to the CRS Rice Bowl, and St. Peter gave \$169.



## Year-end Reports: Parish Consultative Bodies



### **Pastoral Council**

Members: Judy Cusick (Chair), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf

No activity to report for Parish Year 2023-2024

### **Finance Council**

Members: Joe Judge, Mari Evans (St. Peter)

No activity to report for Parish Year 2023-2024

### **St. Peter Mission Advisory Commission**

**Members:** Sherry Bachmann (Chair), Bernie Schwarz, Marilyn Ritter, Dianne Weston, Bob Bacon

The Commission reviewed and discussed issues and suggestions, made recommendations and helped implement projects and changes at St. Peter Mission.

- The mission currently has one staff person (maintenance) and has been managing with all volunteer workers and have been blessed with some dedicated ministry volunteers.
- We established a formal Home Ministry program for administering Holy Eucharist to home-bound parishioners
- The kitchen flooring and flooring for both restrooms were all replaced with vinyl plank flooring. The bell tower, walkways and north exterior wall of the church were pressure-washed.
- Annual landscaping contracted maintenance included root treatment of the arborvitae trees.
- Parking lot was restriped and cracks sealed.
- St. Peter Mission again met and exceeded our Annual Catholic Appeal goal.
- Funerals: Sue Kintzley, July 2023; Margaret Sampson, March 2024; Rose Montgomery, June 2024

All Advisory Commission members are actively involved in the parish, and represent the people and the community. Our hope is to make the worship experience at St. Peter as meaningful as possible and to address pastoral, spiritual and facility needs. The commission looks forward to our future opportunities as well as challenges. We humbly ask you to please pray for us.

Sherry Bachmann, Advisory Commission Chair

### **Parishioners of both churches were actively involved in many community service projects this past year:**

- Christmas Giving Tree Project
- Eucharistic Visitors (Communion to the Homebound/Hospital)
- Diaper Drive for PREPARES
- Respect Life
- Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Drive for PREPARES
- Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Winter Clothes Closet
- St. Peter Back-to-School Drive
- St. Peter Socktober Drive



## Parish Apostolates & Ministries

### Daughters of Mary

Dawn Bauer, President; Theresa Gonzales, Treasurer;  
Jennifer Langham, Secretary



In March of 2024 our current Treasurer Theresa Gonzales had a severe fall and Dawn Bauer has taken on her duties in her absence; prayers continue for her recovery. The Private Prayer Chain continues under the direction of Sandy Story in an ongoing effort to support private prayers requested. Cards of Comfort: Ongoing effort of signed encouraging cards from parishioners (NOT just the women) are distributed to residents of Rosemont and Easthaven Villa with special emphasis for holidays such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and even Father's Day and Mother's Day. We expanded our Fellowship hours to twice a month, the Daughters of Mary host on the 1st Sunday of the month and then partner with the Altar Society to host on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Those that attend seem to appreciate the effort made.

The Christmas Giving Tree program continued with parishioners purchasing gift cards of specific amounts, which are distributed to those families in need by our St. Vincent de Paul ministry. This continues to receive a HUGE response from parishioners.

We hosted a handful of receptions this year for funerals, prepared and served food at the Parish Annual Picnic, in cooperation with the Knights of Columbus. Annual Spring Bazaar was held in May, which was also in cooperation with the Knights of Columbus Outdoor Sale. Generous donations of baked goods, indoor and outdoor plants and a large assortment of books made the sale a success.

We held First Communion and Confirmation receptions in May and June. A total of five Communicants and seven Confirmands and their families were celebrated. At the Father's Day Brunch, about 45 people total were served a delicious quiche breakfast. During the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Annual Car Show the DOM sold hot dogs, fries, chips, soda, and water as a fundraiser for future events. The Seven Sisters Apostolate had a successful third year of praying for our Priest. We are looking forward to adding more volunteers this coming year.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. All women of the church are invited and bring your favorite snack to share!

### Knights of Columbus St. Columban Council 17152 & Assembly 3947

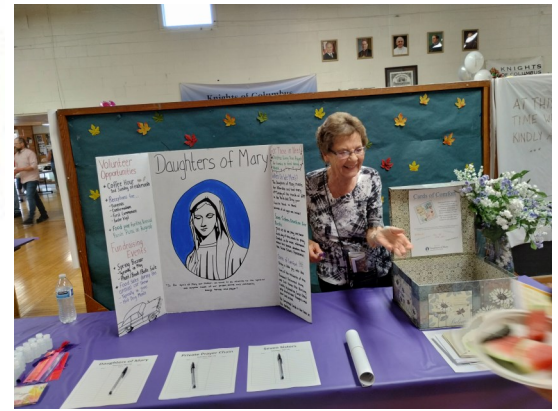
Grand Knight Michael Hutchinson, Financial Secretary  
Bill Gonzales, Faithful Navigator Darren Johnson



The Knights of Columbus is a global fraternal service order founded by Bl. Michael J. McGivney in 1882. The knights are all Catholic gentlemen committed to the exemplification of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism and to the defense of the priesthood.

Council 17152 hosted the annual Coats for Kids Car Show in June, which raised money for winter coats, which were distributed in November. We also distributed coats to an event at the Yelm Cinema and gave coats to the St. Columban Winter Clothes Closet. The Council also spearheaded several social dinners and monthly breakfasts throughout the year, which included Oktoberfest, St. Patrick's Day, and the Spaghetti Dinner. All men of the parish are welcome to join!

Parish Annual Report



## Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP)—St. Columban Conference



The Saint Columban Chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has seven members and two associate members. It was formed over 20 years ago for the spiritual formation of its members and assistance to the poor. It serves the Yelm area including Rainier, McKenna, Roy and Tenino. Its primary source of income comes from donations from St. Columban parishioners, fundraising from the yearly Walk for the Poor in September, and grants from local organizations that are more fully described below. Its members meet monthly on the third Thursday in the parish hall from 7-8:15 p.m.



### St. Vincent de Paul aided the poor in the following areas this year:

- Utilities \$7,772
- Rent Subsidies \$7,125
- Food/Gas Cards \$3,790
- Propane/Other \$2,400

Total Families Assisted: 137

Total Amount of Assistance Paid: \$21,087

### St. Vincent de Paul monetary resources came from the following areas:

- St. Columban and St. Peter: \$ 7,574
  - 2023 Walk for the Poor: \$ 1,606
  - SVdP Fundraising: \$ 1,233
  - Donation: \$50
  - Grant: \$5,000
- Total Deposits: \$15,463.00



## Winter Clothes Closet

Led by John Bauer

The Winter Clothes Closet supports the needs of the people residing in our geographical parish by providing much-needed clothing and other items. Last year, we were able to serve over 250 people; which was the largest number of people served in our seven-year history. This could not have been accomplished without the generous donations from our parishioners, the support of the Knights of Columbus, our St. Vincent de Paul Society, and our dedicated volunteers. We will re-open in November.



## Liturgical Ministries & Prayer Groups

The laity assist with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass through various roles. These roles enrich the beauty of the Sunday Mass as well as offer opportunities to share talents that help us unite as the Body of Christ through liturgy and devotions within our community.



St. Columban	St. Peter Mission
8 Altar Servers	3 Cantors
1 Choir (11 members)	1 Choir (4 Members)
4 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	5 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
9 Readers	4 Readers
1 Master of Ceremonies	3 Sacristans
5 Sacristans	4 Ushers/Greeters
14 Ushers/Greeters	1 Church Environment Minister
12 Church Environment Ministers (Altar Society)	3 Sunday Rosary Leaders
4 Sunday Rosary Leaders	
2 Weekly Rosary prayer groups	





Parish Annual Report



We thank Fr. Brian Thompson for his three years at St. Columban and St. Peter.



**Are you registered?**

Registration ensures that we know you are here, makes us aware of your needs and gifts, but most of all it helps us to welcome you to the parish! Stop by and introduce yourselves! The Parish Office is open Mon-Thu 9:30 a.m.—2 p.m. or call us for an appointment on Fridays. You may also register online at [saintcolumbanyelm.org](http://saintcolumbanyelm.org)

**Please consider electronic giving.**

Prayerfully consider making a recurring weekly or monthly donation to the parish collection by creating an account. Did you know electronic giving saves the office time and money? Thank you for your investment and continued support, and may God reward your generosity!

**Looking Ahead**

As part of the Archdiocese of Seattle's *Partners in the Gospel* plan, our parish is now a member of Parish Family 40, which includes Lacey. All three churches share a pastoral team of three priests:



**Fr. Bryan Ochs**  
Pastor



**Fr. William Dodoma**  
Parochial Vicar



**Fr. Martin Bourke**  
Senior Priest in Residence

**We Welcome Our New Pastoral Team, effective July 1, 2024**



**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!**  
Sacred Heart | St. Columban | Mission Church of St. Peter

