



## Our Lady of Fatima Shrine

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March 15, 2014

Dear Parishioners,

It is again that time of the year we present to you parishioners the **2013 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT** (overleaf). On behalf of the **Pastoral Team** and the **Pastoral and Finance Councils**, I would like to start off with a BIG **thank you** to all for your generous and on-going support. We are so happy to be serving this Fatima faith community! We are proud to do so, and with your continued support, we hope to remain as committed and willing as in past years.

Once again we present a **positive report**. It reflects a satisfactory end-of-the-year bank balance and this was mainly due to your generous offerings and the efficient and prudent management of parish funds. We are truly very thankful and grateful to all for this, but surely it also means “*thumbs up*” and a “*well done*” to our wise and efficient business manager.

The main **challenges** we had to tackle in 2013 were various. The re-payment of the bank loan we had to take out on completing the *Church Renovations Project* from the previous year was, and still is, outstanding. The age of our property and equipment require constant repairs and maintenance and during the past twelve months we had to take care of our *heating system*; it was cleaned and upgraded regularly, but I am informed that **soon** we have to look into investing in a new furnace! We had to spend money on *new LED lights* for the rectory, the Family Room [chapel] and the basement hall, making these lights more efficient and energy-saving. Some *rectory facilities* have been upgraded and more will be undertaken in the coming months. Heartfelt appreciation and thanks to our custodian and other volunteers who organized and completed the necessary tasks.

We remain committed to our promise of installing an **air-conditioning** system in our church, as we continue to monitor our expenses and use our funds wisely for after all, this is our policy. Some spade-work has been done already in this regard but we are not in a position to set a target date for the completion of this ambitious project. As can be noticed in the report [overleaf] we have made considerable savings in expenditure on some items such as hydro, heating, office supplies and equipment, rectory expenses and others. But every year we encounter ‘**unplanned expenses**’ for urgent repairs and maintenance. We have also been asked by Bishop Nyugen [during his recent pastoral visit to the parish] to look at strengthening security in the place by installing a CCTV system.

Again, we extend thanks, with much gratitude and appreciation to all, for the on-going support we have witnessed from so many generous hearts. We also acknowledge the valid contribution of our numerous volunteers whose services and efforts in fund-raising are so essential and vital, foremost among these are the *Knights of Columbus*, the *Legion of Mary*, the *Social Committee*, the *Lord's Flock*, the *St. Vincent de Paul*, the *Seniors Activity Club*, the *Sacristy Volunteers*, and all other volunteers – young and not so young – who give so much of their time and energy. God bless and reward you all!

Sincere thanks to **Fr. Dominic Borg**, our associate pastor, to **Deacon Patrick Matthews**, to the priests from the **Scarboro Missions** and others who regularly grace us by their ministry. God bless us all. Our Lady of Fatima protect and pray for us.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Fr. Victor Mallia, OCD – Pastor – Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, Scarborough