

Dear Parishioners:

As you know, we have a very active Parish Outreach under the leadership of Trish Frodell. The Parish Outreach Ministry makes reports to Catholic Charities who, in turn, compile the data from all the parishes in the diocese. I thought I would share some of the statistics detailing the great work done by our Parish Outreach.

Persons Served

Children (0-18 years old):	189 per month
Adults (19 – 64 years old):	249 per month
Seniors (65 years old & older):	23 per month
TOTAL: 452 people per month	

In 2016, our Parish averaged 411 people per month. As you can see, we have had an increase in the need for assistance. The increase was largely due to an increase in assistance for children.

Direct Services Provided

Food:	449 per month
Housing:	6 per month
Utilities:	5 per month
Basic Living Needs:	8 per month

Our Parish Outreach does a wonderful job assisting the poor and needy. I thought you might like to see some statistics regarding the good work they do.

We are also entering “First Holy Communion” season. Over 200 young boys and girls will be receiving Jesus for the first time over the next 6 weeks. Please keep our First Holy Communion candidates in your prayers during this time. Pray that these children will open their hearts to the grace of Eucharist, and that their parents will be faithful in bringing their children to church for Mass on Sunday to receive the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion.

As we pray for our children, the theme of Holy Communion is one that we should reflect upon ourselves. We call Sunday the “day of the Lord” because it was on Sunday that Jesus rose from the dead. In addition, Sunday is also called the “day of the Church” because in the Sunday Eucharistic celebration, the Christian community finds her reason for its existence; at the Sunday Eucharist, the Christian community grows and matures and helps us to become the saints that God created us to be.

The early Christian martyrs proclaimed before their deaths under the Emperor Diocletian: “Without Sunday, we cannot live”. I hope and pray that we all will have that same fervor regarding the reception of the Eucharist, Holy Communion.

Remember: Together, we can do something beautiful for God.

In Christ,

Fr. Brian