

ANNUAL REPORT

Church of St. Pius X

September 2022 through August 2023



To Renew All Things In Christ

The Church of St. Pius X is under the pastoral care of the Religious Community of the Alagad ni Maria (Disciples of Mary)

A Roman Catholic Faith Community • Founded in 1954 • Renovated 2013

Dear Parishioners:

Our parish is thriving because of your unfailing generosity and willingness to share your time and talent! This past year, 52 new families registered with our parish and 33 new students joined our religious education program. Numerous caring volunteers helped the homeless, unwed expectant mothers, the working poor, the elderly, prison inmates and many others in numerous ways. Our newest outreach program calls students to visit the elderly in our parish.



We kicked off a new speaker series, Let's Talk About It: Speaker Series, in response to The Synod on Synodality survey. We implemented safety protocols for our religious education students and conducted a safety drill with the guidance of local law enforcement. We began a children's choir for students in Kindergarten through eighth grade under the direction of James Walton and expanded our parish office hours.

Lois Montorio replaced Elizabeth Pirinea, who retired as our parish secretary after serving many years, and Luisa Fortino-Pompa joined our staff as parish manager. Lucy Brusco, a long-time parishioner, received the St. Thomas More award from Archbishop Cardinal Dolan for her service to the Catholic community. MaryAnn Amodio, Shirley Clay, Gian DiGama, Pauline O'Hanlon, Linda Puoplo, Yvonne Saavedra, and Richard Vera were newly elected or appointed to the Parish Council and Maria Dhingra, Rich Foran and Mary Ingriselli retired. We are very grateful for the many years of service given to the parish by our retiring Parish Council members and look forward to their continuing participation.

In order to maintain our beautifully renovated church, we commenced a campaign to provide funds to repair and maintain our facilities and grounds. The funds collected allowed us to replace landscaping, seal the parking lot and restore the pavement markings, update the signage around the property, install a humidifier and temperature control near the pipe organ to preserve its internal elements, replace the oven in the Parish Hall and update our outdoor Christmas manger.

We would have had an operating deficit in excess of \$265,622 this past year but for one-time bequests and donations received during the year and monies collected from the campaign for repairs and maintenance.

We are projecting an operational deficit in excess of \$222,780 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, notwithstanding a budgeted increase in offertory collections. Accordingly, we ask each parishioner to prayerfully consider making a financial commitment to our parish according to his/her means so we are able to continue the good works and spiritual community we have become.

As we begin our 70th year with the theme, "Renew, Rejoice, Connect," we ask God to bless our parish and help us to live up to our Mission Statement to be a welcoming and teaching community.

Yours truly in Christ,

F. Sebastian
Father Sebastian

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for entrusting me as the lay leader of our parish. It's an honor to represent your voices and not something I take lightly. If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to pull me aside at Mass or send me an email. We welcome feedback and suggestions so we can improve.

I'd like to thank Father Raymond for his years of service at St. Pius X. He is a large part of the reason why I was drawn to this community. He embodies the welcoming spirit of this parish and will be missed. With God's grace, he will be back with us soon. As always, under the guidance of our Pastor, Father Sebastian, St. Pius X continues to thrive as evidenced by our influx of new students, new families and new parishioners, our continuing spiritual growth each week inspired by beautiful homilies and our parish's commitment "to be a welcoming and teaching community".



I was very anxious and hesitant to take on the role of President of our Parish Council. I wondered how I could follow in the footsteps of so many great presidents before me, Kathy Cripps, Al Naclerio, Tom Battistoni, and Marina Cardillo. I have been a St. Pius X parishioner for only a short time in comparison to most members of the Council and I am one of the youngest presidents to date, but God (and Father Sebastian) called, and I answered. A special thank you to Marina Cardillo whose constant help, guidance, wisdom, support, and sounding board have helped make the transition and call to serve so smooth. We're more than halfway through my first year and I'm by no means an expert, but I am enjoying the experience of representing our family. St. Pius X is my family, not by blood but by choice, and I choose to continue to show up every week like many of you because it feels like home.

I'd like to highlight a note from Father Sebastian regarding the call to Come Home for Christmas:

"No matter what your current family or marital situation; No matter what your personal history, age, background, religious affiliations, race or color; No matter what your lifestyle - past or present; No matter what your own self-image or esteem; You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at the Church of St. Pius X...."

I can't think of a better way to encompass what our parish community represents. We have been focusing on, and will continue to focus on, the following pillars instituted several years ago: More Participation in Parish Life & Community, Catholic Outreach at Every Stage of Life, Helping Others to Come Home to the Church, and Financial Stability. Our parish is so special because of our priests and the many people who tirelessly give of their time, treasure and talents. It is a vibrant parish that is and will be a home to many for years to come.

I hope that as you read this Annual Report you will appreciate what it takes to make this parish so special and be proud to be a part of it. Reach out to your family and friends and invite them to join our Parish so they, too, can be part of something so incredibly special.

At our Stewardship Weekend, I ended my reflection on service in this community with a message that is appropriate again – *God is calling, all you need to do is listen. May you be called to: enrich yourself spiritually, give back to the least of us, and generously support our parish so that we may continue to do God's work.*

With my most sincere thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Yang-DiPietro".

Laeh Yang-DiPietro
St. Pius X Parish Council President
byang.dipietro@gmail.com

Social Action

“In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”
(Acts 20:35)

Children’s Social Action Activities

An important component of our Religious Education Program involves teaching our children the importance of helping others less fortunate. During the past year, our students participated in various service projects which included: donating money to **Operation Rice Bowl**; hosting bake sales and donating the proceeds to various charitable organizations such as the **Sharing Shelf’s Teen Boutique** (an organization that helps disadvantaged teens), **Lifting Up Westchester** (an organization that supports the needy) and **New York Foundling** (an organization that supports persons with developmental disabilities); providing socks and undergarments to the homeless through **HOPE Community Center**; purchasing softbound Spanish and English Bibles for inmates in the Westchester County Department of Corrections in Valhalla; collecting Halloween candy, hats, scarves, gloves and blankets for a **local homeless shelter**; preparing, delivering and serving meals for a local soup kitchen; making “adopt me” bandanas for animal adoption events and collecting towels, cleaning products and gently used leashes and crates for animals at a local animal shelter; participating in the parish’s **Adopt-a-Family Christmas outreach** for new mothers and their babies at Good Counsel Homes; donating snacks, toiletries and sundries along with preparing cards for our deployed military as part of **Operation Cupid – United for Troops**; and donating food for our **Lenten Food Drive**. In addition, our seventh and eighth grade religious education students helped to decorate the Church for the holidays.

This past year, our parish started **Sharing Our Gifts to Seniors**, a children’s ministry to bring children and the elderly in our parish together. Our children will visit the elderly to play music, read or just provide a social connection.



Social Action (continued)

Youth Ministry Social Action

The St. Pius X Youth Ministry for high school students, grades 9-12, endeavors to help them grow in their faith and spiritual lives by providing an array of group community service projects. During the year, our teens sorted clothing for the **Sharing Shelf's Teen Boutique**; helped with set-up, serving, child supervision and clean-up at our parish's annual **Brunch with Santa**, annual **Easter Egg Hunt**, and **First Communion breakfast**; hosted a cookie decorating party for residents of **New York Foundling**; made spring planters with residents of **New York Foundling**; and prepared, delivered and served meals at **HOPE Community Center**. Our youth also participated in a Crafts for Kids pizza night where they made Easter-themed crafts for patients at **Blythedale Children's Hospital**.

Adult/Family Social Action

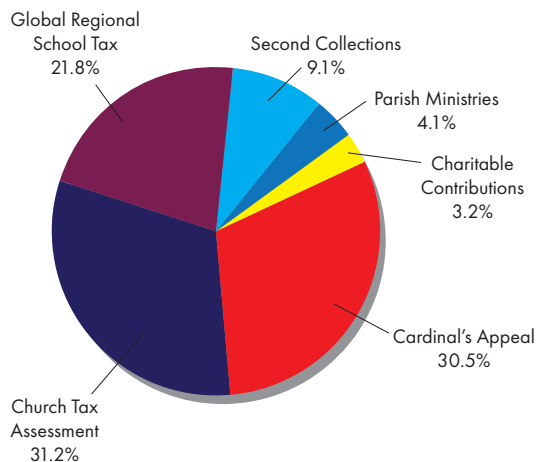
This past year, our adult parishioners engaged in numerous social action activities including, among others, donating to various charitable organizations such as the **Capuchin Friars Minor Mission**, **World Mission**, **Retired Religious** and an **earthquake relief fund** for Turkey and Syria; delivering 389 turkeys with the fixings to the hungry during our **Thanksgiving Food Drive**; providing food to persons less fortunate through programs such as **St. Peter's/St. Denis' Food Pantry** and our **Lenten Food Drive**; collecting toiletries and donations for the **Sharing Shelf's Teen Boutique** for disadvantaged teens; holding our semi-annual **Blood Drive**; collecting coats for our annual **Coat Drive** for the Don Bosco Community Center; collecting items for babies and pregnant moms through our **Baby Shower Drive** for Good Counsel Homes and the Sharing Shelf; purchasing, wrapping and delivering Christmas gifts to needy persons at the Holy Spirit Church, Don Bosco Church, Sisters of Life, Good Counsel Homes and St. Patrick's Nursing Home through programs such as **Adopt-a-Family**, the **Christmas Angel Giving Tree** and the **St. Patrick's Nursing Home Christmas Wish List**; supplying computer tablets, traditional school supplies and backpacks for local children at My Sister's Place, the Sharing Shelf and the Holy Spirit Church under our **Bag 2 School Program**; assisting with the cost of **educating seminarians** of the Religious Community of the *Alagad ni Maria* (Disciples of Mary) and knitting and crocheting items to donate to Good Counsel Homes, Operation Gratitude (an organization that supports our military, veterans and first responders), the Linus Project (an organization that supports needy children) and the Sharing Shelf through our **Thread for Life** ministry.

Parishioners also participated in the Interfaith Project, **Martin Luther King Day of Service JCCMW Blizzard Box Packing**, a region wide effort in honor of Dr. King, by packing full non-perishable meals, called blizzard boxes, for food insecure community members. Our **Move with Purpose** fitness themed charity event raised funds for Feeding Westchester.



Social Action (continued)

Making a difference in the world in 2022 – 2023



Second Collections (Mandated by the ADNY & US Bishop's Conference)	\$29,859
Parish Ministries* (Including Food Drive, Angel Tree, and others)	\$13,504
Charitable Contributions**	\$10,500
Cardinal's Appeal – Goal \$107,100	\$99,796
Church Tax Assessment (Mandated contribution to the ADNY Church Tax)	\$102,248
Global Regional School Tax (Mandated contribution to the ADNY to support the regional school GRSS)	\$71,377
Total:	\$327,284

* This amount reflects clothing and food donations.

** This amount includes donations to non-profit institutions.



The Church of St. Pius X **Committed Giving and Sharing Our Gifts**

The Trustees, Finance Committee and Parish Council determined that our parish's ability to continue to support and expand the good works and spiritual community we have become is dependent on our ability to cover the expenses

associated with the operation of our parish, which includes our ministries. It would be helpful for our planning if you committed to give to your parish on a consistent, ongoing basis. You can do this by enrolling in electronic giving (See **ONLINE GIVING** below) or calling the parish office at (914) 725-2755. Alternatively, you can use the parish envelopes mailed to you, write a check or set up recurring payments from your bank account or credit card.

ONLINE GIVING

Many of our parishioners are making automatic online gifts to the Church of St. Pius X. You may make gifts to our weekly collections and archdiocesan special collections online. By giving online, you will no longer need to receive envelopes in the mail each month.

For further information, or to enroll in the Church of St. Pius X online giving program, *We Share*, please visit saintpiusxchurch.churchgiving.com, click on *We Share: Give to St. Pius X* on our homepage at <http://saintpiusxchurch.com> or scan the QR code to complete the enrollment form. Our easy-to-use enrollment takes just a few short minutes.

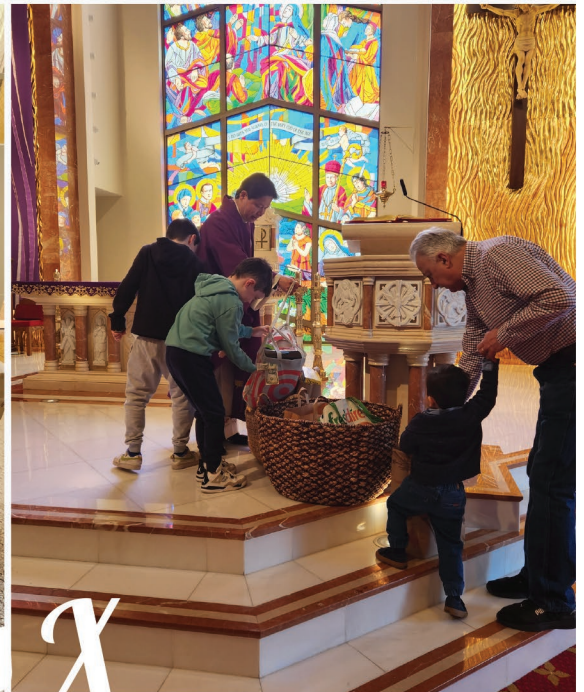


"GIVING" FOR THE FUTURE

A donation to the Church of St. Pius X in your will is fully tax deductible and will help us sustain our work, our mission, and our ministries for future generations.

If you choose to include us in your will, won't you let us know? You can contact Fr. Sebastian at (914) 725-2755 or email pastor@spxny.org.

Thank you for ensuring the legacy of your memory through a bequest to the Church of St. Pius X.



Church of St. Pius X

Liturgical Services

“Therefore, we who are receiving the unshakable kingdom should have gratitude, with which we should offer worship pleasing to God in reverence and awe.”
(Hebrews 12:28)

Liturgical Services for Children

Each month, throughout the school year, one of the 10:30 am Family Masses was designated a Ministry Mass for a specified grade in our Religious Education Program. At these Masses, our students became active participants in the Mass as greeters, readers and presenters of the Gifts.

We held our **Annual Backpack Blessing** at a Family Mass to remind our children that Christianity is a way of life that moves into all aspects of their lives and that God is with us always. Our second graders received their **Gold Books** at a Mass of Blessing in preparation for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and attended a **Family Sacrament Day**. Our eighth grade Confirmation candidates came together at their **Inscription Service** to commit to do what was necessary to become Christian adults and attended a **Family Sacrament Day** and a **Spirit Mass**. Our first through fourth grade religious education students practiced for our annual **Christmas pageant**. During Lent, our students participated in a devotion to the **Stations of the Cross** and a special **washing of the feet** liturgy and processed to the altar on Palm Sunday. In May, our children were invited to bring a **flower offering** to the statue of Mary and to crown Mary. Under the direction of James Walton, our parish formed a **Children’s Choir** for students in Kindergarten through eighth grade.



Liturgical Services (continued)

Liturgical Services for Youth and Adults

Liturgical services this past year included: monthly **Birthday Blessings**; **Blessing of the Parish Council Mass**; **Blessing of the Animals** to celebrate the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi; **widow and widower monthly Masses**; **Wedding Jubilee Mass** where couples renewed their marriage vows; **Parade of Nations** at our multicultural Mass on Pentecost Sunday with parishioners reading a Prayer of the Faithful in his/her own native tongue; **Virgin of Guadalupe Mass** with a procession carrying a portrait of the Virgin, roses and candles; **blessing of expectant mothers and newborns**; **rosary devotions**; **Mary's Birthday celebration**; **Mary Under the Stars celebration**; **Blessing of the Angel Tree**, **Advent Wreath and Manger**; **Christmas Tree lighting** celebration with caroling; **Lighting of the Advent candles** and **Building the Manger**; **Light Up the Night** prayer service with Fr. Kaufman; **Stations of the Cross devotions**; and **Triduum Rituals** including **washing of the feet**, **Tenebrae** and **Waters of Baptism**. Our Festival Choir under the direction of our Cantor, David Schmidt, performed during Christmas liturgies and Holy Week.



Church of St. Pius X

Learning and Sacramental Preparation

*“Instruct the wise, and they become wiser; teach the just, and they advance in learning.
The beginning of wisdom is fear of the Lord, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”*
(Proverbs: 9:9-10)

The Sacraments

Baptisms (infants (26) and adults (1))	27
First Reconciliations & First Holy Communions	36
Confirmations (teens (30) and adults (2))	32
Marriages	3
Anointing of the Sick	25

Education

Religious Education enrollment	
Grades 1-8	240
New students	33
New families in RE	5
Bible Study participants	5
RCIA participants	1

The Sacraments

Our parish welcomed 27 new members, 1 adult and 26 infants – into our community through Baptism in the past year. We prepared 3 couples for the Sacrament of Matrimony and united them in marriage.

In May, 36 second graders in our Religious Education Program made their First Reconciliation and received their First Holy Communion. In April, 30 teens received the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and their commissioning as adults in our church at a Confirmation Mass with Bishop Dennis Sullivan. As part of their preparation to receive Confirmation, our eighth graders also attended a retreat at The Center at Mariandale.



First Communion 10 am group



First Communion 12 pm group

Scripture Study

This past year, our Adult Faith Formation Program studied “The Golden Chain: Reading the Gospels of St. Thomas Aquinas” for an hour on Thursday evenings under the direction of Charles Junjulas, live and via Zoom.

Speaker Series

Parishioners gathered to discuss Michael O’Loughlin’s book, “Hidden Mercy: AIDS, Catholics and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear,” prior to a live presentation by the author.

Writer and frequent speaker on issues of liturgy and church renewal in the Roman Catholic tradition, Rita Ferrone, spoke about “Living the Legacy of Vatican II in Today’s Parishes: Prospects and Challenges” with moderator Raymond LaManna.



Community Building

“Rejoice with those who rejoice...”
(Romans 1:15)

Children’s/Family Activities

Our parish strives to include children in our parish family by organizing fun events for them. This year, activities with our children included: our annual **Family Picnic** with pizza, ice cream, face painting and a bounce house; **Brunch with Santa**; **Trunk or Treat**; **Easter Egg Hunt**; our annual **First Communion family reception**; our weekly **Family Hospitality Table** after the Sunday Family Masses; and our multi-cultural **Pentecost potluck luncheon**.

As part of our **Concerts @ SPX**, our parishioners, their friends and community members enjoyed an organ recital featuring organists from the Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and an organ recital by Jon Riss.

Youth Activities

The St. Pius X Youth Ministry endeavors to build fellowship among our parish’s teens. This past year, our youth group enjoyed a Meet & Greet with bowling, and a crafts night with pizza.

Adult Activities

Our parish welcomes all adult parishioners to participate in activities. This past year, adults enjoyed **Musical Chair Yoga**; **Zumba**; our annual **Wine Tasting** event exploring the wines of France with Dean Morretta of Vintology; our annual **Christmas and St. Patrick’s Day luncheons**; **dinner for our Religious Education Teachers, Assistants and Hall Monitors**; our annual **Volunteers and New Parishioner Reception**; and monthly Masses followed by **social gatherings for our widows and widowers**.





A Letter from the Finance Committee

November 2023

Dear Parishioners,

The following page contains detailed information regarding our parish income and expenses for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023.

Our Total Regular Receipts were \$1,081,196, compared to \$925,263 last year, an increase of 16.9%.

Our Total Ordinary Expenses were \$1,240,812, compared to \$1,111,981 last year, an increase of 11.6%.

Our Total Revenue (consisting of Regular Receipts, Extraordinary Income and Capital Campaign Revenue) was \$1,347,263. Our Total Expenses (Ordinary Expenses plus Extraordinary Expenses) was \$1,346,818. The surplus of \$445 was added to our reserves and consisted of collections of capital campaign pledges and one-time donations and bequests.

Our Total Expenses (\$1,346,818) exceeded our Total Regular Receipts (\$1,081,196) by \$265,622. The deficit was funded by all but \$445 of our Extraordinary Income and Capital Campaign Revenue.

We invite you to read our Comparative Statement of Income & Expenses for Fiscal Years ending August 31, 2023 and 2022 for a breakdown of our Regular Receipts and other revenue and our ordinary and extraordinary expenses.

Based on the budget we submitted to the Archdiocese, we are projecting that our Total Expenses will exceed our Regular Receipts by \$222,780 for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024, notwithstanding budgeted increases in offertory collections. Over the last several years, in the absence of rental income from our school building, we have used one-time donations and bequests and collections of pledges from our capital campaigns to fund our expenses. As of October 31, 2023, there are nominal uncollected capital campaign pledges. Accordingly, absent rental income or other revenue sufficient to cover any deficit, we will need to fund the deficit from the parish's reserves.

Thank you for your support.

Finance Committee Members:

Denis Andreuzzi
Michael Cosgrove
Mark Fitzsimmons
Blaise Fredella
Kathi Fredella

Trustees:

Nicholas Brusco
Kathy Cripps

Financial Report

CHURCH OF ST. PIUS X COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING AUGUST 31, 2023 AND 2022

REVENUES COLLECTED

REGULAR RECEIPTS

	2023	2022
Sunday & Holy Days	548,576	586,698
Holiday Collections	367,216	236,068
Votive Shrines & Candles	7,347	10,082
Tuition Collected	67,776	59,315
Fundraiser	17,555	4,345
Interest & Other Income	57,743	28,755
Other Religious Education Income	14,983	-

TOTAL REGULAR RECEIPTS	1,081,916	925,263
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EXTRAORDINARY INCOME

Donations & Bequests	49,667	213,876
Rental Income	-	106,667
Other Extraordinary Income	74,234	
TOTAL EXTRAORDINARY INCOME	123,901	320,543

CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS

Renovation, Repair and Maintenance Campaigns	134,841	87,503
Renew + Rebuild Campaign	7,325	50,052
TOTAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REVENUE	142,166	137,555

TOTAL REVENUE	1,347,263	1,383,361
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DISBURSEMENTS PAID

CHURCH & RECTORY EXPENSES

	2023	2022
Clergy Remuneration & Benefits	149,658	152,213
House Maintenance	45,018	61,411
Salaries & Employee Benefits	350,707	346,544
Church Exp's (Music, Books, etc.)	52,105	66,763
Utilities, Tel., Water, Other	95,960	67,721
Maintenance, Contracts, etc.	86,070	74,915
Insurance & Pension	66,589	74,700
Office Expenses	66,323	35,645
Other Expenses	17,281	-

RELIGIOUS ED. EXPENSES

Salaries, Social Security	95,423	81,517
Religious Ed. Expenses	42,053	17,402

ARCHDIOCESAN CATHEDRATICUM

Church Tax Assessment	102,428	61,733
Global Regional School Sys. Assess.	71,377	71,377

TOTAL ORDINARY EXPENSES	1,240,812	1,111,981
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EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES

Charitable Contributions	10,500	11,270
Program & Development	24,230	18,034
Furniture & Improvements	16,660	
TOTAL EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES	51,390	29,304

CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS

Building Improvements	54,616	-
TOTALS	54,616	-

TOTAL EXPENSES	1,346,818	1,141,285
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	2023	2022
TOTAL REVENUE OVER TOTAL EXPENSES	445	242,076
UNREALIZED & REALIZED GAINS ON INVESTMENTS	123,221	288,546

Questions regarding the Financial Report?

Contact: Blaise Fredella, CPA, bfredella@auzzo.com

The Church of St. Pius X Welcomes You!

Have You Registered?

If the Church of St. Pius X is where you regularly worship and/or where your children attend religious education, we invite you to fill out a parishioner registration card that can be found on the table in the Narthex or on our website at www.spxny.org.

Registration is our only means of certifying membership in the parish.



*If you have any questions or comments about
our Annual Report, please contact:*

*Nicholas Brusco (Trustee)
brusco165@yahoo.com*

*Kathy Cripps (Trustee)
kathy.cripps@verizon.net*

*Laeh Yang-DiPietro (Parish Council President)
byang.dipietro@gmail.com*

*Blaise Fredella (Finance)
bfredella@auzzo.com*