



St. Stephen, King of Hungary Church
Szent István Király Római Katolikus Templom Honlapja

2015 W. Augusta Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60622

Ph. 773-486-1896 www.stephenchurch.org

Baptism of the Lord, 2010

Dear Parishioners,

May this New Year bring the Lord's peace to your families and homes!

I am, finally, enclosing the annual report of our finances for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2009. I apologize for it being printed so late. With the blessing of having Father Janos to say Mass these last few months, I have not been needed as often at the parish. I would like to highlight a few items from the report for your consideration as we build our future.

At first glance, our finances look good, especially when compared to the previous year. We ended this year with a surplus of more than \$21,000! However, we also did not have to pay the salary and other expenses for a resident priest, which is about \$40,000 per year. We are hoping to have a full time priest by July 1st, but that means we will need to increase our regular Sunday offerings and the number of people who come to church in order to afford these additional costs. Also, we spent a significant amount of money last year repairing our heating system. This year, we are tuckpointing the church. Through frugal management of our money, we saved enough to pay for these expenses. However, we need to begin saving again so we have the money to repair whatever breaks next.

I know that most of you are on fixed incomes and that the bad economy has hurt a lot of people, so I understand if you are feeling uneasy about contributing more to the Church at this moment. I am only going to ask you to pray over what you are currently giving to the parish, and ask the Lord if there is a way for you to give a little more. Whether you can increase your offering or not, I am sure that the Lord will respond to our prayers and help us to find the money to pay our new priest when he comes. In addition, we have been blessed to once more have Mass in Hungarian for the last few months with Father Janos. I am arranging for another priest to also come and spend a few months here so that our Lent and Easter services will also be in Hungarian. I ask you to inform your family, friends and other parishioners who have stopped attending that St. Stephen is again having Mass in Hungarian. The increased number of people will also increase our collections.

Finally, I sincerely thank you for your generous contributions over the last year. In addition to money, you have freely given tremendous amounts of time, energy and talent to make every event we have successful. I am humbly grateful to be a part of this great parish. Our 75th Anniversary celebration was an amazing example of how our parishioners can work together for the glory of God. You are wonderful!

Many Blessings in the Lord,

Rev. Nicholas R. Desmond,
Administrator