

ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021



Ignatian Spirituality for Adults & Youth ♣ Silence ♣ Service to the Poor
Prayer ♣ Hospitality ♣ Sacred Spaces









A note from Erin Maiorca Executive Director

Dear Friends of Bellarmine,

There is much to share about our last fiscal year. In the summer of 2020 we began offering the *Spiritual Exercises* through virtual retreats. In the fall, after

five months of hard work and determination, the manor home renovations were completed, on time and within budget. We reopened the retreat house with then Provincial, Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ celebrating Mass, blessing the house, and dedicating the front entrance to Fr. John Dillon, SJ. It was a joy-filled day! From then on, we have continuously welcomed retreatants. Through it all, there was ambiguity, loss, mourning, prayer, and hope. We did not know how long this pandemic would last, but it was clear that Jesus was with us.

He was present to us in our anguish and grief, inviting our trust and perseverance. Abundant generosity was all around us. The grounds shone with the splendor of fall color and retreatants rested in the love and grace of sacred time. Our prayer community was vibrant and you, Bellarmine's magnificent benefactors, responded to our appeals.

You supported our Annual Appeal to address our operational shortfall, which was made more significant due to COVID capacity limitations. You gave generously to our Capital Campaign and you have been remarkable in your support of our ministry. Thank you does not begin to capture the depth of our gratitude. May God bless you for your good works!

God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Know that the Bellarmine Jesuit Community, staff, and I will continue to pray for you, and we look forward to welcoming you back to the retreat house very soon.

May Christ's peace and joy dwell in you,

Cour Cour

Erin Maiorca Executive Director

Our Leadership

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The Board of Members is appointed by, and is a liaison to, the Provincial of the Upper Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus.

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Finding God In Our Brokenness

I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world."

-John 16:33







The past year has been a challenging one as the pandemic disrupted so many aspects of life, including the ability to make a retreat at Bellarmine. Thankfully many were still able to come and attend a retreat or join one of our virtual retreats.

Upon arriving here last fall, retreatants discovered a symbol of our suffering. A large tree had fallen down on top of our outdoor crucifix, one of Bellarmine's most sacred spaces and a place of deep personal prayer, strength, and contemplation. It was heartbreaking to see such a sacred space so damaged.

Bellarmine's crucifix was designed and built in 1966 and had weathered many storms before a storm in the summer of 2020 knocked it down. This storm left the corpus, the Body of Christ, just barely hanging on to a single beam of wood.

This is much like how many of us felt during the pandemic. We were barely hanging on, isolated from Church, families, and other loved ones, and separated from the Eucharist. We may have been in a familiar physical space, but still nothing felt the same.

As we re-opened and retreatants saw the damage done to the crucifix, three generous men came forward to pay for its restoration. Soon plans were made to restore it, and by the start of this summer, the Body of Christ was re-hung on a new wooden cross and the crucifix was blessed. We are all still one Body in Christ. Jesus never truly leaves us.

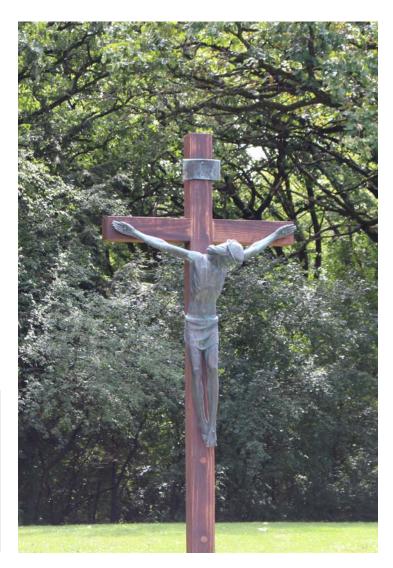
In many ways, the story of our outdoor crucifix serves as a metaphor not only for everything that we experienced, but also for the strength and ability of the Body of Christ to outshine tragedy.

As we enter into a new program year, we pray for an end to the pandemic. We pray that Bellarmine's ministry may return to full capacity, and that you will return to Bellarmine and experience the silence and the grace of a retreat.

We are blessed to have so many retreatants and benefactors that care about Bellarmine. We pray that we may continue to be a source of strength and grace for you and your loved ones in the years to come.

"The righteous cry out, the Lord hears and he rescues them from all their afflictions."

- Psalm 34:18





Social Distancing at Bellarmine

After the renovation was completed in September, we adapted our retreats to provide the necessary social distancing and safety guidelines. We are so grateful for all of the retreatants who persevered and made it to Bellarmine this past fiscal year, and we look forward to welcoming you

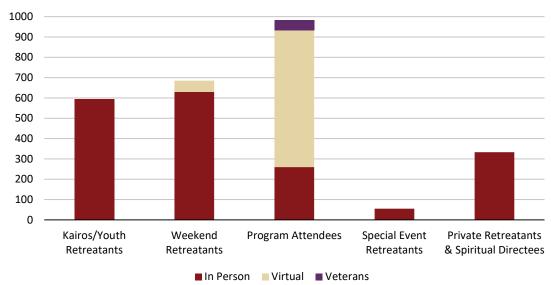


Ministry Highlights



Number of Retreatants





Virtual Retreats

Everyone had to make adjustments during the pandemic, and Bellarmine was no exception. We did all we could to continue our mission of sharing the *Spiritual Exercises* with as many people as possible. Early in the pandemic this meant hosting several virtual retreats.

We had nearly 700 people participate in Virtual Retreats this past year. This included a retreat with Catholic actor Jonathan Roumie who portrays Jesus in the series *The Chosen*. Jonathan was influenced by the book *Jesus: A Pilgrimage* by Fr. James Martin, SJ. The virtual retreat spoke to how each was called to their respective vocations and invited retreatants to reflect on their own callings and vocations. You can still view this and two other recorded retreats at: jesuitretreat.org/pages/recorded-retreats.

Welcome Fr. Roc O'Connor, SJ



Fr. Roc O'Connor, SJ has joined the Ministry Team and Jesuit Community. He has served in a number of parishes around the country as well as in campus ministry settings. He taught Eucharist and Sacraments courses at Creighton University from 2000 to 2013. OCP published his collection of eight new songs, *All Shall Be Well: The Hand of God* in May 2020. During COVID he submitted the first of a three volume writing project about liturgical spirituality publication.

Fr. Roc is one of the original members of the St. Louis Jesuits who composed many of the familiar hymns we sing at Mass. He is leading a joyful evening of song and praise for men and women with Fr. Bob Dufford, SJ on April 21, 2022.

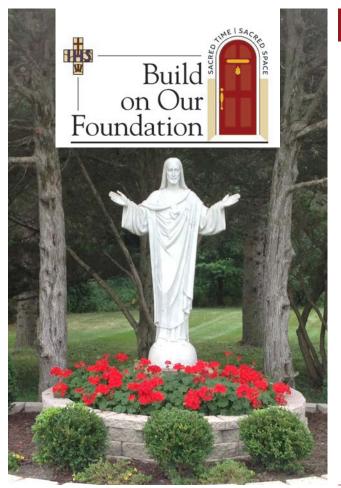
How Your Gifts & Contributions Support Our Ministry

Funding

Expenses

Regular Weekend Retreat	\$274,216	Building & Grounds	\$286,718
Special Events	\$28,853	Administrative	\$190,765
Other Bellarmine Retreats	\$100,107	Dining Services	\$216,231
Kairos Retreats	\$132,974	Salaries & Wages	\$734,659
Other Revenue	\$14,804	Benefits	\$248,247
Appeals, Bequests & Grants	\$218,072	Utilities & Insurance	\$149,795
Payroll Protection Program	\$202,674	Retreat Masters & Ministry Staff	\$211,075
Total Operating Revenues	\$971,700	Total Operating Expenses	\$2,037,490

The shortfall between funding and expenses was made up by drawing on the earnings from our Ministry Investment Funds.



Build on Our Foundation Gifts - \$690,193

Thanks to the generosity of many friends and benefactors, Bellarmine received a total of \$5.1 million in gifts and pledges toward the campaign goal of \$6.2 million as of the end of fiscal year 2021. The Phase One construction project was completed in September 2020. Despite the pandemic and supply chain concerns, the project was completed on time and on budget. Aging infrastructure was replaced, and air conditioning and fire suppression sprinkler systems were added.

An accessible ramp was added to the front entrance. Now all may enter the building through the welcoming red front door. The "Dillon Door" is dedicated to the memory of former Executive Director Fr. John Dillon, SJ, who often referred to Bellarmine as "a gold mine of the spiritual life."

The bedrooms and bathrooms in the manor home were updated to better meet the physical and spiritual needs of retreatants.

Please prayerfully consider how you will join us in this campaign for Bellarmine's future through a personally significant gift or pledge. If you have already given to the campaign, thank you!



Finding God in the Generosity of Our Donors

We are grateful for the generosity of those listed below who have shared a financial gift with Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House in fiscal year 2021. Donor levels reflect the lifetime giving (as of Jun 30, 2021) for those listed in each level of giving.

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"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

– Matthew II:28



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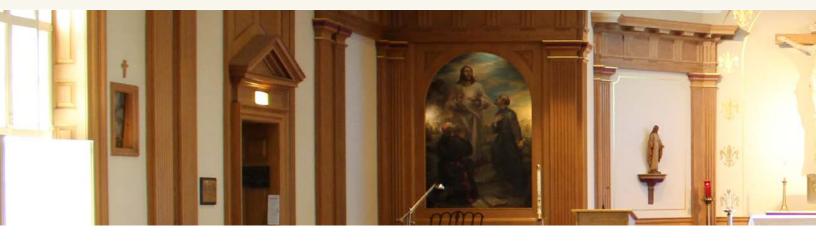
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> "Be still and know that I am God."

- Psalm 46:10



Gifts-in-Kind

We are grateful for the following individuals who have thoughtfully and generously made in-kind donations to Bellarmine. Some gifts have come in the form of furniture or artwork; others have graced us with their valuable time and considerable expertise. We give thanks for all of their special contributions to Bellarmine.

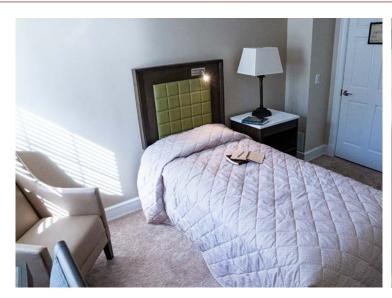
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Rebecca Vibbert
Scott Vogg
Barbara Wasilewski
Kenneth Weinberg
Fr Robert Wild SJ





Renovated Bedrooms and Bathrooms



The Heart of Bellarmine Society

Members of the Heart of Bellarmine Society have made a planned gift to Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House or have advised that Bellarmine will be remembered in their estate plan. Their lifetime legacy planning will help make it possible for Bellarmine to share Ignatian Spirituality for years to come.

Mrs Elizabeth G. Anastasia
Anonymous (3)
†Anonymous
Mr Vince Badali
†Mr and (Deceased) Mrs Frank Barta
†Mr & †Mrs James H Beck
Mr & Mrs John L Beck Sr
Ms Karen Boyle
†Mr Peter J Byrne
Mr Richard & Mrs Marilyn Ciccarone
Mr & Mrs Eugene R Croisant

†Mr John W. Drazba
Deacon & Mrs George Flaherty
Mr & Mrs John F Flynn
†Mr & †Mrs John Fogarty
Mr Joseph F Glaser
†Mrs Helen Kass
†Mr Frank R Holocek
†Mr F Harry Homeck
Mr & Mrs R Anthony Hyler
Ms Lori P Jones
†Mr Lloyd Kurkowski

Mr & Mrs Michael LaMantia
Mr & Mrs John P Madden
Mrs Patricia Mayhew
†John Mazzucchelli Trust
Mr & Mrs Graydon Megan
†John D Nelligan Trust
†Richard J Pabst
Mr & Mrs Timothy J Reuland
Mrs Margaret Turansky
Mr & Mrs Kenneth M Weinberg
Mr Philip V Zera

Every effort has been made to accurately acknowledge donors' generous gifts from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. We apologize for any errors and encourage you to call inaccuracies or omissions to our attention.

Call to Generosity

There are many ways to invest in Bellarmine's future:

Praying for this ministry and the Bellarmine community.

Inviting a friend or family member to join you on retreat.

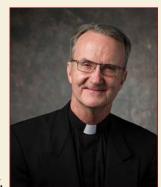
Making a gift by mail or online at jesuitretreat.org/pages/support-us.

Transferring appreciated stocks, bonds and mutual funds to Charles Schwab & Co., Attn: Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, Inc., Account #4016-5384, DTC #0164.

Sharing an IRA qualified charitable distribution if you are 70 ½ years of age or older.

Matching employer gifts that may double or triple the value of your gift.

Creating Your Living Legacy by remembering Bellarmine in your Will or Trust.



Fr. Michael J. Sparough, SJ

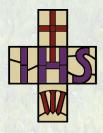
For more information, contact Kathy Caudill in the Development Office: 847-381-2719 | kcaudill@jesuitretreat.org

Ad Majórem Dei Glóriam

FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD

Lord. teach me to be generous; teach me to serve You as You deserve: to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except for knowing that I do Your will."

> Prayer of Generosity attributed to St. Ignatius of Loyola



BELLARMINE

Jesuit Retreat House



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