

6 May 2017

Dear Bishop Cserhati,

Greetings from St. Stephen of Hungary parish in Los Angeles, California. On behalf of our pastor, Msgr. Timothy Dyer, and our Hungarian parishioners, I would like to welcome you again to North America! Our current situation hasn't changed much since last year's report. Please allow me to highlight some of the changes.

One big positive change has been the presence of the Sisters of the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart (Jézus Szíve Nővérek Társasága). Sr. Sophia and Sr. Jane have been coming once a month. After Mass and lunch, Sr. Sophia teaches catechism to the children and their parents also attend. Then Sr. Sophia gives a talk to the older parishioners in the church. Her theme for these talks has been the Sacraments. The reaction to the Sisters' presence has been very positive and we hope to invite them back next year.

Another positive development has been Sunday lunch. Thanks to the generosity of some parishioners, especially Katalin Kusper, we are now able to provide hot lunch every Sunday of the year.

Another great blessing has been the renovation of our stage and sound system which, like so many other projects, was overseen by Mr. Nandor Vodnak.

Among the difficulties we have experienced this year, I should mention that our Hungarian scout troop has reported that attendance is down. Families are complaining about the increase in homeless people around the parish and about bad traffic on the neighboring freeways. The St. Stephen's Society is looking into ways of providing even greater support to our Hungarian scouts.

The best part of our small parish are the dedicated parishioners. Allow me to mention a few other names: Attila Toth, Monika Mohos, Laszlo Latkoczy and Elizabeth Nagy. Every Sunday after lunch, many of our Hungarian parishioners make a holy hour in the church. This has been going on for many years. May God reward them for their piety and dedication! May He reward you too, Excellency, for your many labors on our behalf!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Theodore Smith, O. Praem.