

*"My people perish for lack of knowledge." (Hosea 4:6)*

Below is some knowledge. Be sure to act on it.

## **The Story of Wrongwood Gardens - formerly St. Stephen Parish**

**(Condensed from a 13-year/13-page report)**

**As St. Stephen Parish 2002:** Weekly Collection \$7,200, water source for the grounds a few garden hoses, ministries/membership thriving, school and convent intact, Sacramental Registers active and being filled.

**As Wrongwood Gardens 2019:** Weekly Collection \$3,600, 9k spent on irrigation system, record-setting water bills, ministries/membership halved, school and convent gone, zero marriages for 3 years, Sacraments microscopic.

### **Here's how the Parish was transformed into PUP (Pennsauken's Ugliest Park)**

**2004: The last real, beloved priest was removed suddenly without warning. Three incompetents were to follow.**

**2008:** Fired the bookkeeper with Lupus who would endorse her checks back to the church for medical insurance and hired a shady handyman without a background check who's had a run-in with every fire/law official in the county. Allow the handyman to teach a gardening elective course to students until a background check, fingerprinting and CAP were required. He refused, the course ended, and shortly after the 16k worth of donated memorial rose bushes died.

**2009:** Comply with the handyman's demands for paying CASH ("off the top" Offertory, Mass Stipends & Poor Box cash) for mowing the lawn and snow removal "on the side" as not to interfere with his full SSDI benefits program. Hence, Criminal Tax Evasion was necessary to avoid Disability Fraud. More on these penalties later. Sprinklers installed.

**2010:** Install a rebellious priest who pissed off a lady at St. Jude's and was sentenced to St. Stephen by the Bishop. The priest's legacy would soon be the Delaware Valley's greatest closer since Brad Lidge: convent/school/membership. The perfect combination of a crooked priest and career criminal handyman would eventually break all Diocesan records.

**2012:** Evict the SSJ Nuns, close the convent, reopen it later as a Parish Center after the School closes in 2014.

**2014:** Ignore a diocesan audit that caught \$4,000 (of that year's \$8,390 under the table) in Quickbooks checks made payable to an alias handyman name, not the taxable payroll name. No 1099 was ever issued as per the priest. The church often ran short of cash for the weekly \$150-\$200 ninety-minute mower joyride, hence had to cut checks. The priest never submitted a Plan of Correction to the Diocese and the Diocese never followed up on the audit. Crimes continued full force fulfilling the Scripture, "As a dog returns to his vomit, so fools return to their folly."

**2015:** Didn't press charges against the handyman's son for stealing the church's major power tools for drug money (3k worth). Hence, dad got a new set of power tools from the insurance company, junior kept his drug money, and the priest got his \$200 deductible back when an unnecessary purchased replacement snow blower was returned.

**2016:** On May 9th the Office Manager informed the priest he was harboring a **Million Dollar Time Bomb:**

-500k fine to the corporation for Criminal Tax Evasion.

-250k fine to the handyman for Disability Fraud PLUS 5 years in prison PLUS restitution of all received SSDI benefits.

This warning was ignored like the audit on this day and for 4 years to follow. The 2 mental midgets carried on defiantly.

**2019:** Having been audited by the Diocese in 2009 and 2014, the Office Manager became the first church employee in history to actually ask the Diocese when the next 5-year audit was. The response was, "None scheduled at this time".

**2020:** As of October 30, well over \$48,000 was paid under the table to the handyman illegally---but aren't those pansies beautiful? He could have paid 16k tax on the 48k per SSDI policy, but he's chosen the Million Dollar Plan instead.

**2021:** On June 30<sup>th</sup> the priest finally retired...about 10 years too late. He leaves behind a skid mark called the handyman. At press time, the handyman continues to disgrace the property. The ball's in your court. Do the right thing.

**NOTE:** The priest may say he condoned all this due to the handyman's self-inflicted lung cancer (the angry cuss smoked way too many un-Lucky Strikes). Fear not, no work time was ever missed due to borderline cancer. He did miss time for rotator cuff surgery as a result of mowing, plowing and shoveling a 5-acre property for over a decade, hauling tons of soil, mulch, landscape pavers and gravel, and literally digging and planting hundreds of expensive plants, bushes and trees with no limitations in extreme heat and cold. If that describes a disabled person, then the Pope must be Jewish. Out of respect to Mother and 2 dogs, I didn't blow the whistle. She vented to me often and thanked me for listening. As for the Diocese, bishops always cover for their "brother priests" and sweep the dirt under the carpet until someone else cuts the lawsuit checks decades later, i.e. Fr. Tony will cost us thousands.

## OTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

1. Sadly, the handyman stills calls them "colored people", like he hasn't received the memo the past 40 years.
2. Sadly, the handyman added a Harassment conviction to his stellar rap sheet with the threatening phrase: **"You need to go back to your own country lady"**. The same week as this trial, we received a phone call from an angry lady on Witherspoon who said, "I just received a harassing phone call from your maintenance man." The Office Manager replied, "Yep, that's him. How may I help you?"
3. Hilariously, the Office Manager, Sacristian and CRE would often marvel at how many laps the handyman put on our mower behind the rectory, not mowing grass, but directing church leaves toward the Vocational School's fence. Then the handyman would marvel at "how fast those Mexicans were" in cleaning up his mess. This happened yearly.
4. Shortly after firing the parishioner cleaning girls Christmas week 2018, the handyman received a 65% salary increase from \$1,140 to \$1,880 per month for his 3-day/15-hour work week since Thursdays are cash and Fridays are off. Extra duties justifying the \$32/hr. are vacuuming the church weekly and "cleaning the pews" with an oil/gas leaf blower.
5. **The priest's refusal to issue 1099 tax forms** for those earning over \$600 per year "on the side". Even the visiting Sunday priest, at 6k per year, never got one despite Diocesan instructions to do so.
6. **The incompetence of the Diocese**, with access to over 13 years worth of black and white records from BOA, PNC, Quickbooks, Connect Now Accounting and the 9/15/14 Elko Audit, is downright embarrassing.
7. **80k of the parish's yearly 240k** income are allocated for the priest's salary/stipend/benefit package, including 8k for auto expenses & auto insurance which empowers the priest to walk 26 strides to work. In the real business world, actual miles traveled are reimbursed. This should be a shoe allowance.
8. **Deadbeat Music Ministry**: Over 250k paid to "registered parishioner choir director", no record of one dime coming back. Records also indicate that only 15% of the choir members actually support the parish. For 85%, it's their gig.

## IN CONCLUSION

**Criminal Tax Evasion, Disability Fraud** (untaxed/unreported SGA-Substantial Gainful Activity to SSDI recipient), **Insurance Fraud, Harassment and Bigotry** all condoned right here at Wrongwood Gardens, formerly St. Stephen.

**Nothing was embellished here. If anything, the figures were largely understated.**

**Above are the real Council Minutes and Finance Reports. You may throw out the blinders now.**

**Did you notice that your last 2 pastors were "called to the priesthood" at the age of 45? Really? Called?**

The Polish one was defrocked for a gay affair, the last one crime-ridden, foul-mouthed & obnoxiousⓈ.

Don't trust middle-aged burn-outs who are in it for the all expenses paid gig with lifetime benefits.

If it wasn't for **Homily Helps** subscriptions, they would have had no material at all. Nuff said.

Ⓢ-Imagine for a moment spending 7 months vacation time at your work desk since your only co-worker was fired in '08.

Then imagine trying to salvage a fraction of your vacation days doing yard work one summer Friday at a time for 13 years, checking church emails every 2 hours, then returning to work Monday morning and being welcomed by:

**"Well look who's here. How was your Looong weekend? Surprised you didn't need a map to find us"**, said the kind priest.

Amazingly, the priest managed to become just as crude, classless and obnoxious as his bigoted handyman.

**Thanks to the Pandemic**, the Office Manager had his first FULL WEEK off in 13 years as the Bishop adhered to the Governor's commands, unlike the priest who celebrated 77 consecutive public Masses defying all orders. Thanks to the new 12k surveillance system (parish now at 35% of what it was), we now know that the pews were never sanitized between June 8 and October 30, 2020.

**Someday the Holy Trinity will inform the former priest that they are not The Three Stooges, aka 3 Blind Mice.**

**Having witnessed 12 years of bad conduct, perhaps they'll hang him from that little white collar he bought. ☺**

## In Closing, a Case Study of Water Usage and Mowing Costs

Year	Average Weekly Collection	Water Source for the Grounds	Yearly Water Bill Total	Average Monthly Water Bill	Weekly Mowing Labor	Mowing Comments
2002	\$7,200	A few hoses	\$1,384	\$115	\$0	Msgr. Bottino and a few 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders
2015	\$3,600	\$9k sprinklers	\$4,259	\$355	\$150	90-minute cash mower joyride at a lawyer's rate

The handyman was unfazed by broken sprinkler heads (\$95 repair) caused by over-scalping the lawn, unfazed by errant sprinklers watering the weeds, streets and driveways and sprinklers watering on rainy days. The priest was unfazed also. Two 1948 idiots.

**And that Ladies and Gentlemen, is how you transform a once vibrant parish into a meaningless park based on the Book of Deuteronomy's list of curses for disobedience, Scripture 101.**