

Our Lady of Grace Parish
1011 Mount Pleasant Road
Greensburg, PA 15601

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Dear Parishioners,

I am happy to present you with this year's Parish Annual Report titled *thanks*GIVING for Our Blessings, which gives me the opportunity to share with you the blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon our faith community.

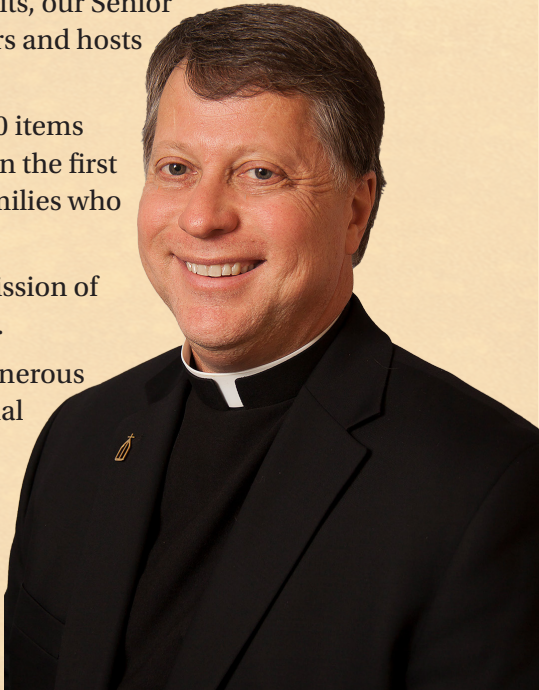
I want to begin with the blessing of our parish youth. While the middle school teens have continued their involvement in packing Food2Go4Kids food bags, during this past year, our older youth in Children's Ministry have stepped up and become involved in this project, too. Our high school teens have continued their summer tradition of spending a mission week of service at Young People Who Care in Frenchville, Pa. Finally, we must not forget our youngest parishioners, who assisted with our baby items collection through their generous donations at VBS in June.

We continue to stay connected and minister to the needs of the elderly, homebound and sick of our parish. Father Levi, along with a team of volunteers, regularly visits more than 60 individuals, as well as RNC, Weatherwood Manor, Oakhill and Saint Anne Home. In addition to these monthly "in-person" visits, our Senior Care Ministry makes regular phone calls to over 25 homebound elderly parishioners and hosts a spring and fall "call-a-thon," reaching out to parishioners over 80 years of age.

Our parish continues its monthly special food item collection. Between 280 and 340 items are donated each month to be included in the monthly Food Pantry distribution. On the first Saturday morning of each month, the Food Pantry distributes food to about 225 families who qualify for assistance from the Westmoreland County Food Bank.

These are just a few examples of the many ways our parish carries out our Lord's mission of mercy we are called to as we are sent forth from our weekly Eucharistic celebration.

Thank you for being part of our parish and supporting our mission through your generous donations and hours of service. Prayerfully consider, in light of your current financial situation, making a year-end gift to our parish to show your gratitude to God for the good work being done here. Or, if you are able, perhaps you can increase your regular offertory in response to the blessings God has bestowed upon you.



Peace and Blessings,
Father Dan



Become an Intentional Disciple

Our parish culture of intentional discipleship continues to grow and flourish. In the coming weeks we will:

- **Host the Diocesan Youth Rally on November 8.** More than 100 youth from grades 7-12 from throughout the Diocese will converge at our parish for this special event that will feature nationally recognized youth speaker, podcaster, musician and blogger, Jackie Francois Angel.
- **Place our Angel Tree in the church Gathering Area** the weekend of November 23-24. Parishioners can take one or more of the 200-plus ornaments from the tree and purchase the gift items listed to help make the Christmas celebration of local children and youth a little brighter. Angel Tree gifts are to be returned the weekend of December 7-8.
- **Celebrate the diversity of our parish at our annual Christmas Feast of Nations (formerly the Christmas Market) on December 15** after the 10:30 AM Mass. We will share food and sweets from our many ethnic groups, and there will be children’s games and ethnic and religious crafts. Ending our time of feasting and fellowship, we will gather to pray and hear the *Telling of the Christmas Story*. Parishioners are invited to attend or to participate in celebrating their heritage by making a traditional food or cookie.

Upcoming Diocesan events include:

- **October 24 – Prayer and Perfect Pairings**, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. A five-course meal and wine pairings with recipes from Bishop Larry J. Kulick, Father Christopher J. Pujol, Father Andrew J. Hamilton, Father John Torres and Father Daniel E. Carr; proceeds benefit Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg (tickets: DioceseofGreensburg.org/PrayerandPerfectPairings).
- **December 14 – Christmas Night Market**, 2-9 PM, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Food and craft vendors, cards, gift and décor booths, 4 PM Mass with Bishop Larry J. Kulick and the Diocesan Youth Choir, artist Pipka Ulvilden with her Blessed Mother and Nativity creations, Christmas cookies, and wine tastings (details: ChristmasNightMarket.org).

Parish Financials	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Offertory	\$ 994,892	\$ 984,631	\$ 902,205
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	14,629	12,563	12,466
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, Grant for Generator Project)</i>	179,447	64,423	81,056
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	39,761	42,995	27,654
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	174,212	41,346	75,468
Special Collections	86,228	83,056	81,581
Total Income	\$ 1,489,171	\$ 1,229,014	\$ 1,180,430
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 193,492	\$ 173,765	\$ 177,220
Church	89,712	91,830	97,457
Rectory	38,262	42,170	20,136
Education and Ministry	234,433	244,275	228,024
General Expenses	324,566	329,021	311,302
Special Collections	82,251	83,056	83,112
Extraordinary Expenses*	398,972	289,196	354,237
Total Expenditures	1,361,688	1,253,313	1,271,488
Net Operating Income (Loss)**	\$ 127,483	\$ (24,299)	\$ (91,058)

*Includes savings for HVAC Project and Endowment
** Includes \$100,000 Grant for Generator Project, will be expensed in fiscal year 2025

Our Parish by the Numbers:



2024: 1,691
2023: 1,696
2022: 1,697

Registered Households

Current Single Member Households

523



Baptisms

2024: 22
2023: 34
2022: 27

Weddings

2024: 5
2023: 6
2022: 6



Funerals

2024: 48
2023: 51
2022: 57

New to Our Parish

We recently added two members to the parish staff to assist with our growing parish.

Ms. Emily Weaver, a former intern, has returned to our staff as a part-time assistant to support the many facets of our youth discipleship and evangelization. Emily will assist Ms. Katrina Coleman with Youth Ministry throughout the year.

Mrs. Andrea Verbanic has joined our staff as a part-time assistant for pastoral care to help support, coordinate, grow and improve our ministry to those parishioners who are ill, homebound and/or elderly. Andrea will work with Father Levi and other ministers of care to schedule and coordinate sick calls and pastoral care visits.



Giving With Gratitude



We are excited to showcase our GIVING QR Code. By scanning it, you can easily enroll in online giving, increase your weekly offertory or make a year-end gift. Traditional check and cash donations are always deeply appreciated as well. You can visit our website, stop by in person, or mail your gift.



BY MAIL:
Our Lady of Grace Parish
1011 Mount Pleasant Road
Greensburg, PA 15601



IN PERSON:
Monday – Thursday
9:00 AM – Noon and 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Friday – 9:00 AM – Noon



ONLINE:
www.OurLadyofGraceChurch.org
(click Online Giving)

Our Ministries:

Our parish continues to invite and encourage everyone to participate in the work of ministry according to their gifts and talents in the following five areas:

- **Liturgy:** Help enhance our communal celebrations as a lector, server, musician, hospitality minister or Communion minister.
- **Formation:** Help others grow as disciples by assisting on a team for Children’s Ministry, Youth Ministry or adult initiation.
- **Service:** Help those in need through our ministries of service such as the monthly food distribution, Angel Tree and Helplines.
- **Parish Life:** Help people feel welcome at our parish through our communal gatherings, such as the parish picnic and other social events.
- **Building & Grounds:** Help maintain, repair and improve our church and grounds.

This year we are focusing special attention on developing a team of parishioners to help with hospitality in Albanese Hall. This Social Hospitality team will be called upon when we are looking for parishioners to serve during smaller social functions such as Donut Sunday, the reception after Confirmation or other special Masses. With Covid restrictions behind us, we need to reestablish a ministry to meet this growing demand. Consider joining the new Social Hospitality ministry to help arrange and decorate our hall, serve beverages and catered food, and assist with simple clean-up. (Please note that heavy set-up and clean-up are provided by our maintenance staff.) Be part of a team that extends hospitality to parishioners and guests alike!

