

Saint Rita of Cascia Parish

116 South Second Street
Connellsville, PA 15425

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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. I am so thankful for the blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon our faith community.

Among our many blessings, let me begin with the youth of our parish, the next generation of Christ's Disciples, the future of our Church. Currently, we are working on a new and innovative curriculum for faith formation to transmit the faith through unforgettable experiences that move our children toward the Holy Spirit.

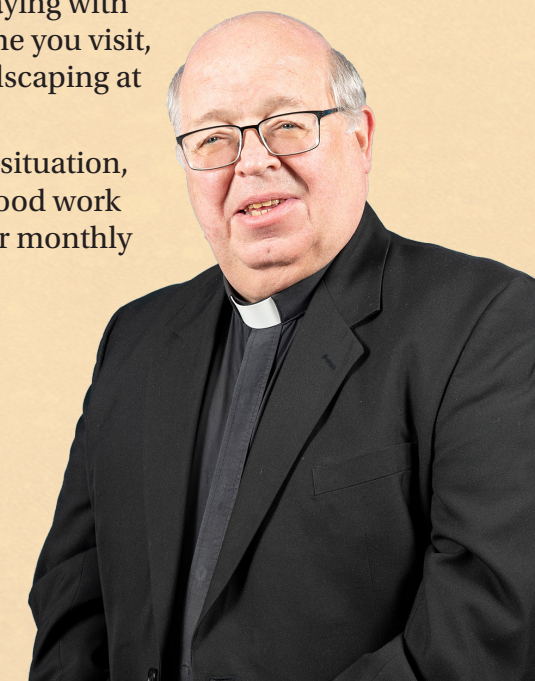
Our blessings include numerous impactful ministries in our parish that engage many volunteers who reach out to the sick, the poor and the elderly. Please read through our ministry listing and consider becoming part of this transformative work. We can always use more help!

Let me also mention devotions and fundraisers, which serve to support the parish and to foster a sense of joyous community spirit while always supporting our mission to grow in faith and service.

You, yourself, are a blessing to our parish. Thank you for attending Mass, praying with us and supporting the parish through your generous donations. The next time you visit, I hope you notice the improvement in our lighting in the sanctuary, the landscaping at the church and along the riverbanks, and the finishing of our grotto area.

Now I am asking you, with prayerful consideration to your current financial situation, to make 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 will increase your weekly or monthly offertory as a show of thanks for the blessings God has bestowed upon you.

For your convenience, we've included a GIVING QR Code. By scanning it, you can easily enroll in online giving, increase your weekly offertory or make a year-end gift. Of course, traditional check and cash donations are always deeply appreciated as well.



Yours in Christ,
Father Paul Lisik

thanks
GIVING
for Our Blessings



GIVING QR Code

**Saint Rita of Cascia Parish
Annual Report 2024**



Become an Intentional Disciple

Enter into a deeper relationship with your fellow parishioners by attending one of these upcoming events:

- **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).
- **October 27 – Holy Name Pancake Breakfast, 7-11:30 AM**
- **December 7 – Christian Mothers Cookie Sale, 9 AM**
- **December 7 – Breakfast with Saint Nicholas, 9:30 AM, Saint Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon.** Free event with brunch, photos with Saint Nicholas, an art project and a show about cultural versions of Saint Nicholas (details available in November: DioceseofGreensburg.org).
- **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).



Our Parish by the Numbers:



2024: 548
2023: 557
2022: 558

Registered Households

Current Single Member Households



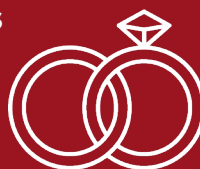
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Baptisms
2024: 5
2023: 4
2022: 12

Weddings

2024: 1
2023: 1
2022: 2



Funerals
2024: 18
2023: 10
2022: 29

Households that Give

308

Households that Don't Give

240

New to Our Parish



Father Craig Alexander became a new Parochial Vicar to Connellsville on June 17. He grew up in Highspire, Pa., and went to the First United Methodist Church, where he came to know God and believe in Jesus. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1979, where he spent the next 13 years without practicing faith. He received an associate degree from Harrisburg Area Community College and worked for PennDOT for 20 years. While attending RCIA classes, he began discussions about becoming a priest, which caused him to pray and ask God if He was calling him to be His priest. He entered Holy Mother Church in 2005, then entered the seminary in 2018 and was ordained a Catholic priest of the Diocese of Greensburg on June 1, 2024.



Mary Allison is our new Regional Director of Faith Formation, Connellsville-Mount Pleasant Region, covering eight parishes. She was born and raised in Burke, Va., and majored in history and religious studies at The College of William and Mary, graduating in 2014. She worked for the Department of Defense after graduation, then became a nanny in New Zealand. While working toward her Master of Arts degree at Duke University, which she received in 2018, she became a part-time youth minister at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Wake Forest, N.C. She became Director of Catechetical Ministries at Saint Patrick Parish in Anchorage, Alaska, in 2020, then worked as a Director of Religious Education at Saint Ann Parish in Midland, Texas. She arrived in the Diocese of Greensburg in November 2023. If you have not met them yet, please be sure to say hello after Mass!

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:
Saint Rita Parish
116 South Second Street
Connellsville, PA 15425



IN PERSON:
Monday - Thursday - 8:30 AM - Noon
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM



ONLINE:
YoughCatholic.org (click on online giving)

Parish Financials

	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Offertory	\$ 281,425	\$ 279,725	\$ 311,484
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	4,195	4,299	5,061
Extraordinary Income* <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	141,088	194,102	86,655
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	25,780	21,610	15,344
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	7,961	6,685	13,848
Special Collections	10,910	15,369	12,146
Total Income	\$ 471,359	\$ 521,790	\$ 444,538
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 116,662	\$ 120,149	\$ 117,259
Church	57,875	67,471	65,126
Rectory	8,317	9,649	7,680
Education and Ministry	72,773	56,869	59,918
General Expenses	178,423	170,611	173,019
Special Collections	11,604	14,650	12,422
Extraordinary Expenses	81,925	44,478	40,637
Total Expenditures	527,579	483,877	476,061
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$(56,220)	\$ 37,913	\$(31,523)

Our Ministries:

- Greeters
- Ushers
- Lectors
- Altar Servers and Funeral Altar Servers
- Music Ministry
- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
- Money Counters
- Catechists and Youth Group Ministers
- Communion Ministers to the Homebound
- Children's Liturgists
- Art and Environment
- Ladies of Charity
- Holy Name Society
- Christian Mothers



We really do need volunteers to support our parish, specifically servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, greeters and catechists. Please call the parish office today at 724-628-6840 so we can walk you through the process of becoming a volunteer.

