

Saint Rita Parish
116 South Second Street
Connellsville, PA 15425

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Dear Parishioners,

It is with a grateful heart that I offer this year's annual report, *ThanksGIVING for Our Parish*. As we reflect on the blessings and growth of our faith community, we are reminded of Pope Leo XIV's inspiring call for every parish to recognize its vital role within the universal Church. Our parish is not simply a local gathering spot; it is a living part of the Body of Christ, united with the Holy Father and Catholics worldwide in mission, prayer, and service.

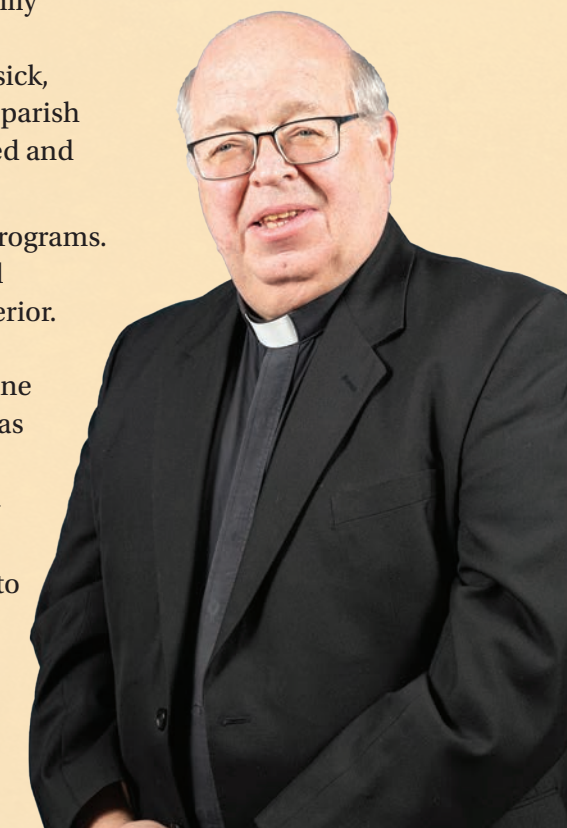
Bishop Larry J. Kulick has challenged us to build a strong and vibrant parish community that will flourish well into the future — rooted in faith, hope, and charity. Our parish has responded generously to this call by nurturing discipleship, deepening faith formation, and reaching out with Christ's love to those in need.

Through your prayers, time, and generosity, we continue to grow as a parish family united in Christ's mission. Our educational programs inspire the young, our sacramental preparation strengthens hearts, and our outreach ministers to the sick, the poor, and the elderly. We encourage you to explore the many ministries our parish has to offer and consider joining us in this joyful work. Your gifts are truly needed and welcomed!

Looking ahead, we are grateful for your support as we undertake projects and programs. We are replacing the front steps and ramp at the entrance of our church. We will reseal the church parking lot and work on remodeling of hall restrooms and interior. In the future, we are planning to repaint the interior of our church. For your convenience, a Giving QR Code is included to help you easily participate in online giving or make a year-end gift. Traditional offerings remain deeply appreciated as well.

Our parish is a blessing, not only to each other but also to the wider community and Church. Let us move forward together with thanksgiving in our hearts, confident that by strengthening our parish, we are answering the universal call to be a living witness of Christ's love in the world.

With gratitude and prayers,
Father Paul A. Lisik, V.F., Pastor



thanks GIVING for Our Parish



GIVING QR Code

**Saint Rita Parish
Annual Report 2025**



Our Shepherds

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church

Pope Leo XIV, elected in 2025 as the first American Pope, hails from Chicago. Before his election, he was Cardinal Robert Prevost. Known for his pastoral heart, theological clarity, and commitment to evangelization, Pope Leo brings a renewed focus to the vital role of the parish in the life of the universal Church. Pope Leo spent more than two decades in Peru, where he became a naturalized citizen and served as a missionary and Bishop. He is fluent in English, Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese, and also reads Latin and German.



The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., Bishop of Greensburg

Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., is the sixth Bishop of Greensburg, having been appointed by Pope Francis on December 18, 2020, and consecrated on February 11, 2021. He is the first native Bishop of the Diocese, hailing from Leechburg. His episcopal motto is *Christus est veritas* ("Christ is the truth"), reflecting his deep devotion to truth rooted in the Gospel. He is steadfastly committed to strengthening and nurturing our parishes, ensuring they remain vibrant centers of faith and service for generations to come.



Father Paul A. Lisik, V.F., Pastor

Father Paul A. Lisik, a native of Youngwood, was ordained in 1981. He has served as Parochial Vicar and Pastor in numerous parishes throughout the Diocese. Currently he serves as Vicar Forane (Dean) of Deanery VI and Pastor of Saint Rita, Immaculate Conception, and Saint John the Evangelist Parishes in Connellsville; Saint Aloysius Parish in Dunbar; Saint Joseph Parish in Everson; Saint John the Baptist Parish in Scottsdale; and Saint Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes in Mount Pleasant. With more than 40 years of ministry, Father Lisik continues to serve the Diocese and his communities with care and dedication, supporting the spiritual growth of his parishioners and guiding them on their faith journey.



Father Peter Guardiano, Parochial Vicar

Father Peter Guardiano is from the Diocese of Tagum in the Philippines. Ordained to the priesthood April 26, 2011, he served there as a Parochial Vicar, Spiritual Director, and parish Priest. He currently is Parochial Vicar to Saint Rita, Immaculate Conception, and Saint John the Evangelist Parishes in Connellsville; Saint Aloysius Parish in Dunbar; Saint Joseph Parish in Everson; Saint John the Baptist Parish in Scottsdale; and Saint Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes in Mount Pleasant. With a heart devoted to Christ and His people, he strives each day to be a faithful witness to the Gospel and a servant of God's love.



Father Edwin Rubido, Parochial Vicar

Father Edwin Rubido was ordained to the priesthood April 6, 2005. He is from the Diocese of San Jose de Antique in the Philippines, where he faithfully served as a Parochial Vicar, Spiritual Director, and parish Priest. In 2024, he was assigned as Parochial Vicar to Saint Rita, Immaculate Conception, and Saint John the Evangelist Parishes in Connellsville; Saint Aloysius Parish in Dunbar; Saint Joseph Parish in Everson; Saint John the Baptist Parish in Scottsdale; and Saint Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes in Mount Pleasant. Rooted in prayer and committed to his vocation, he strives to bring Christ's love to all he serves, walking with his parish communities in faith, hope, and joy.



Father Julius Capongongan, Parochial Vicar

Father Julius Capongongan is from the Diocese of Tagum in the Philippines. Ordained to the priesthood April 24, 2006, he served there as a Parochial Vicar, Spiritual Director, and parish Priest. He currently is Parochial Vicar to Saint Rita, Immaculate Conception, and Saint John the Evangelist Parishes in Connellsville; Saint Aloysius Parish in Dunbar; Saint Joseph Parish in Everson; Saint John the Baptist Parish in Scottsdale; and Saint Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes in Mount Pleasant. With a heart devoted to Christ and His people, he strives each day to be a faithful witness to the Gospel and a servant of God's love.



Father Tomas Avila, Parochial Vicar

Father Tomas Avila was ordained to the priesthood April 27, 2007. He is from the Diocese of Tagum in the Philippines, where he served as a Spiritual Director, ministering to elementary, high school, and post-secondary students. He now faithfully serves the parishioners of Saint Rita, Immaculate Conception, and Saint John the Evangelist Parishes in Connellsville; Saint Aloysius Parish in Dunbar; Saint Joseph Parish in Everson; Saint John the Baptist Parish in Scottsdale; and Saint Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes in Mount Pleasant. In addition to celebrating Mass, he works closely with parish staff on sacramental preparation, spiritual formation, and outreach initiatives.



Giving With Gratitude

This is our Giving QR Code. By scanning it, you can easily enroll in online giving, make your first gift, increase your weekly offertory, make a year-end gift, or donate in honor of or in memory of someone you love.



Or, visit our website to make a donation: YoughCatholic.org and click on GIVING at the top of the page. Of course, traditional check or cash donations are always deeply appreciated too. Mail your gift to Saint Rita Parish, 116 South Second Street, Connellsville PA 15425.

Our Parish by the Numbers:

Registered Households
2025: 551
2024: 548
2023: 557

Baptisms
2025: 5
2024: 5
2023: 4

First Holy Communions
6

Confirmations
6

Weddings
2025: 2
2024: 1
2023: 1

Funerals
2025: 21
2024: 18
2023: 10

Households that Give
310

Households that Don't Give
241

A Call to Serve

We truly need your help to serve our parish family. Whether as servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, greeters, or catechists, your ministry brings Christ's light to our community. Please prayerfully consider answering this call, and don't hesitate to reach out to the parish office — we're here to guide you through every step, including the clearance process, so you can share your gifts confidently and joyfully.



Ministries in Action

The Christian Mothers provide the yearly day of prayer and reflection in the Lenten season. It falls on the Sunday before Palm Sunday, and a guest speaker from the Diocese of Greensburg provides the reflections. It is an opportunity for the women of local parishes to come together for prayer as well as time to share a meal and fellowship.



Parish Financials

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
Offertory	\$ 293,792	\$ 281,425	\$ 279,725
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	4,739	4,195	4,299
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	151,537	141,088	194,102
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	17,711	25,780	21,610
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	7,313	7,961	6,685
Special Collections	10,372	10,910	15,369
Total Income	\$ 485,464	\$ 471,359	\$ 521,790
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 111,106	\$ 116,662	\$ 120,149
Church	45,920	57,875	67,471
Rectory	6,919	8,317	9,649
Education and Ministry	69,180	72,773	56,869
General Expenses	186,585	178,423	170,611
Special Collections	10,292	11,604	14,650
Extraordinary Expenses	57,555	81,925	44,478
Total Expenditures	487,557	527,579	483,877
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (2,093)	\$ (56,220)	\$ 37,913