

**Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish**  
608 High Street  
Freeport, PA 16229

Non-Profit Org.  
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Paid  
Greensburg, PA  
Permit No. 130

### Dear Parishioners,

Peace and blessings to you all!

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.

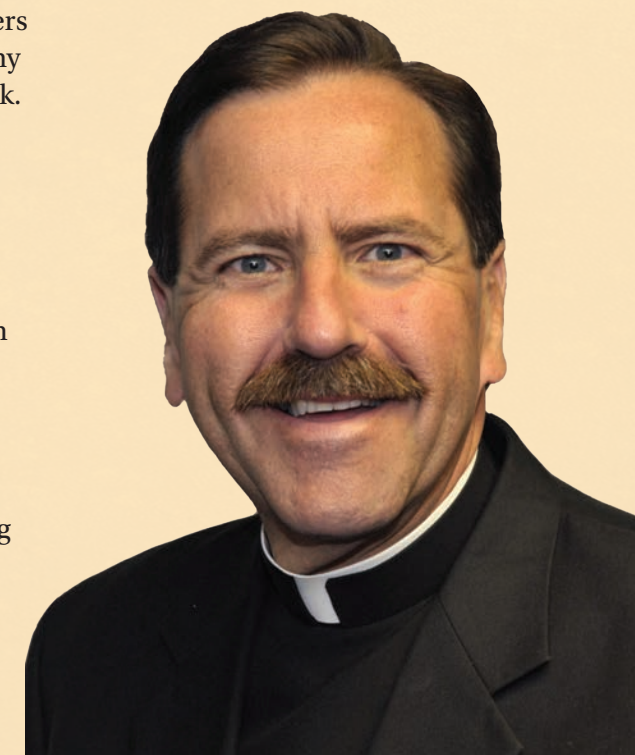
Through your prayers, time, and generosity, we continue to grow as a parish family united in Christ's mission. Our educational programs inspire the young, our sacramental preparation strengthens hearts, and our outreach ministers to the sick, the poor, and the elderly. We encourage you to explore the 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, such as a much-needed security system and upgrades to our church's public address and bell systems in order to make our church an even more welcoming place for all who seek God's presence. 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 Richard J. Kosisko, J.C.L., Pastor**



# thanks GIVING for Our Parish



GIVING QR Code

**Saint Mary, Mother of God 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 Richard J. Kosisko, J.C.L., Pastor

Father Richard J. Kosisko, a native of Connellsville, was ordained May 4, 1985, by Bishop William G. Connare. He has served as Parochial Vicar and Pastor in numerous parishes throughout the Diocese, as well as in the Marriage Tribunal Office. He was named Administrator of Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish February 13, 2024, and installed as Pastor August 17, 2024. He is very excited to be the Pastor of such a vibrant parish and is looking forward to the yearlong celebration of its 200th anniversary that began in September.



## Deacon Jerome T. Tuskan

Deacon Jerome T. Tuskan has served at Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish for four years — two years in formation and two years as an ordained permanent deacon. The people of the community display hospitality, a willingness to serve, and a love of Christ that reflects the Holy Spirit moving in their lives and in the parish. God has used Deacon Jerome to serve the people in a variety of ways, including serving at the altar during Mass, distributing the Eucharist, teaching Christian initiation sessions and adult formation classes, preparing content for Children's Liturgy, working with the Theology on Tap team to secure speakers, writing bulletin articles, and praying over people at Alpha. "I could not ask for a better opportunity to serve God than my tenure at Saint Mary's," says Deacon Jerome.



# 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: [StMaryFreeport.com](http://StMaryFreeport.com) and click on Online Giving at the top of the page. Of course, traditional check or cash donations are always deeply appreciated too. Mail your gift to Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish, 608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229.

# Our Parish by the Numbers:

**Registered Households**  
 2025: 651  
 2024: 630  
 2023: 622

**Baptisms**  
 2025: 10  
 2024: 11  
 2023: 4

**First Holy Communions**  
 20

**Confirmations**  
 22

**Weddings**  
 2025: 2  
 2024: 4  
 2023: 6

**Funerals**  
 2025: 15  
 2024: 19  
 2023: 20

**Households that Give**  
 411

**Households that Don't Give**  
 240

# 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 Youth Ministry Program aims to create a space where teens can grow in their faith. The youth have opportunities to engage in meaningful discussions about life and God. At its core, Youth Ministry's purpose is to nurture spiritual growth, help students understand biblical truth, and empower them to live out their faith by serving others in the community. We strive to motivate our youth to become faithful disciples of Christ, prepared to make a positive impact in the world.

Homebound Ministry: Take a moment to consider how you might feel if you could no longer worship and attend Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish. What would your life be like without the Mass, the Eucharist, the fellowship, the family worship experience? Many of our homebound parishioners attended the parish all their lives before the circumstance of their health made it impossible to attend Mass and parish social events. They miss this life-giving experience profoundly. In concert with our parish mission statement, the goal of our Homebound Ministry, as loving disciples of Jesus Christ, is to keep these wonderful parishioners connected with their church. Our dedicated and loving volunteers pray with the homebound and take them Eucharist, the bulletin, and other church news. They let the Pastor know the status of these parishioners and set up a visit if needed. It is Christ's love in action.

# Parish Financials

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 414,375	\$ 398,432	\$ 379,337
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	6,369	7,526	5,228
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	46,441	21,902	58,203
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	137,172	153,229	171,960
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	138,492	515,764	56,570
<b>Special Collections</b>	11,971	11,970	11,260
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 754,820</b>	<b>\$ 1,108,823</b>	<b>\$ 682,558</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 189,161	\$ 180,315	\$ 153,661
Church	72,208	94,873	86,155
Rectory	23,407	39,296	8,461
Education and Ministry	65,943	68,913	61,670
General Expenses	163,657	142,543	134,757
Special Collections	11,971	11,970	11,260
Extraordinary Expenses	233,883	609,388	208,654
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>760,230</b>	<b>1,147,298</b>	<b>664,618</b>
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (5,410)</b>	<b>\$ (38,475)</b>	<b>\$ 17,940</b>