

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish
200 Clairvaux Drive
Indiana, PA 15701

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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 liturgical 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!

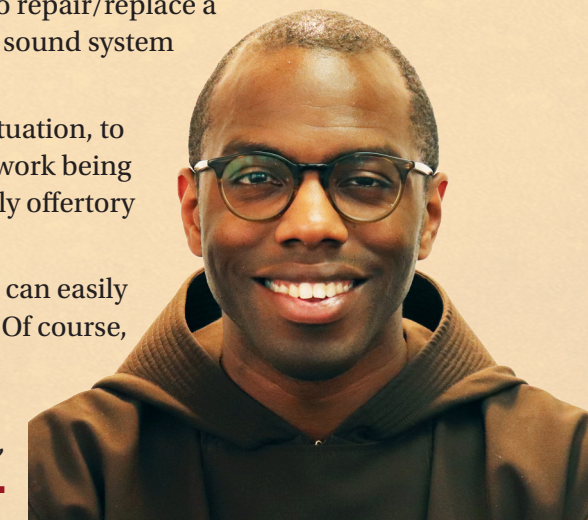
Let me also mention our Indiana Catholic Communities combined events, which serve to support both Saint Bernard of Clairvaux and Saint Thomas More University parishes and to foster a sense of joyous community spirit while always supporting our mission to grow in faith and service.

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 work underway to improve the safety of the parish with the installation of security cameras in and around the church property and working electronic gates to deter trespassers at night; the newly painted and carpeted offices that will house the Regional Faith Formation Director and Youth Minister; the painting of the rectory, which was long overdue; and new LED lights in the church. We are also approaching the time in which we will need to repair/replace a portion of the church roof; replace the air conditioning units and improve the sound system in the social hall; and reline the parking lot.

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.

Peace and All Good,
Father Richard Owens, OFM Cap.



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 26 - Living Museum of Saints, 5-8 PM.** Outdoor candlelit tour at Saint Bernard Regional Catholic School, with local youth portraying saints and sharing their stories (proceeds benefit the school).
- November 1 - Lasagna Dinner** sponsored by Catholic Student Association to raise money for the Catholic Student "SEEK" retreat in Washington DC in January. Enjoy an evening of good food, drinks and a basket raffle. Takes place at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Social Hall from 5PM to 8PM. Tickets will be sold ahead of event.
- December 7 - Breakfast in Bethlehem - 8AM - 1PM** at Saint Bernard Social Hall. A heartwarming event where families gather to enjoy a delightful breakfast together, after children bring the nativity story to life with a charming reenactment.
- December 14 - Christmas Night Market, 2-9 PM,** Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Food and craft vendors, 4 PM Mass with Bishop Larry J. Kulick and the Diocesan Youth Choir, artist Pipka Ulvilden with her Blessed Mother and Nativity creations (details: ChristmasNightMarket.org).



Parish Financials

	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Offertory	\$ 615,797	\$588,407	\$554,174
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	10,861	13,207	8,260
Extraordinary Income* <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	90,942	100,436	106,353
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	66,988	26,568	19,382
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	158,504	76,541	260,531
Special Collections	62,286	27,625	51,403
Total Income	\$ 1,005,378	\$832,784	\$1,000,103
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 167,046	\$ 127,826	\$ 140,976
Church	97,595	111,468	133,736
Rectory	22,845	43,532	25,960
Education and Ministry	118,218	112,752	108,252
General Expenses	293,193	266,558	264,426
Special Collections	60,956	28,244	51,528
Extraordinary Expenses*	239,481	201,973	207,518
Total Expenditures	999,334	892,353	932,396
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 6,044	\$ (59,569)	\$ 67,707

*Non Assessable Income includes \$89,130.22 transferred from Catholic Institute Savings for church projects. Extraordinary Expenses include DLA Refund money moved to Catholic Institute Savings until needed. Extraordinary Expenses include Endowment Interest earned and transferred to Catholic Institute savings account.

Our Parish by the Numbers:



2024: 931
2023: 938
2022: 955

Registered Households

Current Single Member Households

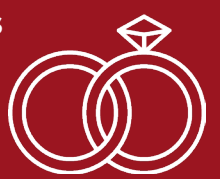


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Baptisms
2024: 24
2023: 14
2022: 9

Weddings



2024: 4
2023: 3
2022: 3



Funerals
2024: 27
2023: 33
2022: 45

Households that Give

479

Households that Don't Give

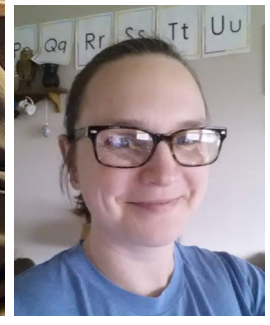
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New to Our Parish

New Parochial Vicar Jonathan Ulrick arrived July 1, 2024, at St Thomas More University Parish. He grew up the oldest of four boys in Grapevine, Texas. After earning an undergraduate degree, he worked in mortgage banking in Dallas for eight years. During that time, he became involved in a local parish and had a transformative experience while going through the Christ Renews His Parish retreat and formation process. As he began discerning religious life, he was contacted by the Capuchins and, after visiting the province in 2006, decided to trust the Lord and give it a shot. He was ordained to the priesthood in June 2017 and then served as Parochial Vicar of Saint Joseph in York, Pa., and Saint Pio of Pietrelcina Parish in Pittsburgh. According to Father Jonathan, becoming a Capuchin has been the best decision he has ever made.



Danielle Cribbs
New Regional Director for Faith Formation & Discipleship



Jessica Thompson
New Regional Director for Youth Ministry

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 Bernard of Clairvaux Parish
200 Clairvaux Drive
Indiana, PA 15701



IN PERSON:
(Combined office for St. Bernard and St. Thomas More)
Located at St Thomas More University Parish
1200 Oakland Ave, Indiana, PA 15701
Monday - Friday - 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
724-465-2210



ONLINE:
saintbernardparish.org (click Online Giving)

Our Ministries:

- Greeters** - Welcome people as they enter the church and assist those with baby carriers, wheelchairs and walkers.
- Ushers** - Take up the offertory and distribute bulletins after Mass, and assist as needed with emergencies or other necessary concerns.
- Lectors** - Proclaim the word of God during Mass or other liturgical functions. Lectors devote time to preparation and understanding of sacred Scripture.
- Altar Servers** - Assist the priest in preparing for Mass. The servers take part in the liturgy by performing tasks to help the priest celebrate Eucharist. Children who received their first holy Communion can be altar servers.
- Adult Choir & Cantors** - Provide musical support of full and active participation in the liturgy.
- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist** - Assist the priest by distributing the Eucharist at Mass.
- Hospital Ministry** - Assist the priest by taking Eucharist to the sick in the hospital.
- Homebound Ministry** - Assist the priest by taking Eucharist to the sick whether they are at home, a personal care home or a nursing home.
- Pastoral Council** - Advises the pastor by assisting him in discerning, expressing and fulfilling the parish pastoral mission.
- Finance Council** - Assists the pastor in the administration of parish material goods and resources. It ensures that all parish resources are used in support of the parish mission, pastoral plan, and within the approved operating budget.
- Sacristan** - (Daily Mass and Weekend) Sacristans assist in the work of preparing the church for the celebration of Mass, as well as the cleaning up and securing of items that were used afterwards. In most cases, such ministry will involve ensuring that the gifts for Communion are prepared, that the credence table is set with the items the priest and Altar Servers will require, and checking that other items required for Mass are in place and in working order.

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 724-465-2210 or 724-463-2277 so we can walk you through the process of becoming a volunteer.