

Saint Cecilia Parish
220 Saint Cecilia Road
Latrobe, PA 15650

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Dear Parishioners of Saint Cecilia Parish,

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 the continuing upgrade of the school's HVAC system and the sealing of the church's windows, 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 James Podlesny, O.S.B., Pastor

thanks
GIVING
for Our Parish



GIVING QR Code

**Saint Cecilia 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 James Podlesny, O.S.B., Pastor

A native of Bethlehem in Lehigh County, Father James F. Podlesny was ordained by Bishop William G. Connare in 1980. Formerly an Associate Professor of Moral Theology at Saint Vincent Seminary and of Religious Studies at Saint Vincent College, he served for 18 years as pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Palmyra, where he led his parishioners in building a new, larger church to accommodate a growing parish community. He now serves as pastor of Saint Cecilia Parish and Sacred Heart Parish in Youngstown, as Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese, on the Priests' Council, and in the College of Consultors of the Diocese.



Our Parish by the Numbers:



Registered Households
2025: 318
2024: 311
2023: 304



Baptisms
2025: 3
2024: 3
2023: 4

First Holy Communions
5



Confirmations
6

Weddings
2025: 3
2024: 0
2023: 3



Funerals
2025: 9
2024: 10
2023: 13

Households that Give
201

Households that Don't Give
117

A Call to Serve

We truly need your help to serve our parish family. Whether as servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, cantors, collection counters, 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

Burger Bash: Our monthly Burger Bashes are held the third Saturday of the month, May through October, in the outdoor kitchen and pavilion.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: This ecumenical social outreach ministry that meets monthly supports, informs, and equips grandparents or extended family members who serve as primary caregivers of minor children whose parents are lost to substance addiction.



Parish Financials

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
Offertory	\$ 237,775	\$ 222,526	\$ 227,616
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	7,774	4,412	2,577
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	41,140	25,676	34,976
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	56,782	68,662	47,762
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	40,259	3,008	3,544
Special Collections	<u>34,519</u>	<u>30,274</u>	<u>27,517</u>
Total Income	\$ 418,249	\$ 354,558	\$ 343,992
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 74,076	\$ 71,643	\$ 64,328
Church	33,829	22,966	19,615
Rectory	6,834	8,173	8,090
Education and Ministry	52,296	50,408	44,880
General Expenses	152,927	136,040	130,105
Special Collections	34,519	29,809	27,517
Extraordinary Expenses	65,698	33,588	13,203
Total Expenditures	420,179	352,627	307,738
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (1,930)	\$ 1,931	\$ 36,254

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: SaintCecilia.net and click on Donate to Saint Cecilia at the top of the page. Of course, traditional check or cash donations are always deeply appreciated too. Mail your gift to Saint Cecilia Parish, 220 Saint Cecilia Road, Latrobe, PA 15650.