

Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish

P.O. Box 327
109 Second Street
Yatesboro, PA 16263

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Dear Parishioners,

Peace and blessings to you all!

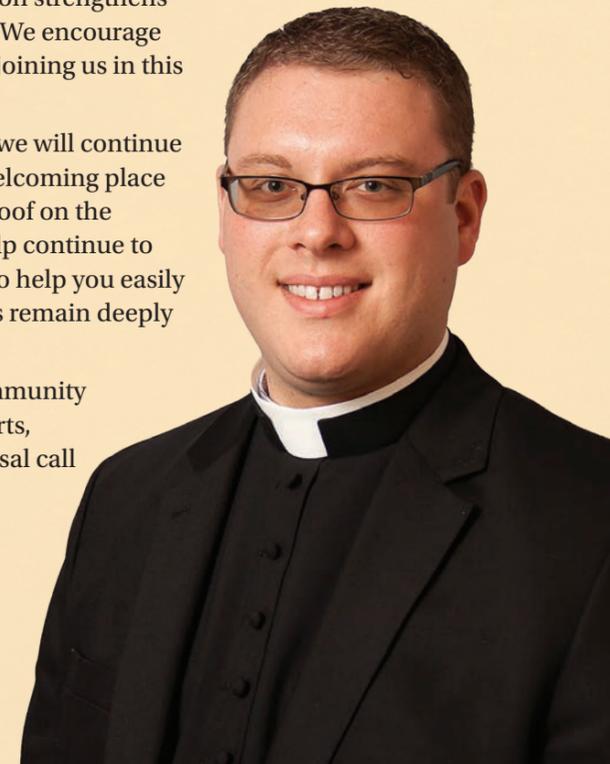
It is with a grateful heart that I offer this year's annual report, *ThanksGIVING for Our Parish*. As we reflect on the blessings and growth of our faith community, we are reminded of Pope Leo XIV's inspiring call for every parish to recognize its vital role within the universal Church. Our parish is 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 to next year, I am grateful for your continued support as we will continue to undertake various projects that will make our parish an even more welcoming place for all who seek God's presence. So far, we have been able to put a new roof on the social hall and update landscaping around the side of the church. To help continue to support the costs toward future projects, 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 Eric Dinga, V.F., 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 Eric J. Dinga, V.F., Pastor

Father Eric J. Dinga, a native of Ford City, was ordained to the priesthood in June 2015 by Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt. He served as Parochial Vicar and Pastor in various parishes prior to his current assignments. In addition to the five parishes where he currently serves as Pastor/Administrator, Father Dinga serves as Vicar Forane (Dean) of Deanery I and is also a member of several other boards and committees for the Diocese, including the Office of Worship and The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Greensburg, and is also the Spiritual Advisor for the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW). He is deeply dedicated to fostering and enriching the spiritual life of the parish community by guiding the faithful toward a closer union with Christ, particularly through the celebration of the Eucharist, prayer, and devotion.



Father Madhu Kodavatikanti, Regional Parochial Vicar

Father Madhu Kodavatikanti serves as regional Parochial Vicar for Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish; Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning; Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City; and Saint Lawrence Parish, Cadogan. He also serves as Chaplain to Armstrong County Memorial Hospital in Kittanning. He was ordained a priest in 2019 as part of the Heralds of the Good News Society of Apostolic Life, an international missionary congregation. Before his assignment in the Diocese of Greensburg in 2024, he served in various pastoral roles in India, contributing to the Church's mission through evangelization, education, and community service.



Father Juanito G. Lozano, Parochial Vicar

Father Juanito G. Lozano serves as Parochial Vicar for Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning. He was ordained a priest in 1993 for the Diocese of Tagum in the Philippines and has been serving in the Diocese of Greensburg since 2023. He has had many different assignments prior to beginning his ministry here in our Diocese. He is deeply committed to providing pastoral care to the faithful of the parishes, especially those who are sick and homebound. He also serves as the Chaplain to the Knights of Columbus Council 1011 and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Patricia 998.



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: SaintMaryYatesboro.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 Mary, Mother of God Parish, P.O. Box 327, 109 Second Street, Yatesboro, PA 16263.

Our Parish by the Numbers:

Registered Households
 2025: 295
 2024: 304
 2023: 308

Baptisms
 2025: 3
 2024: 4
 2023: 6

First Holy Communions
 5

Confirmations
 3

Weddings
 2025: 2
 2024: 0
 2023: 0

Funerals
 2025: 10
 2024: 7
 2023: 14

Households that Give
 191

Households that Don't Give
 104

A Call to Serve

We truly need your help to serve our parish family, particularly in the ministry of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry, both as catechists and volunteers. We are also in need of more liturgical ministers, including altar servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, and greeters. Mindful that these important ministries help to bring the light of Christ to our faith community, please prayerfully consider answering this call, and do not hesitate to reach out to the parish office — we are here to guide you through every step, including the clearance process, so that you can share your gifts confidently and joyfully.



Ministries in Action

The four parishes in our area have been working together to build up and enhance Youth Ministry in our region by joining and sharing various resources. We acknowledge that this is where faith comes alive for our young people — through service, prayer, learning, and community — as teens grow as disciples and share Christ's love in the parishes, our area, and our homes.



Parish Financials

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
Offertory	\$ 198,628	\$ 194,191	\$ 195,413
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	3,392	4,035	3,741
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	44,637	45,679	49,868
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund *	8,694	22,698	13,149
Other Non-Assessable Income ** <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	34,524	5,012	6,017
Special Collections	26,019	17,514	22,700
Total Income	\$ 315,894	\$ 289,129	\$ 290,888
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 83,806	\$ 73,214	\$ 61,393
Church	66,851	38,577	34,903
Rectory	5,629	5,124	2,936
Education and Ministry	15,844	15,167	14,888
General Expenses	101,779	87,895	84,120
Special Collections	25,173	16,971	22,363
Extraordinary Expenses	21,746	34,371	57,202
Total Expenditures	320,828	271,320	277,805
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (4,934)	\$ 17,809	\$ 13,083