**Saint Gertrude Parish** 303 Franklin Ave. Vandergrift, PA 15690

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### **Dear Parishioners,**

The safety and health of every member of our parish have been in my daily prayers as together we continue to face the ups and downs of the pandemic. Many of you, I know, have endured great pain and personal loss, not to mention the numerous concerns that have developed as the pandemic has imposed an ongoing struggle with fear and isolation in many people's lives. Still today, there is the ongoing uncertainty of what is next.

I hope you have been comforted by our local and diocesan outreach through streaming Masses, phone calls, special mailings and, in many parishes, special COVID-19 ministries like online prayer chains and other opportunities for prayer. There were also special collections to support mission work at home and around the world, food drives to help the hungry, volunteers who cleaned and sanitized our churches to protect our at-risk parishioners, and outreach coordinators who made a crucial connection with the elderly and homebound. These are just a few examples of the outpouring of love we saw in the name of Jesus Christ throughout the pandemic.

I want you to know that through it all, Saint Gertrude Parish has continued to nourish the seeds of faith that have been planted, seeking to care for the spiritual and material needs of our entire parish community. The good news in all of this is that the harvest has been bountiful! In fact, the support provided by you, the faithful, has been just remarkable.

As excited as I am about the impact of our outreach, I also realize that a tidal wave of need is still on the horizon. Economic uncertainty and continued isolation mean the most vulnerable among us will need us now more than ever. Our missions and ministries cannot continue to meet that need without your help.

I want to sincerely thank you for all that you have given to our parish. Remember, your contributions keep this parish vibrant and impactful. Please remember your parish this year, and prayerfully consider increasing your stewardship so we can continue God's work.

# Flowers that Feed the Soul: Our Ministry Listing

- Greeters
- Ushers
- Lectors
- Altar Servers
- Music Ministry
- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
- Money Counters

# Growing Supports: Community

Saint Gertrude Parish Annual Report 2021

Yours in Christ, Father James

- Religious Formation Volunteers / Youth Ministry Volunteers
- Ministry of Care
- Raffle Ticket Volunteers
- Knights of Columbus #6715
- Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #1008



# **Cultivate the Garden Within: Capital Improvements**



Your contributions to our parish help maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community. Over the last three years, we completed paving of the cemetery parking lot, repaired the ceiling, and updated our sound system. Most recently we undertook the painting of the interior of the church.

### **Parish Financials** 2020-21 2019-20 2018-19 \$ 324,343 \$ 288,328 Offertory **Other Ordinary Income** 3,033 (249) (monthly collections, votive candles) 15,177 20,249 Extraordinary Income (bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)

Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	20,881	28,491	22,282
Other Non-Assessable Income (The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)	27,357	27,210	207,086
Special Collections	20,503	29,803	39,508
Total Income	\$ 411,294	\$ 393,838	\$ 621,128
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 100,276	\$ 95,981	\$ 103,721
Church	46,348	39,156	53,124
Rectory	1,149	1,535	1,082
Education and Ministry	35,157	32,134	71,948
General Expenses	207,204	160,033	191,834
Special Collections	20,503	29,798	39,998
Extraordinary Expenses	26,801	29,800	147,461
Total Expenditures	437,438	388,437	609,168
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (26,144)	\$ 5,401	\$ 11,960

## **Our Garden**



Registered **Households** 2021: 501 2020: 523 2019: 497







\$ 307,700

4,637

39,915





# Weathering COVID-19

Just as God has provided for you, you have provided for our parish. Your investment is like the tilling of the soil, helping us to grow stronger.

Despite the pandemic, our parish offertory remained strong primarily due to the generosity of our parishioners; but it was greatly assisted by online giving and a recordbreaking Diocesan Lenten Appeal.

As I am sure you can imagine, our parish, and particularly our societies, suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. This year, our spaghetti dinners were halted, and other fundraising activities had to be cancelled.

We are planning various social fundraisers, so please consider participating. Help us grow the flowers of tomorrow by planting the seeds today.

I do want to call your attention to our restructured faith formation program, that consists of active youth from our parish and those of Christ the King Parish, Leechburg. This program, under the direction of Katie Tylinski, will go a long way toward planting the seeds of faith in the next generation of our parish.





## Ways You Can Give



**BY MAIL:** Saint Gertrude Parish 303 Franklin Ave. Vandergrift, PA 15690



IN PERSON: Monday - Thursday 9:00AM - 4:00PM



**ONLINE:** osvhub.com/ sg-catholic/funds