

Saint Gertrude Parish
125 Park Road
Leechburg, PA 15656

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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.

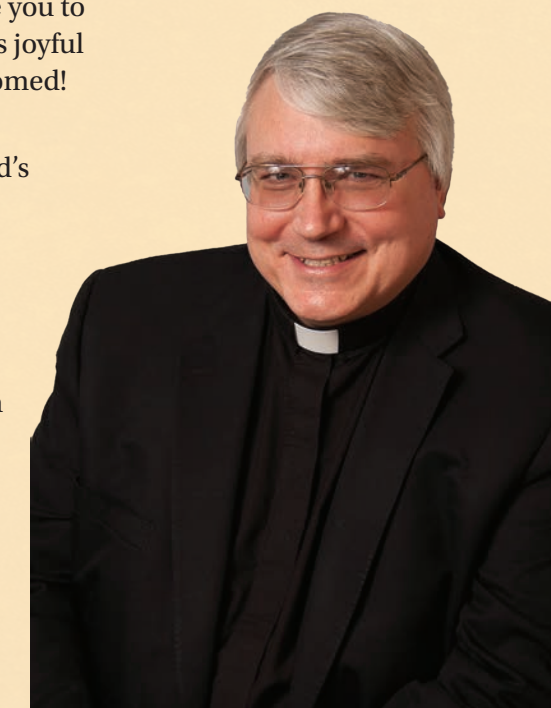
Bishop Larry J. Kulick has challenged us to build a strong and vibrant parish community that will flourish well into the future — rooted in faith, hope, and charity. Our parish has responded generously to this call by nurturing discipleship, reimagining faith formation, and reaching out with Christ's love to those in need.

Through your prayers, your time, and your 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 dedicated 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. How is God calling you to serve Him? Your gifts are truly needed and welcomed!

Looking ahead, I am grateful for your support as new projects and programs are identified to make our parish 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 to make a year-end gift. Traditional weekly or monthly offerings remain deeply appreciated as well. In addition, please remember our parish in your estate planning.

Our parish is indeed a blessing, not only to each other but also to the wider community and the universal Church at large. Let us move forward together with thanksgiving in our hearts, confident that by strengthening our parish, we are answering a divine call to be living witnesses of Christ's love in the world.

With gratitude and prayers,
Father Alan N. Polczynski, J.C.L.



thanks
GIVING
for Our Parish

The graphic features the word "thanks" in a white cursive font above the word "GIVING" in large, bold, white block letters. Below "GIVING" is the phrase "for Our Parish" in a smaller white font. The background is a blue sky with white clouds and a white maple leaf.

GIVING QR Code

Saint Gertrude 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 Alan N. Polczynski, J.C.L., Pastor, Defender of the Bond

Father Alan N. Polczynski is a native of Lower Burrell. He has a Master of Divinity degree and a Master's degree in Systematic Theology from Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe. He has also recently completed his studies in Canon Law at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He was ordained a priest June 2, 2007, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, by Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt. In his 18 years of priesthood, he has served at multiple parishes throughout the Diocese and for many years as an Assistant Episcopal Master of Ceremonies.



Father Michael J. Sciberras, Pastoral and Sacramental Assistance

Father Michael J. Sciberras was born in Detroit, Mich., where his home parish was Holy Trinity Parish. He attended Assumption College, Windsor, Ontario; the University of Detroit; Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit; Saint John Provincial Seminary, Detroit; and the former Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto. He was ordained to the priesthood May 13, 1967, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, by Bishop William G. Connare. In his 58 years of priesthood, he has served at various parishes around the Diocese and has been a Spiritual Director, Assistant Principal, and Chaplain. He also is a veteran of the United States Army.



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.



As we gather to give thanks this season, we are reminded of the many blessings we share as a parish family. Your faithful support keeps Saint Gertrude Parish a place of worship, welcome, and service for all. Scan the QR code, or visit our website to make a donation: SGCatholic.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 Gertrude Parish, 125 Park Road, Leechburg, PA 15656.



Our Parish by the Numbers:



Registered Households

2025: 466
2024: 469
2023: 467



Baptisms

2025: 2
2024: 4
2023: 1

First Holy Communions
9



Confirmations

1

Weddings

2025: 0
2024: 4
2023: 1



Funerals

2025: 35
2024: 17
2023: 27

Households that Give
351

Households that Don't Give
115

A Call to Serve

We truly need your help to serve our parish family. Whether as altar servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, greeters, catechists, choir members, office volunteers or assisting with maintaining and landscaping the grounds, 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 can provide guidance and instruction as necessary, including obtaining the necessary clearances and trainings, so that you can share your gifts confidently and joyfully.



Ministries in Action

Saint Gertrude Parish has a longstanding custom of having a spaghetti dinner in the church hall. These dinners not only raise funds for the parish but also are a wonderful way of building community. Many volunteers come together to set up the hall, prepare salads, make sauce and spaghetti, distribute desserts and takeout orders, clean up, and work the dish room. Local high school students also assist at these family-friendly evenings. Thank you to all who are such good stewards of their time, talent and treasure, making these spaghetti dinners a huge success for the parish.



Parish Financials

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
Offertory	\$ 327,827	\$ 310,671	\$ 343,442
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	3,160	2,351	4,343
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	91,030	86,785	69,623
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	10,711	45,357	19,163
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	42,646	1,942	42,521
Special Collections	9,547	12,194	12,939
Total Income	\$ 484,921	\$ 459,300	\$ 492,031
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 69,969	\$ 83,701	\$ 109,355
Church	58,331	70,761	60,463
Rector's Office	5,073	5,039	727
Education and Ministry	39,746	46,168	48,785
General Expenses	209,755	193,743	223,911
Special Collections	9,547	12,251	19,298
Extraordinary Expenses	122,649	1,078	47,037
Total Expenditures *	515,069	412,742	509,576
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (30,148)	\$ 46,558	\$ (17,545)

* Includes \$118,278 added to our savings account for FY25.