

THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

THURSDAY, JAN. 15, 2026

The Official Newspaper of the Diocese of Greensburg

VOLUME 65, NO. 5

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CLOSING The Jubilee Year of Hope



CELEBRATING 75 Years of a Legacy of Faith



1951  2026

Diocese of Greensburg



Growing a future of faith, excellence and leadership: See our special Catholic Schools Week supplement!

THE CATHOLIC ACCENT
 OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
 DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG,
 PENNSYLVANIA

Mission: Faith is a gift.
 Our mission is to share it.

Vision: Create a more
 connected, accessible
 Catholic Church, inspire a deep
 spiritual connection, mobilize
 clergy as change agents and
 strengthen faith formation
 and evangelization.



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OFFICIAL *His Excellency, The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL, Bishop of Greensburg, has made the following announcements and appointment:*

Effective Sunday, November 30, 2025

Retirement:

The Reverend John M. Foriska retires as Senior Priest Active at the Parishes of Holy Family and Saint John the Evangelist in Latrobe, while remaining in residence at Neumann House, Greensburg.

At the recommendation of The Right Reverend Martin Bartel, OSB, His Excellency, The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL, Bishop of Greensburg, has made the following announcement:

Clergy assistance will be provided to Holy Family and Saint John the Evangelist Parishes, Latrobe, by the Benedictines at Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe.

Effective January 1, 2026

Medical Leave of Absence:

The Reverend Richard J. Kosisko, JCL, has been granted a medical leave

of absence while remaining as Pastor of Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish, Freeport.

The Reverend Michael P. Sikon has been granted a medical leave of absence while remaining as Pastor of Saint Barbara Parish, Harrison City, and remaining in residence at Saint Barbara Parish.

Special:

The Reverend Monsignor William R. Rathgeb, JCL, JV, term as Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Greensburg is extended until June 30, 2026.

At the request of The Most Reverend Leopoldo Jaucian, SVD, Bishop of the Diocese of Bangued, in the Philippines, The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL, Bishop of Greensburg, has made the following announcement:

Effective Friday, December 26, 2025

End of Assignment:

The Reverend Louiegene Valdez, at

the request of his Bishop, has been called to return to the Diocese of Bangued, and therefore concludes his duties as Parochial Vicar of Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin, and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon.

Effective December 1, 2025

Change of Residence:

The Reverend Daniel O. Iletogbe, while remaining as Parochial Vicar of Saint Barbara Parish, Harrison City, and Saint Regis Parish, Trafford, with residence now at Saint Regis Parish.

Effective January 5, 2026

Change of Residence:

The Reverend Vijaya K. Koyyuri, as Parochial Vicar of Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin, and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon, with residence now at Immaculate Conception Parish.

OBITUARIES *(additional obituaries on page 3)*

Father John A. Moineau

GREENSBURG — Father John A. Moineau, a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg for 38 years, died at home Oct. 25, 2025. He was 64.

He was born June 19, 1961, and graduated from Saint Joseph High School, Natrona Heights, in 1979 and Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1983. He completed his priestly formation at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., and was ordained May 2, 1987, by Bishop William G. Connare at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.

Father Moineau served as Parochial Vicar of Saint Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon (1987-92); Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Indiana (1992-96); and Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville (1996-97).



He served as Pastor of the former Saint Charles Borromeo Parish (1997-99); Saint Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning (1999-2000); Mother of Sorrows Parish (2000-05); Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin (2005-24); and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon (2017-24). In October 2024, after he completed a six-month medical leave, he served in pastoral supply at Saint Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell, and Mount Saint Peter Parish, Saint Joseph Parish and Saint Mary of Czestochowa Parish, New Kensington, until his death.

Father Moineau also served on the pastoral team at Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School, as the Deanery II youth moderator, as

chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Father McNelis Council 1481, on the College of Consultors and the Priests Council.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert J. and Joan (Busch) Moineau; his godparents, Kenneth and Marcia Bearer; his uncles, Capuchin Father Vernon Busch, Charles Busch and Karl Thurber; and his cousin, Lloyd Thurber. He is survived by two sisters, Clare and Gail Moineau; a brother, Robert J. Moineau Jr.; and two aunts, Mildred Thurber and Judith Busch. He was also survived by his best friends of 38 years, Ray and Kathy Takacs, their children Kate, Tom, Tim and Stacy, and their 10 grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Oct. 30 at Immaculate Conception Parish, followed by burial in Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

Monsignor John A. Cippel



LUTZ, FLA. — Monsignor John A. Cippel, 92, a retired priest of the Diocese of Saint Petersburg and native son of the Diocese of Greensburg, died Dec. 1, 2025, following a battle with leukemia. He was under hospice care at the Saint John XXIII Retirement Residence,

Monsignor Cippel was born in Ford City April 8, 1933, and was ordained for the White Fathers (now Missionaries of Africa) Jan. 28, 1960. He arrived in Florida in 1975, was

incardinated into the Diocese of Saint Petersburg in 1980, and served in six parishes in the diocese before his retirement in 2006.

He remained active in retirement, assisting in parishes as needed and serving as spiritual director at Saint Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, Fla., until 2020.

In August 1999, at the nomination of Bishop Robert Lynch, Monsignor Cippel was given the honorary title of Prelate of Honor of His Holiness, by Pope John Paul II.

A funeral Mass was held Dec. 11, followed by burial in Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Clearwater, Fla.

CONDOLENCES: To Father E. George Saletrik on the death of his mother, Lois Saletrik, who died Jan. 6, 2026.

Bishop Kulick to celebrate Mass during March for Life

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The 2026 March for Life will be held in Washington, D.C., Jan. 23 on the National Mall. Anyone attending the march is welcome to attend Mass with Bishop Larry J. Kulick at 10:30 a.m. at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel in the National Basilica and to march with the Bishop beginning at the corner of Constitution and 12th Streets.

The National Prayer Vigil for Life will begin Jan. 22, with the opening Mass at 5 p.m. in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. At 7 p.m., a national Holy Hour for Life will take place in the Crypt Church of the Basilica, including recitation of the Rosary and Benediction. The closing Mass will be at 8 a.m. Jan. 23 in the Great Upper Church.

The Masses will be televised on EWTN and livestreamed at www.nationalshrine.org/Mass.

Bishop Larry J. Kulick also will concelebrate the opening Mass.

Locally, the Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women is inviting all those



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Marchers from the Diocese of Greensburg join Bishop Kulick during last year's March for Life.

who cannot attend the march to "Pray for Life" in Saint Joseph Chapel at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The day will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a Rosary for Priests, followed by Mass at noon celebrated by Father

Eric J. Dinga, Rosary for Life at 1:30 p.m., Stations of the Cross at 2:15 p.m., Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 p.m., Litany for Life at 3:30 p.m. and closing Benediction at 4 p.m. Admission is free; donations of money, diapers,

baby wipes and similar supplies are welcome and will be distributed to pregnancy resource centers in the Diocese. Attendees are welcome to come and go or stay all day.

— *The Catholic Accent*

Bishop closes Jubilee Year, looks ahead to Diocesan 75th anniversary

GREENSBURG — Bishop Larry J. Kulick brought to a close the Jubilee Year of Hope in the Diocese of Greensburg with a solemn closing Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Dec. 28, the Feast of the Holy Family. Clergy, consecrated religious and the faithful from around the Diocese gathered to give thanks to God for the year of grace and for the opportunity



to draw closer to the Lord in strengthening discipleship.

Bishop Kulick reflected on the Jubilee Year of Hope, beginning with the late Pope Francis, who died on Easter Monday last year.

"As the Lord called him to Himself in the midst of that

great season of resurrection and hope, our Holy Father himself witnessed and gave us an example of where our eyes, our hearts, our minds, our energy, our actions and all that we are and hope to be," Bishop Kulick said, adding that we are offered the gift of eternity through Christ, which is our eternal hope.

Bishop Kulick noted that the second half of the Jubilee Year of Hope was led by Pope Leo XIV, who remained committed to the Jubilee schedule set by Pope Francis. Pope Leo closed the Holy Door at Saint Peter's Basilica on the Feast of the Epiphany, officially ending the Jubilee Year in the Universal Church.

"This Jubilee era of hope, while it formally, historically comes to a conclusion, it is but a moment in time that has offered us, very importantly, yet another affirmation of who we are, what we are about and what God is calling us to," Bishop Kulick said. "He has called us into the family of the Church."

During his homily, Bishop Kulick looked forward to 2026, when the Diocese of Greensburg will celebrate its 75th Diamond Jubilee Year. He will celebrate an opening Mass March 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, marking the anniversary of the founding of the Diocese.



CLIFF GORSKI THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Bishop Kulick delivers his homily during the closing Mass of the Jubilee Year of Hope Dec. 28 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

A number of additional opportunities, spiritual and social, will be held throughout the year to commemorate this historic anniversary. The year will end with a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Kulick Dec. 12 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg, during the annual Christmas Night Market.

In ending the Jubilee year and moving forward to the 75th diamond anniversary celebrations, Bishop Kulick urged the faithful to move forward with hearts filled with charity, love and mercy and to go forth as pilgrims of hope.

— *The Catholic Accent*

OBITUARIES

Sister Ernestine Bongiovanni, ASCJ



HAMDEN, CONN. — Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Sister Ernestine Bongiovanni, 85, died Nov. 23, 2025, at Sacred Heart Manor. She was in her 64th year of religious life.

Sister Ernestine served at Clelian Heights, Greensburg, for 17 years.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 1; burial was in All Saints Cemetery, North Haven, Conn.

Sister Mary Victor Powers, SC



GREENSBURG — Sister of Charity Mary Victor Powers, 88, died Dec. 12, 2025, at Caritas Christi, the motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill. She was in her 70th year of religious life.

Sister Mary Victor served as a teacher in the Dioceses of Altoona-Johnstown, Greensburg and Pittsburgh and the Archdiocese of Washington. She was principal at the former Saint Edward School, Herminie, and the former Cathedral School, Greensburg.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 16 in the Chapel of Assumption at Caritas Christi, followed by burial in the sisters' cemetery.

Sister Mary Elizabeth Krug, OCD



LATROBE — Carmelite Sister Marie Elizabeth Krug (Elizabeth Romaine Krug), 84, died Dec. 18, 2025. She was in her 66th year of religious life.

She entered the Carmelite Monastery in Loretto and was the youngest of the founding sisters of the monastery in Latrobe, and served as prioress on multiple occasions.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at Dec. 30, followed by burial in the monastery cemetery.

Message from the Chief Financial Officer

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is with gratitude and a deep sense of stewardship that I share with you the financial status of the Diocese of Greensburg, Pennsylvania Charitable Trust and the Unincorporated Association (UA) as of June 30, 2025.

The Charitable Trust serves as the long-term governance structure of the Diocese, holding investments and fixed assets that help sustain our mission into the future. The Unincorporated Association supports the day-to-day operational needs of the Diocese, including centralized ministries, administrative services and our Catholic schools. Its primary sources of funding include parish assessments, the Diocesan Lenten Appeal (DLA) and other revenue streams that allow us to continue serving our faith community.

Financial Overview

The Charitable Trust ended the fiscal year with total assets of \$35.5 million, reflecting a 5% increase over the previous year. This growth was primarily due to \$1.4 million investment earnings in the Catholic Foundation for OPEB benefits. Total net assets without donor restrictions rose by \$1.3 million, an increase of nearly 4% since June 30, 2024.

The Unincorporated Association Statements of Financial Position includes several funds — such as the Pastoral Center Fund, Self-Insurance Fund, High Schools Fund, Education, Discipleship & Formation (EDF) Fund, Pension Accounting Fund and Agency Fund. The combined Net Assets at fiscal year-end totaled \$4.7 million, compared to \$4.9 million the previous year.

Total assets for the UA increased by approximately \$800,000 (7%), reaching \$11.3 million. Total liabilities decreased by \$3.3 million, largely due to reduced accrued claims within the Self-Insurance Fund and lower accrued pension liabilities for both Lay and Priest pension plans. Overall, Net Assets increased by \$4 million, primarily as a result of strong investment performance in the Pension Accounting Fund.

The Unincorporated Association Statements of Activities for Pastoral Center Fund and Education, Discipleship & Formation Fund are also presented. Revenues for the Pastoral Center and EDF Funds remained steady year-over-year at \$17.8 million. Of this amount:

- \$4.8 million was received from Catholic Education Assessments, supporting our two high schools and 10 elementary schools.
- The Diocesan Lenten Appeal (DLA) provided \$3.8 million, and parish assessments and support added another \$3.1 million.
- We also realized \$1.4 million in investment and endowment income.

In total, the Diocese's primary sources of revenue include 27% from Catholic Education Assessments, 21% from the DLA and approximately 17% each from program fees, parish assessments and other income.

On the expense side, our financial resources are directed toward advancing the mission and ministries of the Church:

- Catholic Education: \$6.5 million (37% of

total expenses)

- Finance, Technology and Facilities: \$2.5 million (14%)
- Chancery Offices (Bishop's Office, Curia and Development): \$1.8 million (11%)
- Communications and Faith Formation: each representing 8% of total expenses

Saint Pope John Paul II Tuition Opportunity Partnership (TOPs)

This year, we are also highlighting the impact of the Saint Pope John Paul II Tuition Opportunity Partnership (TOPs). Although these donations — totaling 13% of our total revenues — are made directly to our 12 schools and are not reflected in the Diocese's audited financial statements, their impact is profound. When combined, TOPs funding increases total support for our schools to 45% of total expenses, underscoring our enduring commitment to Catholic education.

A Jubilee Year of Renewal and Hope

As we celebrate the Jubilee Year of 2025, proclaimed by Pope Francis as a time of grace, renewal and hope, we are reminded that every blessing entrusted to us is a gift meant to be shared. This Holy Year invites us to rediscover the joy of living our faith with open hearts, to seek God's mercy and to renew our commitment to serve one another — especially those in need.

In this spirit, the financial stewardship of our Diocese is not simply a matter of numbers, but a reflection of our shared mission to bring Christ's light into the world. Together, through prayer, service and generosity, we continue to build a future rooted in faith, strengthened by hope and guided by love.

Stewardship and Gratitude

As faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to us, we continue to strive for transparency, accountability and the prudent use of funds in service to the mission of the Church. Each dollar entrusted to the Diocese helps us to bring Christ's love and hope to our communities—through education, worship, outreach and formation.

We are deeply grateful to our parishioners, clergy, benefactors and volunteers whose generosity sustains this vital work. Your prayerful and financial support ensures that together, we can continue to proclaim the Gospel and serve those in need throughout our four-county Diocese.

For additional details, the complete audited financial statements, including accompanying notes, are available on our website. You may access them by visiting DioceseofGreensburg.org/finance.

May God bless you abundantly for your continued faith, generosity, and commitment to our shared mission in Christ.

With gratitude and prayers,
Sheila R. Murray, CPA, MBA, CDFM,
CGMA
Chief Financial Officer
Diocese of Greensburg

Roman Catholic Diocese of Greensburg, A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust Statements of Financial Position

As of June 30,	2025	2024
Assets		
Investments:		
Current Fund	\$ 4,487,628	\$ 4,204,718
Plant Fund	1,379,618	1,269,729
Missions Fund	267,194	169,562
Total Investments	<u>6,134,440</u>	<u>5,644,009</u>
Charitable Remainder Trust	-	364,527
Due from the Unincorporated Association	-	10,433
Investment in the Catholic Foundation for OPEB benefits	14,314,030	12,887,742
Fixed assets, net of depreciation	<u>15,062,962</u>	<u>14,958,267</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 35,511,432</u>	<u>\$ 33,864,978</u>
Liabilities		
Deferred income	\$ 24,373	\$ 24,378
Line of Credit	2,000	5,000
Loan payable to the Catholic Institute of Greensburg	329,139	501,574
Due to the Unincorporated Association	<u>513,478</u>	-
Total Liabilities	868,990	530,952
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions:		
Undesignated	5,215,932	5,451,128
Designated for OPEB	14,314,030	12,887,742
Designated for fixed assets	<u>15,099,851</u>	<u>14,995,156</u>
Total Net Assets without donor restrictions	34,629,813	33,334,026
With donor restrictions	12,629	-
Total Net Assets	<u>34,642,442</u>	<u>33,334,026</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 35,511,432</u>	<u>\$ 33,864,978</u>

Roman Catholic Diocese of Greensburg, A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust Statements of Activities

As of June 30,	2025	2024
Revenues, gains, and other support		
Interest and dividends, net of investment fees	\$ 387,937	\$ 402,932
Unrealized gains on investments	1,818,325	1,677,512
Facility lease income	645,558	656,980
Contributions	572,177	715,310
Royalties	3,091	4,319
Gain/(loss) on sale of fixed assets	<u>(8,021)</u>	<u>450</u>
Total revenues, gains and support	<u>\$ 3,419,067</u>	<u>\$ 3,457,503</u>
Expenses:		
Donations	\$ 1,063,980	\$ 628,075
Depreciation	939,226	885,101
General and administrative expenses	96,911	90,673
Interest	<u>23,163</u>	<u>37,187</u>
Total Expenses	<u>2,123,280</u>	<u>1,641,036</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	1,295,787	1,816,467
NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS:		
Revenues, gains, and other support		
Contributions	<u>12,629</u>	-
Change in Net Assets	1,308,416	1,816,467
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>33,334,026</u>	<u>31,517,559</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 34,642,442</u>	<u>\$ 33,334,026</u>

Message from Bishop Kulick

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am delighted to share with you the annual report for the Diocese of Greensburg for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. This annual report represents the administration and fiscal management of the Diocese and the careful stewardship of the generous gifts from the faithful that enable us to continue our work, in full transparency, to fulfill our mission and Christ's work across the four counties of the Diocese of Greensburg. In accordance with Canon Law, all the assets and patrimony of a Diocese are entrusted to the administration and stewardship of the Diocesan Bishop



for the sake of financing the various ministries, charities and works necessary to fulfill the Church's mission in a particular diocese.

As Bishop, it is my privilege to show you, through these financial statements, how we steward and utilize your generosity. Please be assured that they have been reviewed by the members of the

Diocesan Finance Council and audited by our certified public accountants. I am grateful for the work of our Chief Financial Officer, Sheila Murray, and her staff for their important management and the diligence they undertake in caring for our assets. I sincerely thank the Diocesan Finance Council for their oversight and counsel

on these matters throughout the year.

Your generosity throughout the year funds the mission of our Church across our four counties. Your stewardship provides the resources needed to serve our parishes. Through your gifts, we are able to provide faith formation which continues to form disciples of Christ and to welcome parishioners, young and old, who are new to our faith or yearning to have a connection to Christ through the sacraments. You are forming our future leaders and disciples of Christ by supporting our 12 Catholic Schools. We are able to help those who are discerning a call to a vocation, either through priestly formation or through a religious profession. Your generosity is also shared with those in our community who need assistance and support

through the work of Catholic Charities.

On behalf of our clergy, our offices of Faith, Family and Discipleship, Vocations, Catholic Charities and the Office of Catholic Schools, thank you for your trust in our leadership and fiscal responsibility as we continue to be faithful stewards of your generosity.

May God continue to bless you and your families and all the faithful of the Diocese of Greensburg,

Yours in Christ,

*The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
Bishop of Greensburg*

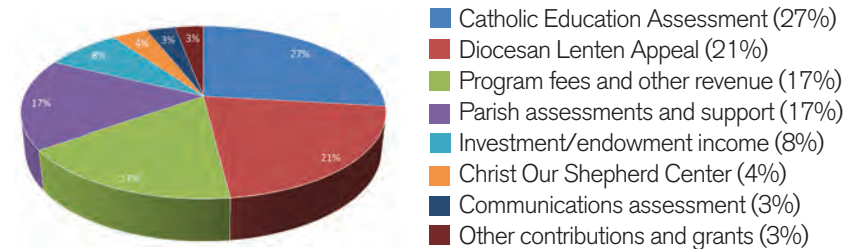
Diocese of Greensburg Unincorporated Association

Statements of Financial Position

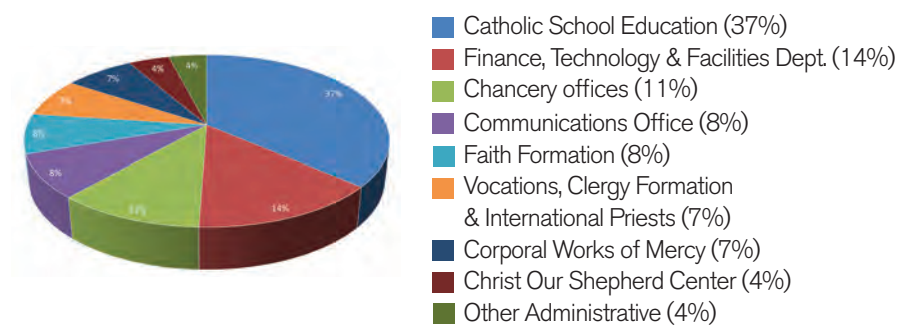
As of June 30,

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 26,852	\$ 491,194
Investments	5,060,019	4,468,881
Receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts	2,993,772	2,414,336
Prepaid and other assets	173,321	105,097
Due from other diocesan funds	1,954,486	2,865,178
Due from related entities	719,955	221,683
Total Assets	<u>\$11,328,405</u>	<u>\$10,566,369</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,544,403	\$ 1,091,340
Agency and trust accounts	349,970	284,896
Deferred income	244,536	116,223
Accrued expenses	1,119,688	2,012,725
Accrued pension - lay plan	3,550,373	5,565,379
Accrued pension - priests plan	760,178	1,621,838
Accrued postretirement health benefits	4,360,630	3,919,822
Due to other diocesan funds	1,954,486	2,865,178
Due to related entities	368,656	63,763
Total Liabilities	14,252,920	17,541,164
Net Assets		
Net assets without donor restrictions:		
Pastoral Center	(743,543)	(535,667)
Self Insurance Fund	725,986	(1,531,627)
High Schools	23,878	494,127
Education, Discipleship & Formation Fund	1,205,340	1,095,517
Pension Accounting Fund	(8,671,181)	(11,107,039)
Agency Funds	(115,400)	(190,096)
Total Net Assets without donor restrictions	(7,574,920)	(11,774,785)
Net Assets with donor restriction:		
Pastoral Center	4,137,644	4,281,455
High Schools	416,637	419,612
Education, Discipleship & Formation Fund	96,124	98,923
Total Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>4,650,405</u>	<u>4,799,990</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>(2,924,515)</u>	<u>(6,974,795)</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$11,328,405</u>	<u>\$10,566,369</u>

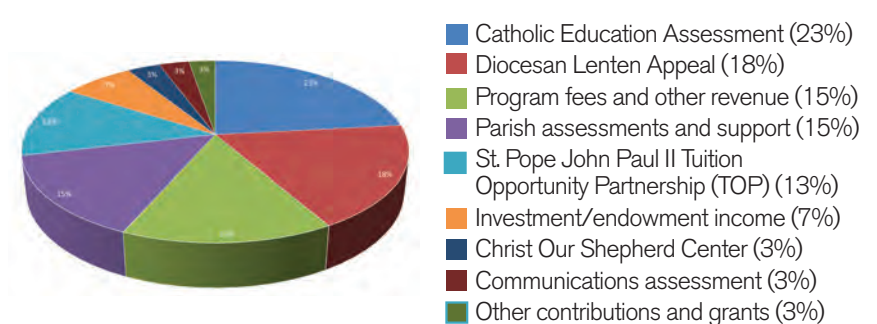
SOURCES OF REVENUE



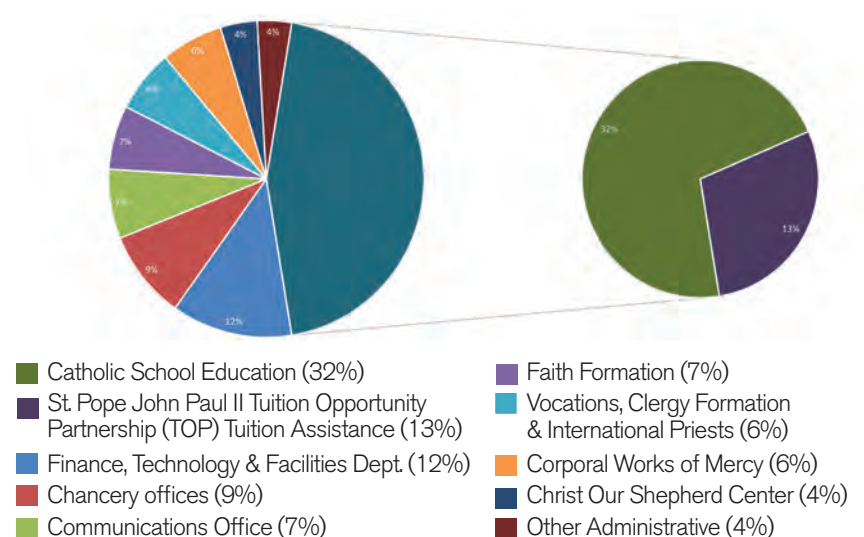
MINISTRY & ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES



SOURCES OF REVENUE (including TOP funds)



MINISTRY & ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES (including TOP funds)



Diocese of Greensburg Unincorporated Association

Statements of Activities for Pastoral Center Fund & Education, Discipleship & Formation Fund

Year Ended June 30,	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Revenues, gains, and other support:		
Diocesan Lenten Appeal	\$ 3,779,860	\$ 3,778,675
Parish assessments and support	3,026,418	2,947,446
Program fees and other revenue	3,066,936	3,075,497
Christ Our Shepherd Center	674,851	659,147
Investment /endowment income	1,059,453	1,146,657
Communications assessment	539,823	549,852
Other contributions and grants	423,962	538,621
Catholic Education Assessment	4,789,464	4,654,037
Endowment income - EDF Fund	374,540	392,548
Contributions - EDF Fund	<u>84,115</u>	<u>162,527</u>
Total revenues, gains and support	<u>\$ 17,819,422</u>	<u>\$ 17,905,007</u>
Expenses are incurred in the following areas to perform services in support of parish, Catholic education and other ministries		
Faith Formation:		
Catechesis, Evangelization, Youth & Worship	\$ 829,286	\$ 680,155
Faith Formation provided to Parishes Subsidy	331,229	113,021
Lay ecclesial ministry	<u>171,845</u>	<u>100,503</u>
Total Faith Formation	<u>1,332,360</u>	<u>893,679</u>
Catholic School Education:		
Contribution to diocesan high schools	475,000	475,000
Government funded educational programs	603,750	822,672
Office for Catholic Schools	455,896	339,275
Elementary schools tuition assistance	145,000	145,000
Tuition assistance	4,362,237	4,246,540
Catholic Schools Administrative Support	<u>444,830</u>	<u>396,563</u>
Total Catholic School Education	<u>6,486,713</u>	<u>6,425,050</u>
Corporal Works of Mercy:		
Hospital ministry program	610,023	546,621
Contribution to Catholic Charities	378,250	378,250
Tribunal / Marriage Office	190,030	180,861
Donations and other grants	110,996	57,985
Other special ministries	<u>10,573</u>	<u>26,737</u>
Total Corporal Works of Mercy	<u>1,299,872</u>	<u>1,190,454</u>
Vocations, Clergy Formation & International Priests:		
Office for Vocations	390,652	682,075
Unassigned priests	214,538	259,966
Neumann House, net of residence fees	206,948	214,087
Pension & retired priests' healthcare	52,832	51,902
Clergy Development	83,683	100,819
International Priests	283,555	240,215
Office for the Permanent Diaconate	<u>70,296</u>	<u>39,970</u>
Total Vocations, Clergy Formation & International Priests	<u>1,302,504</u>	<u>1,589,034</u>
Chancery Offices:		
Bishop's Office	456,365	394,549
Development and Stewardship	913,736	692,488
Human Resources	139,415	130,695
Vicar General's Office	169,255	162,346
Retired Bishop's Office	141,405	133,045
Curator / Archivist	25,315	26,724
Purchasing and facilities services	<u>5,572</u>	<u>4,656</u>
Total Chancery Offices	<u>1,851,063</u>	<u>1,544,503</u>

Finance Department:

Information technologies	1,228,041	1,208,283
Financial operations and services	1,075,008	891,947
Engineering and facilities management	<u>226,122</u>	<u>237,830</u>
Total Finance Department	<u>2,529,171</u>	<u>2,338,060</u>

Total Christ Our Shepherd Center

Total Communications Office

Other Administrative:

Legal and professional fees	87,343	289,710
Regional and national dues	128,115	121,555
General diocesan administration	343,211	139,274
Special events	111,869	132,333
Diocesan sites maintenance	10,539	6,978
Bad debt expense	7	64
Lay employee pension plan expense	<u>35,473</u>	<u>34,065</u>
Total Other Administrative	<u>716,557</u>	<u>723,979</u>

Total Expenses

Change in net assets without donor restrictions before adjustments and transfers:

Transfers from other funds	100,000	75,000
Transfers to other diocesan entities	<u>(288,063)</u>	<u>(239,933)</u>

Change in unrestricted net assets

Temporarily restricted net assets:

Contributions	4,572,371	5,083,382
Released from restrictions	<u>(4,718,981)</u>	<u>(5,245,252)</u>
Change in temporarily restricted net assets	(146,610)	(161,870)

Net assets, beginning of year

Net assets, end of year

	<u>4,940,228</u>	<u>4,402,969</u>
	<u>\$ 4,695,565</u>	<u>\$ 4,940,228</u>

DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL

The Diocesan Finance Council is a consultative body for the Diocesan bishop and, as with parish finance councils, is required by the Code of Canon Law, the universal law of the Catholic Church. The specific responsibilities of the Diocesan Finance Council, as outlined by canon law, include reviewing the annual budget, annual financial statements and the independent auditors' report, and providing consultation in specific financial areas. In the Diocese of Greensburg, there are statutes that provide further direction for the council, including advising the Bishop and his staff in the Department of Finance. The members of the Diocesan Finance Council for 2024-25 (as of June 30, 2025), appointed by the Bishop, were:

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

- The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
- The Reverend Monsignor Raymond E. Riffle, MSW, MPA
- Clifford Gorski
- Melaney Hegyes
- Sheila R. Murray, CFO
- The Rev. Monsignor William R. Rathgeb, JCL
- Vincent J. Reilly
- Dr. Nancy A. Rottler

OUTSIDE MEMBERS

- John J. Dolan, CPA
- Lisa A. Martinelli
- Vincent J. Roskovensky II
- Jeffrey D. Erdely
- The Reverend James B. Morley
- Patricia Westerman

Fish fries scheduled throughout Diocese during Lent

NOTE: Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18. The Fridays in Lent are Feb. 20 and 27 and March 6, 13, 20 and 27; Good Friday is April 3.

BROWNSVILLE

Saint Peter Parish in Saint Mary's Social Hall, 118 Church St. Fish dinners Ash Wednesday and every Friday of Lent (except Good Friday), 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Takeout available. Orders will be accepted until 5:30 p.m. at 724-364-7070.

CADOGAN

Saint Lawrence Parish, 324 First Ave. Fish dinners Ash Wednesday, 4:30-6:30 p.m., and March 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m. For information, call 724-763-9141.

CRABTREE

Saint Bartholomew Parish with Crabtree Volunteer Fire Department in Marian Hall, 388 Cemetery Road. Fish fries Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday, 4:30-7 p.m. Dine in or take out. Orders can be placed by calling 724-834-9789 or 724-834-1028.

DONEGAL

Saint Raymond of the Mountains Parish, 170 School House Lane. Fish dinners all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (limited menu) and 3:30-7 p.m.

FARMINGTON

Saint Joan of Arc Parish, Route 40. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Dine in or take out (takeout available for lunch menu only from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.). Delivery available for four or more orders. For information, call 724-329-4522.

GREENSBURG

Our Lady of Grace Parish, 1011 Mount Pleasant Road. Drive-thru fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. Orders can be placed on site; preordered by credit card at www.ourladyofgracechurch.org (by 4 p.m. Thursdays); and called in (lunch only) at 724-836-8157.

Saint Bruno Parish, 1729 Poplar St. Fish dinners all Fridays of Lent, 4-7 p.m., and Good Friday, 2:30-7 p.m. Dine in and take out. For information, call 724-836-0690.



THE CATHOLIC ACCENT FILE PHOTO

Patrons enjoy a fish dinner in 2023 at Saint John the Baptist Parish.

HARRISON CITY

Saint Barbara Parish, 111 Raymaley Road. Fish fries Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 4-7 p.m. Dine in or take out. Orders can be placed by calling 724-213-0153 or at www.stbarbara.org.

INDIANA

Saint Bernard Regional Catholic School in Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish Hall, 200 Clairvaux Drive. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 4-6:30 p.m.

JEANNETTE

Sacred Heart Parish in Saint Benedict Hall, 504 Cowan Ave. (formerly school cafeteria; enter through Beno Way). All Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 4-7 p.m. Dine in or take out. Orders can be placed after 2 p.m. at 724-527-9940.

KENT

Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, 100 Good Shepherd Drive. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent, 4-7 p.m. Drive-thru and take out.

KITTANNING

Saint Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 361 N. Jefferson St. Fish dinners all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 4-6:30 p.m. For information, call 724-548-7649 or visit www.stmarykittanning.org.

LATROBE

Saint John the Evangelist Parish, 306 Saint John Drive. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), noon-6 p.m. Dine in or take out.

MASONTOWN/FOOTEDALE

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish. Fish fries hosted at the cafeteria in Masontown by the Knights of Columbus, Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dine in or take out. To order, call 724-583-8210.

Fish fries hosted at the social hall in Footedale by the Christian Mothers, all Fridays of Lent, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Dine in or take out. To order, call 724-245-2932.

MONESSEN

The Epiphany of Our Lord Parish, 44 Pennsylvania Blvd. Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Dine in or take out (limited menu and take out only on Good Friday). To order, call 724-684-5512. For a complete menu, visit www.eolparish.com.

MOUNT PLEASANT

St. Pius X Parish, 222 Summit Street. Pierogi sale (frozen potato and cheese) Feb. 13, 4-6 p.m., Feb. 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-7:30 p.m., and Feb. 15, 9 a.m.-noon. For information, call 724-547-1911.

NEW KENSINGTON

Mount St. Peter Parish, 100 Freeport Road. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

NORTH HUNTINGDON

Saint Agnes Parish, 11400 Saint Agnes Lane. Drive-thru fish fries Feb. 20 and 27 and March 6 and 13, 2-6 p.m. and March 6 and 13.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 200 Leger Road. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. Dinner will also be served on Ash Wednesday. Check the parish Facebook page for menu, pricing and lunch call-ahead information.

NORTHERN INDIANA COUNTY

Church of the Resurrection Parish. Clymer social hall, 349 Morris Street, Fridays, Feb. 27 and March 13, 4-7 p.m. or until sold out. Rossiter Fire Hall, 517 Central St., Friday, March 6, 4-7 p.m. or until sold out. Ernest church basement, 755 Main St., Friday, March 20, 4-7 p.m. or until sold out. Glen Campbell social hall, 155 First Ave., Friday, March 27, 4-7 p.m. or until sold out.

PERRYOPOLIS

St. John the Baptist Parish, 3332 Pittsburgh Road. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), noon-5:30 p.m. Dine in or take out.

SALTSBURG

Saint Matthew Parish, 501 Cathedral St. Fish and pierogi dinners Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and dinner 4-6:30 p.m. (Ash Wednesday is dinner only). Take out only. For information, call 724-639-9338 or 724-468-5794.

SCOTTDALE

Partner Parishes of Saint John the Baptist and Saint Joseph, Everson, in Saint John School Hall, 501 S. Broadway St. Lenten dinners Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday), 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Dine in or take out. For information, call 724-887-6321.

YATESBORO

Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish, 109 Second St. Fish fries all Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday). Dine in or take out.

2026 PUBLISHING SCHEDULE FOR THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Publication	Submission Date	Publication Date
The Catholic Accent Newspaper	March 25	April 16
The Catholic Accent Magazine		May 18
The Catholic Accent Newspaper Jubilarian Edition	June 26	July 16
The Catholic Accent Newspaper	Sept. 25	Oct. 15
The Catholic Accent Magazine		Nov. 24



Endowments: Planting faithful seeds for the future

By Vicki Meier

Executive Director, The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Greensburg

GREENSBURG — The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Greensburg receives many questions about the purpose of an endowment and how it is used to benefit parishes, cemeteries or other Diocesan programs. I hope to answer some of them below.

What is an endowment?

An endowment is a fund that generates revenue to support your parish, cemetery or one of many Diocesan programs such as faith formation, clergy formation, Catholic schools or Catholic Charities. The principal of the endowment is preserved in perpetuity, while the earnings from the invested assets are used according to the donor's wishes. It's like planting a tree: The seed (your gift) stays planted, and each year the parish benefits from the fruit (investment earnings). Named endowment funds can be established for a minimum of \$50,000, or gifts can be added to existing funds to grow the principal at any time.

How does an endowment financially support my wishes?

A donor can make gifts to endowed funds with cash, stock, a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) or in an estate plan. The Catholic Foundation holds endowed funds perpetually in trust for parishes and other Diocesan ministries. If you created



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People attend a Diocesan Will and Wisdom estate planning seminar.

an endowment to support faith formation programs at your parish, your gift would be the principal, which is invested to produce annual income for the parish. As an example, if a parish has a \$1 million endowment, it would give the parish an estimated

\$40,000 in annual income.

The Foundation has more than 225 endowments that make up more than \$117 million in assets. Besides the parish and cemeteries, endowments support Diocesan pastoral care, Catholic education, Catholic Charities, international priests, lay ministry, vocations, the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship, and priests' health and retirement costs. Examples of important Diocesan funds that assist in the mission of our Church are as follows:

Parishes: All parishes in the Diocese have created either a parish or cemetery endowment.

Francis Fund: Supporting the office of Faith, Family and Discipleship, this fund helps parishes provide effective spiritual formation for all age groups, especially our young people.

Priestly Vocations: This supports the education and formation of seminarians for priesthood in the Diocese.

Catholic Charities: This provides income to support Catholic Charities programs for families and individuals in the four counties of the Diocese.

Saint Joseph, the Carpenter Fund: This fund provides income to support ordained ministry, including seminarians, the ongoing education of clergy, and the education of permanent deacons.

All endowment funds are governed by the guidelines of three components: a written investment policy, withdrawal policy and usage policy.

Investment policy: The Foundation's

policy lays out which types of investments a third-party manager is permitted to make and dictates how much risk the manager can take in seeking the target return. The Foundation follows strict investment and screening policies outlined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Withdrawal policy: The withdrawal policy allows parishes to accept income from a fund or reinvest earnings to grow the value of the fund. The Foundation has a specific annual distribution rate and annually approves a distribution rate. In the past few years, it has distributed 4%-5% of the 3-year average fair market value of each fund.

Usage policy: The usage policy establishes the purposes for which a fund can be used. Endowments, whether set up by an institution or given as a gift by donors, can have multiple uses. These include ensuring financial support of Diocesan ministries or vocations or providing other financial assistance to parishes and cemeteries.

Legacy giving speaks not just of generosity, but of vision — a belief in what the Church can become for future generations. Your gift ensures that the faith and mission we cherish today will continue to flourish tomorrow.

If you are considering leaving a legacy to your parish or the Diocese, please contact me at vmeier@dioceseofgreensburg.org or 724-552-2503. I would be honored to help you explore the ways your gift can make a lasting impact.

Parishes, church offer support to Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

By Cliff Gorski

Editor

WHITNEY — It's a blustery autumn evening as people make their way into Saint Cecilia Parish's social hall, where they are warmly greeted by Deacon Mark Ferlin and his wife, Kathy. Benedictine Father James Podlesny gathers them together in prayer before they enjoy a delicious meal of roasted turkey.

Everyone at this monthly gathering has an individual story, but they all share the same situation — they are Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

After the meal, children participate in activities while grandparents share stories, tips, resources and tears.

Deacon Ferlin said when the ecumenical program, sponsored by Sacred Heart Parish, Youngstown, Saint Cecilia Parish, Whitney, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Latrobe, began about five years ago, a handful of grandparents

showed up. Now, dozens gather each month.

Teresa Mamone has been attending for three years. She and her grandson make the 40-minute trip from North Huntingdon because she finds support and information she needs.

"We are all walking in each other's shoes, and we understand each other like people outside of that realm wouldn't understand," Mamone said. "It's sad to know that there is such a need for this, but thank goodness for grandparents. Where would these children be?"

AARP Pennsylvania estimates that in the state, there are 80,000 grandparents raising close to a quarter-million children because of economic hardship, incarceration or addiction.

"They are heroes," Deacon Ferlin said. "They have all been thrown curveballs, and their faith is incredible and they are getting through it."

Sandy and Dave Barkley of

Derry have been attending since the group started.

"It's been wonderful and it's been growing by word of mouth," Dave said. "We don't get to be grandparents; we have to be the parents."

Rose Mary Baird of Latrobe, who is raising her 13-year-old granddaughter, said many of her friends wonder how she has the energy to parent a second time around. She said the Blessed Mother gives her strength, along with the support she finds at the monthly gatherings.

"We respect each other so much, and it is so good to see each other and learn from each other in our shared but very different situations," she said.

Despite concerns about parenting in their senior years, the grandparents say they will always work hard to make their grandchildren feel loved, safe and happy.

Grandparents raising children can get information by calling 724-557-4450 or visiting grglatrobe.com.



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CYO sports roundup

Cross country

The Diocesan cross-country championships were held at Saint Vincent College Oct. 5. Nearly 300 runners in kindergarten through eighth grade participated from Aquinas Academy (AA), Greensburg; Christ the Divine Teacher Catholic School, Latrobe (CDT); Conn-Area Catholic School and Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School, Connellsville; The Divine Redeemer School, Ford City; Mary, Queen of Apostles School, New Kensington (MQA); Mother of Sorrows School, Murrysville (MOS); Queen of Angels Catholic School, North Huntingdon (QA); Saint John the Evangelist Regional Catholic School, Uniontown (SJE); and Saint Sebastian Regional School, Belle Vernon. The junior junior varsity team champion was MQA. CDT took home the junior varsity and varsity championship trophies.

Girls basketball

The Diocesan girls' junior varsity basketball championship was held at Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School Nov. 8. Athletes from AA, CDT, MOS, QA, Saint Bernard Catholic School, Indiana, and SJE participated. QA won the championship, defeating CDT 27-16. QA's leading scorer was Nadia Ferrier.

Determination leading to success in Sicuani, Peru

By Sister Ancilla Maloney, IHM

QUECHUA, PERU — High in the south Andes mountains of Peru sits the Quechua community of Acco Acco Phalla, at an altitude of over 12,000 feet above sea level. (Acco means wind in Quechua. Two accos means it's very windy!) Leaders of the community, which consists of seven settlements of roughly 20 to 30 families each, came to the IHM Sisters last year to ask for help in building a new church. Theirs had been built more than 100 years ago of adobe and was in ruins.

Scattered across the Andes mountain range that makes up the Diocese of Sicuani are dozens of such small communities. The diocese has been twinned with the Diocese of Greensburg since the days of Vatican II in the 1960s when the bishops of the two dioceses became friends. Six of these are the responsibility of the mission parish of San Felipe, which has been administered by IHM Sister Eileen Egan (Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, Pa.) since 1992. A grant was written to an archdiocesan



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People of the Quechua community work on their new church building.

foundation in Germany, but no response has been received to date — hence the request to the sisters for help.

However, the Quechua people heard about the grant request and decided to go ahead anyway, as the grant required some contribution

from them toward the budget. The leaders pledged that their communities would work on making large adobe bricks made of mud and straw and baked in the sun, which they did this past summer. The weather is very dry with no rain from mid-April until the

end of November, perfect for making adobes, 6000 of them!

The work is under the direction of Irene Espirilla Choque, a Quechua-speaking catechist for the San Felipe parish, and Lucretia Ataman, who is directing construction. With donations from our

Greensburg Mission office and also the Pontifical Mission office in the Archdiocese of New York, as well as with other donations, not only did the people make the adobes, but one of their number laid out the foundation which the people filled with huge stones and concrete, then raised the walls of the church and put on a roof.

The work was done just in time before the rains came, which would have destroyed the adobes. Now it stands ready for its next infusion of funds to complete the church.

Over the past several years, IHM Sister Ancilla Maloney has been giving mission co-presentations in various parishes in the Diocese of Greensburg. She volunteered to join Sister Eileen and their native Sister Norma Poma-Arpi in 2012, where she ran the library/recreation program in the parish, wrote grants for several needs in the diocese, and directed arts and crafts activities for the annual summer program. She now resides in an IHM Convent in Scranton.

Sister Ancilla Maloney, IHM, works as a pastoral minister in Sicuani, Peru.



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BISHOP BLESSES PREGNANCY CENTER: Bishop Larry J. Kulick blesses the new location of Alternatives.Yes Ministries and Alternatives Laurel Highlands Pregnancy Center in Dunbar Jan. 7. The facility offers free, life-affirming services to empower women facing pregnancy, including ultrasounds, parenting classes, supplies (diapers, formula, clothing) and life skills education.

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March 21, 2026
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BINGO

East Vandergrift — Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish will hold bingo Sundays, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, at 2 p.m. Information: 724-478-4958.

Whitney — St. Cecilia Parish will hold bingo Sundays, Feb. 1, March 1, April 12 and May 3. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and bingo begins at 2 p.m. Information: 724-423-3777.

BUS TRIP

Donegal — Saint Raymond of the Mountains Parish will sponsor a trip to the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, Md., June 24. The bus will leave at 8 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. Cost is \$80 and includes a guided house tour and box lunch. Mass at the basilica, reconciliation and eucharistic adoration will be available. Checks, payable to the Saint Raymond Christian Mothers, can be sent to the parish (Att: Christian Mothers) at P.O. Box 330, Donegal, Pa. 15628. Include name, address, phone number and email address. Shrine information: www.setonshrine.org.

CASH BASHES

Mount Pleasant — Visitation Parish will hold a cash/purse bash March 1 from 1-4 p.m. in the Saint Pius Parish Hall. Tickets include lunch, appetizers, salads, desserts and beverage. Bingo, specials, a 50/50 raffle and games of

chance are planned. Cost is \$35 per ticket (four numbers; need not be present to win). Tickets: 724-547-3903, 724-547-2432 or 724-547-1911.

Scottdale — The partner parishes of Saint John the Baptist, Scottdale, and Saint Joseph, Everson, will hold a cash bash Jan. 31 in the Saint John the Baptist school hall. Tickets are \$25 each and include three numbers; food and beer are included. Basket and 50/50 raffles are planned. Doors open at 5 p.m., with drawings beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets/information: 724-887-6321.

DISCOVERING CHRIST

Latrobe — Saint Vincent Basilica Parish will host Discovering Christ on Tuesdays from 6-9 p.m., Jan. 20 to March 3, with a retreat Feb. 21. Discovering Christ explores the meaning of life, the basics of the Christian faith, and how you can experience love, forgiveness and the good things of God. Registration: Teri Pomerleau at tpomerleau@DioceseofGreensburg.org or 724-539-8629, ext. 15, by noon Jan. 19.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Pittsburgh — Catholic Engaged Encounter weekends will be held March 28-29 and Oct. 3-4 at the Spiritan Center. The weekends begin Saturday morning and end Sunday afternoon. A team of two trained

married couples, along with a priest, facilitate and guide the program. An Engaged Encounter weekend is one of the accepted wedding preparation programs in the Diocese of Greensburg. Registration/information: pittsburgh.engagedencounter.com/.

GALA

Ford City — The Divine Redeemer Catholic School will host its annual "Masquerade Gala" Feb. 7 at Renshaw Farms, Freeport. The evening will include dinner, drinks, games of chance and entertainment by the Jentz Band. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets (21 and over) are \$60 per person, \$110 per couple or \$500 for a table of 10. Reservations/information: 724-763-3761.

LOTTERY FUNDRAISER

East Vandergrift — Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, is sponsoring a Sweetheart Cash lottery raffle. Tickets are \$10 and have two three-digit numbers; two winners will be determined by the Feb. 14 Pennsylvania Lottery PICK 3 drawings at 1:30 and 7 p.m. Each winner will receive \$1,000 cash, a \$50 gift card to Sweetlane Chocolate Shop, and a \$50 gift card to Fine Wines and Good Spirits. Tickets: at the church after Sunday Mass, at the parish office in Apollo, and by calling 724-568-3409.

MUSIC BINGO/DINNER

Indiana — St. Thomas More University Parish will hold music bingo and dinner Feb. 6. Dinner will start at 5 p.m. with bingo at 6:30 p.m. There is no entry fee; beverages, food and raffle tickets will be available for purchase.

PLAY GROUP

Perryopolis — The Lucecitas (Little Lights) play group meets in Saint John the Baptist Parish's bilingual classroom Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m.-noon. Children newborn through age 6 are welcome.



(412) 391-1796
huntsgpgh@gmail.com
huntstainedglass.com



THE CROCUS PROJECT: With the help of Mimi Yanoscsik and Peggy Lucas, members of the gardening committee at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Lucernemines, third- and fourth-grade students planted 72 crocus bulbs around the parish's peace pole. The bulbs were awarded through a grant from the Crocus Project, which is sponsored by The Holocaust Center in Pittsburgh. The crocuses should bloom in the spring, representing the Star of David patches Jews were forced to wear during the Holocaust.

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EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RELIGIOUS ORDER

Latrobe — The Oblates of Saint Benedict, Latrobe Deanery, will meet Jan. 18 from 3-4:15 in Brownfield Room 202 at Saint Vincent Archabbey. Benedictine Brother Roman Pallone will speak on “The Eucharist in Benedictine Spirituality.” Attendees may also attend vespers at 5 p.m. in the archabbey basilica and supper at 5:35 p.m. in the Eichstätt Dining Room. Those planning to have supper should call Benedictine Father Donald Raila at 724-805-2291. The next meetings are Feb. 15, with Benedictine Brother Nicholas Koss speaking on “The History of Benedictines in China”; March 15, with Benedictine Father Killian Loch speaking on “Holiness in Benedictine Spirituality”; and April 19, with Benedictine Brother Hugh Lester speaking on “Obedience in Benedictine Spirituality.”

SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

Greensburg — The Sisters of Charity offer speakers to parishes and organizations. Topics include prayer, human trafficking and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. Information: Sister of Charity Colette Hanlon at 203-809-1574 or chanlon@scsh.org.

SUPPORT

Harrison City — The Saint Peregrine cancer support group meets monthly (usually the third Wednesday at 7 p.m.) at Saint Barbara Parish. All cancer survivors and caregivers are welcome.

Latrobe Area — Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, an ecumenical social outreach mission of Saint Cecilia Parish, Whitney, Sacred Heart Parish, Youngstown, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Latrobe, offers monthly meetings to provide grandparents useful information and time to interact with one another. A hot dinner and child care are provided. Information: 724-423-3777 or 724-537-7358.

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

East Vandergrift — Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish will hold a Valentine's Day dance Feb. 14 from 6-10 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple, which includes beer/water, sandwiches, and snacks/

dessert. Guests are welcome to bring beverages. Basket and 50/50 raffles will also be held. Reservations: 724-478-4958 or 724-882-9212.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Greensburg — Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg is seeking volunteers interested in answering calls on its HelpLine. A mobile phone and training are provided. A minimum commitment of one shift per week is required. Information: Donna Hagan, 724-837-1840 or dhagan@DioceseofGreensburg.org.


Greensburg — Saint Anne Home needs volunteers to help residents attend daily and Sunday Mass beginning at 9 a.m. (no Mass on Saturday); to visit and pray with residents any time of the day; and serve as eucharistic ministers. Training is provided. Information: Cheryl Hall, 724-837-6070, ext. 3050.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY


Jeannette — All are invited to Mass in Spanish Sundays at 6 p.m., with reconciliation at 5 p.m., at Ascension Parish. Todos están invitados a la Misa Espanol en Domingos en Jeannette: La Santa Misa en Espanol, Todo los Domingos a 6 p.m., reconciliación a 5 p.m., Iglesia La Ascensión.

YOUTH EVENT

Steubenville — The Steubenville Youth Conference is set for June 26-28. Freshmen in high school through freshmen in college are invited to attend with the Diocesan group. Registration is currently only for high school students due to limited tickets. Adults interested in chaperoning should contact youth ministers and e-mail ffd@DioceseofGreensburg.org. A portion of the costs for the conference has been underwritten by the Diocese of Greensburg Francis Fund. The remaining cost per participant is \$375 and includes room, board, transportation and three T-shirts. The full cost may be paid at this time, or there is an option to pay a non-refundable \$50 deposit, with the balance due by April 1. Information: www.DioceseofGreensburg.org/steubenville-youth-conference.



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Diocesan men uplifted at THE WELL men's conference

By Cliff Gorski
Editor

GREENSBURG — Close to 200 men from around the Diocese of Greensburg gathered at Christ Our Shepherd Center Nov. 15 for THE WELL: A Future of Hope men's conference, organized by the Diocesan Men's Ministry Team and the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship.

"The focus of this conference was to help men, whether they are fathers, grandfathers, uncles or godfathers, share their faith as disciples of Christ with the young Church," said Vincent Reilly, Managing Director of the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship. "Along with our dynamic speakers, we wanted to provide these men the opportunity to discover and sustain lasting hope in the face of the challenges found in today's culture."

THE WELL: A Future of Hope began with the celebration of Mass by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. In his homily, Bishop Kulick said in today's world, men are faced with many decisions in family matters, in professional

capacities and in spiritual lives.

"You've made those hard decisions because you knew they were the right decisions. They were the morally correct decisions. They were what truth demands," Bishop Kulick said, pointing to his episcopal motto, "Christus est Veritas," which means "Christ is the Truth."

"Don't be afraid to make the hard decisions when they are the right decisions," he said. "When they are the decisions that build up the kingdom of God. When they are decisions made through Christ, who is the truth."

Keynote speaker Dr. Leonard J. DeLorenzo, professor of theology at the McGrath Institute for Church Life and Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame, discussed "Reclaiming Fatherhood: The Model of Saint Joseph."

DeLorenzo said modern options for manhood seem to be either toxic masculinity or the erasure of masculinity. Neither allows for a full picture of the vocation of fatherhood, he said.

"In Saint Joseph, we rediscover the power and



CLIFF GORSKI THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Keynote speaker Dr. Leonard J. DeLorenzo addresses attendees at THE Well men's conference Nov. 15.

beauty of this vocation rooted in an authentic image of manhood," DeLorenzo told the attendees. "In him we find illuminated manhood as tender and strong, humble and bold, patient and courageous. We also find spiritual nourishment and practical guidance both for ourselves, and especially for the children and young people we care for and mentor, especially young men."

The men also heard from Bishop Joseph Espaillet,

Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of New York, who is also Pastor of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish in the Bronx and spiritual director of youth ministry for the archdiocese.

Hope does not disappoint, he told attendees, emphasizing that faith is the basis for everything, including hope.

"Check out the catechism of the Catholic Church," Bishop Espaillet said. "If you do not ascend to the truth of the Church, and to the truth

of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, I would ask you if you really had serious faith."

Bishop Espaillet said faith is formed in belief, acceptance and response. He led the men to discover and sustain lasting hope in the face of the challenges found in today's culture through faith.

THE WELL: A Future of Hope also included Eucharistic Adoration and the sacrament of reconciliation.

The next men's conference is being planned for 2027.

Lenten Evenings of Reflection, Adoration, & Reconciliation

Monday, February 23, 2026

"Consecrated in the Truth: Set Apart to Belong"

Saint Joseph Parish, Uniontown – 6:00PM

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

"That They All May Be One: Entering the Heart of Unity"

Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City – 6:00PM

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

"That the World May Know You Sent Me: Mary's Fiat as the Model of Ecclesial Witness"

Saint Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe – 6:00PM

