

Saint Matthew Parish

P.O. Box 617
Avonmore, PA 15618

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Dear Parishioners,

I am happy to present you with this year's Parish Annual Report titled "*thanks*GIVING for God's Blessings." I am so thankful for the blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon this faith community, and you will see many of those blessings in this publication.

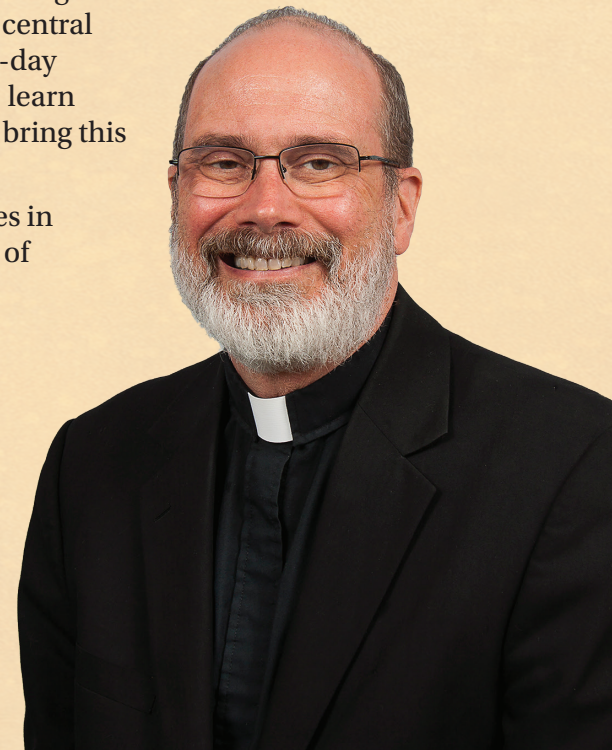
With gratitude to all of our volunteers, be sure to take a look at the many ways our parishioners are dedicating their time and talents to strengthening our faith community, like our liturgical ministers who help in the celebration of Mass – our altar servers, our lectors, our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, our ushers and greeters, and our music ministry. This report includes a complete ministry listing that I pray will prompt you to get involved! We need new volunteers in all of these organizations and ministries and particularly in our Partner Parish Faith Formation Program.

This year our Diocese is promoting the National Eucharistic Revival and asking all of us to think about the precious gift of the Eucharist that is, or should be, central to our faith and lives as Catholics. Earlier this year our Diocese held a two-day Eucharistic Congress in which hundreds of lay people joined the clergy to learn about, celebrate and focus on the Eucharist. We were then encouraged to bring this focus on the Eucharist to our parish life and celebrations.

With gratitude to each of you who attends Mass, offers prayers, participates in events and donates to the parish, know that you are impacting the vitality of our parish. Our parishes and communities benefit when we actively and generously live our faith.

Living a life rooted in gratitude requires us to express our thanks. And so I ask you, with prayerful consideration to your current situation, to make regular financial contributions to our parish, and perhaps you can increase your weekly or monthly offertory, to show your gratitude for the good work being done here. We need the support of all of our parishioners to pay our bills so we can keep our parish open for years to come.

Yours in Christ,
Father John J. Harrold



thanks
GIVING
For God's Blessings



Giving QR Code

**Saint Matthew Parish
Annual Report 2023**



Become an Intentional Disciple

Enter into a deeper relationship with Christ and your brothers and sisters by attending these upcoming events:

- **First Wednesday of each month** – Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, 7 PM
- **November 1** – Partner Parish Combined All Saints/All Souls Mass, 7 PM, Saint Sylvester Parish and 8:30 AM, Saint Ambrose Parish
- **December 7 and 8** – Mass for celebration of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dec. 7, 7 PM, Saint Matthew Parish, and Dec. 8, 8:30 AM, Saint Ambrose Parish
- **December 24** – Christmas Eve Mass, 4 PM, Saint Sylvester Parish, 10 PM, Saint Ambrose Parish

- **December 25** – Christmas Mass, 9 AM, Saint Matthew Parish
- **December 31** – Mass for celebration of Mary, Mother of God, 5 PM, Saint Ambrose Parish
- **January 1** – Mass for celebration of Mary, Mother of God, 9 AM, Saint Sylvester Parish
- **December 15** – “KNOW HIM: St. Nicholas the Gift Giver and the Gift of the Eucharist,” 10 AM and 2 PM, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg
- **December 16** – Breakfast with Saint Nicholas, 9:30 AM, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg
- **December 16** – Christmas Night Market, 3-8 PM, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg



Parish Financials	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Offertory	\$ 81,867	\$ 82,339	\$ 83,209
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	-	-	-
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	43,160	26,916	28,391
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	2,853	1,831	3,424
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	26,718	12,860	16,712
Special Collections	2,052	1,701	2,324
Total Income	\$ 156,650	\$ 125,647	\$ 134,060
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 34,004	\$ 35,160	\$ 29,366
Church	17,108	14,109	11,309
Rectory	1,957	2,396	2,857
Education and Ministry	14,078	13,503	12,007
General Expenses	51,617	50,698	45,072
Special Collections	1,587	1,841	2,134
Extraordinary Expenses*	41,845	10,700	28,841
Total Expenditures	162,196	128,407	131,586
Net Operating Income (Loss)*	\$ (5,546)	\$ (2,760)	\$ 2,474

*Includes \$24,316 added to Catholic Institute Savings Account

*No loss as we had over \$5,600 in checking

Our Parish by the Numbers:



Registered Households

2023: 127
2022: 135
2021: 144

Current Single Member Households

49



Baptisms

2023: 6
2022: 2
2021: 2

Weddings

2023: 0
2022: 1
2021: 0



Funerals

2023: 9
2022: 4
2021: 7



Over the last year and a half, 31% of parishioners donated \$0.00 in “recordable” donations to the parish. If this includes you, could you start donating to help to financially support the parish? Or donate your time and talent to support our work, especially our fundraisers? Please, we need the support of all our parishioners!

Giving With Gratitude

We are excited to showcase our new Giving QR Code. Please scan it to make a year-end gift or to increase your offertory.



BY MAIL:
Saint Matthew Parish
P.O. Box 617
Avonmore, PA 15618



IN PERSON:
Monday – Friday – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Closed Wednesday



ONLINE:
partnerparishesmas.org



Our Ministries:

- Altar Servers
- Adult Altar Servers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Lectors
- Greeters
- Ushers
- Liturgy Decorating Volunteers
- Partner Parish Pastoral Parish Council
- Finance Council Member
- Partner Parish Faith Formation Program
- Altar Rosary Society
- Bereavement Committee
- Baking or Preparing a Dish for Parish Functions
- Parish Office Helpers
- Saint Vincent de Paul Society
- Knights of Columbus
- Saint Ambrose Food Pantry
- Fundraising Volunteers
- Facilities Committee – Concrete Work, Painting, Electrical, Carpentry/Construction, Grounds/Landscaping, General Maintenance



We really do need volunteers to support our parish, specifically servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, greeters and catechists. Please call the parish office today at 724-697-4129 so we can walk you through the process of becoming a volunteer.