

**Saint Sylvester Parish**  
P.O. Box 617  
Avonmore, PA 15618

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Greensburg, PA  
Permit No. 130

### 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.

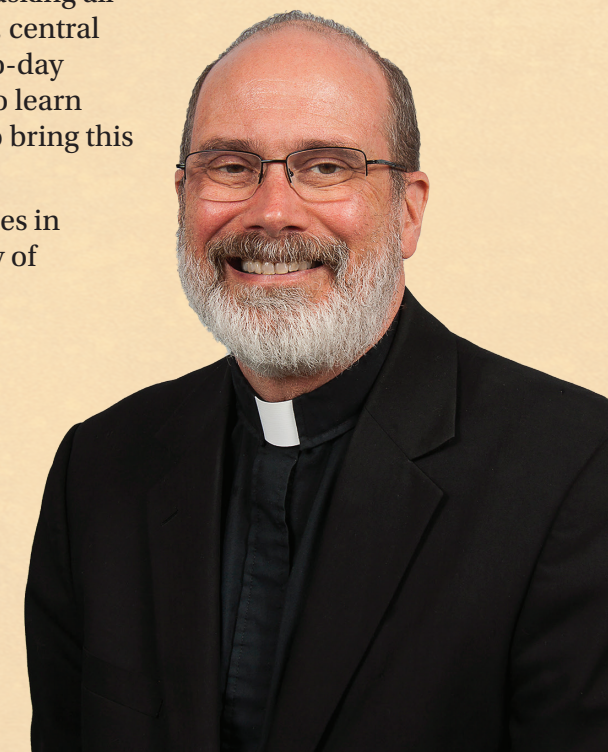
With gratitude to all of our volunteers, be sure to take a look at the many ways our parishioners are dedicating their time and talents to strengthening our faith community, like our liturgical ministers who help in the celebration of Mass - our altar servers, our lectors, our Extraordinary Ministers 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 Sylvester 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



## Our Parish by the Numbers:



### Registered Households

2023: 94  
2022: 97  
2021: 103

### Current Single Member Households

51



### Baptisms

2023: 2  
2022: 0  
2021: 0

### Weddings

2023: 1  
2022: 0  
2021: 0



### Funerals

2023: 5  
2022: 6  
2021: 11



Over the last year and a half, 16% 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 Sylvester Parish  
P.O. Box 617  
Avonmore, PA 15618



**IN PERSON:**  
Monday – Friday – 9:00AM – 1:00PM  
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.

## Parish Financials

	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 105,178	\$ 104,294	\$ 96,025
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	768	1,367	2576
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	8,877	3,378	7,682
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	24,426	17,616	18,775
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	26,207	16,894	21,513
<b>Special Collections</b>	4,547	5,773	11,261
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 170,003	\$ 149,322	\$ 157,832
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 32,077	\$ 31,245	\$ 24,337
Church	20,924	12,752	12,368
Rectory	2,048	2,516	2,522
Education and Ministry	15,127	14,289	18,925
General Expenses	72,265	62,635	53,839
Special Collections	4,100	5,821	11,393
Extraordinary Expenses	22,687	23,472	31,697
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	169,228	152,730	155,081
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	\$ 775	\$ (3,408)	\$ 2,751