



# 2024-2025

## SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

### ANNUAL REPORT



## 2024-2025 SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Parish Family,

Praise the Lord! As I look back on the past year – from **Summer 2024 through Summer 2025** – I am filled with gratitude for the many ways God has been at work here at St. Joe's. Our parish has experienced a year of renewal, fellowship, and deepened devotion to the Eucharist, and I am grateful for each of you who has played a role in making these moments possible.



Every year, our parishioners give of their time, talent, and treasure in so many ways through our various ministries. And often times, these ministries go unnoticed. But they are not unappreciated. Volunteers in our **Community Life** ministries help to strengthen our bond as a parish family through gatherings like our Donut Sundays, Parish Picnic, Clambake, Lenten Dinners, Funeral Luncheons, Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Knights of Columbus, and the St. Joseph Carpenters Senior Group. I am so grateful for all who help to make our community a family that serves through these various ministries.

Our **Liturgical Life** ministers also give of themselves and help carry out our liturgical celebrations with all due reverence, beauty, and joy. Thank you to our Sacristans, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Choir Members and Musicians, Martha's Ministers, Gardeners, and Art & Environment Team. All your efforts help people to encounter Christ when they come to our parish and liturgies.



Our **Social Concerns** ministries continue to live out Jesus's call from Matthew 25: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, caring for the poor, and more. Our volunteers make Christ's love tangible by walking with folks in need through our Bereavement Ministry, Ministry of Assistance, Feeding our Family, NAMI, Respect Life Group, Christmas Sharing Tree, and supporting our sister parish in El Salvador. Many thanks for all your hard work and service.

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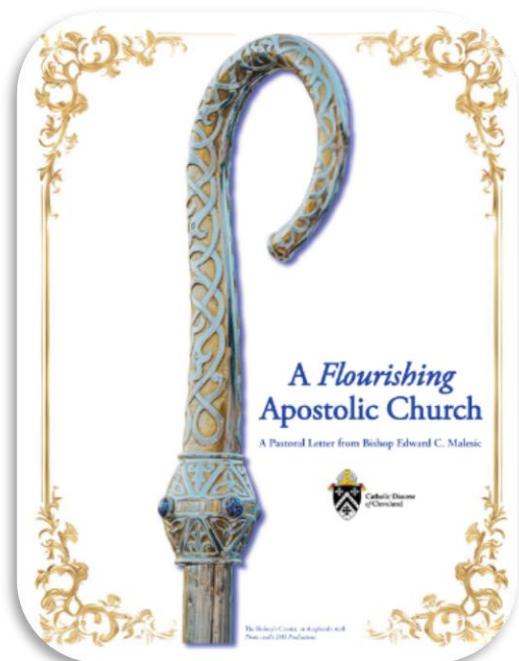
Our **Spiritual Life** ministries remind us that our work as a parish is not only through visible service—but also by sacrificial prayer and fasting. Our ministries bear forth much spiritual fruit through their efforts in the Healing Prayer Ministry, the Seven Sisters and Fasting Brothers Apostolates, Sacred Steps Ministry, Moms of Faith, Men's Prayer Group, Legion of Mary, and Ministry of Praise. May God continue to abundantly bless your prayers and sacrifices.



within our parish. Thank you for your “yes” to follow Jesus and serve Him.

As I reflect on this past year and share some of the highlights from our parish, I do so with Bishop Edward Malesic's first pastoral letter in mind. His letter is titled, **“A Flourishing Apostolic Church,”** and he published this letter for our diocese in December 2024. It represents his vision for our diocese and the parishes within the diocese, that we may boldly follow the call of the Holy Spirit as sons and daughters of the Father. If you have not read Bishop Malesic's letter or if it has been a while since you read it, I humbly ask and encourage you to give it a read. It reminds us of who we are and whose we are, and it lays out specific strategies for us to grow into “a flourishing Apostolic Church” and parish. You can read Bishop Malesic's pastoral letter here: [dioceseofcleveland.org](http://dioceseofcleveland.org).

And our **Youth & Young Adult** ministries share the faith and help to shape the souls of our children at St. Joe's. Ongoing ministries like our Children's Liturgy of the Word, Adaptive Faith Formation, and By Teens For Teens bring the faith to life, and our volunteers—many of whom are teens—are becoming great leaders



With that in mind, let us look back on the past year!

## Summer-Fall 2024: Welcoming and New Beginnings



This past year began with a spirit of welcome and fresh engagement. We introduced **New Parishioner Brunches** to greet newly registered families, share the story of our parish, and help them make a home at St. Joe's. These gatherings beautifully expressed the hospitality and belonging that define our parish family.

I also launched "**5 Minutes with Fr. Andy**", a weekly snapshot of parish life: a small effort, but a joyful one, giving parishioners a regular window into many good things happening around us – ministries, service opportunities, faith formation, community life, and more. You can watch new episodes every Friday afternoon on our St. Joe's YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram channels.



In the fall, we hosted **one of our biggest Pre-Cana Days** in recent memory. Twenty engaged couples gathered in October for a time of preparation, prayer, and encouragement in response to God's call to sacramental marriage. That same season we were blessed to welcome **permanent diaconate candidate Eric Uturo** for the 2024-2025 school year. Eric generously jumped right in when he arrived, and he helped with multiple parish ministries to better understand and serve parish life at the local level. We are extremely grateful to have had the chance to be a parish of formation for Eric, and we pray that his time of formation and discernment continues to be blessed by God.

Additionally, our Saints Joseph and John School had the grand opening of a **new playground** – a visible sign that our community remains committed to forming children not only in faith, but in play, joy, and healthy growth. A huge thank you to all who gave of their time, talent, and treasure to bring this dream to life.



## Summer-Fall 2024: Parish Service, Outreach and Ministries



In July, the **10<sup>th</sup> National Eucharistic Congress** took place in Indianapolis. This event was a gathering of tens of thousands of Catholics from all over the world to celebrate and deepen their devotion to the Eucharist. As a sign of our parish's increased Eucharistic devotion, we were blessed to have two young people from our community represent St. Joe's at the congress: Kaitlyn Helal and Courtney Hahn. Kaitlyn and Courtney returned to the parish—renewed and on fire for Jesus in the Eucharist—and they were able to share their testimony with all of us at Sunday Mass. Their witness and enthusiasm for Jesus in the Eucharist helped to stir a deeper desire for Christ within all of us.

Beginning a new academic year, our SJJ school and PSR programs continued to flourish: we had **581 students** enrolled in preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and **180 children** in PSR. The education and faith formation we provide is a testament to our commitment to raising disciples who know Jesus, love the Church, and live their faith daily. May God continue to bless our SJJ principal, Mrs. Jennifer Francis, our SJJ teachers, staff, faculty, PSR catechists, and all volunteers who work hard every day to serve these young souls.



In mid-October, our **Annual Parish Service Day** drew over 80 volunteers who gave their time and energy to improving parish grounds and serving our wider community. It was a beautiful display of stewardship, generosity, and parish unity.

Our parish also responded with generosity beyond measure: thanks to your sacrifice and charity, St. Joe's **exceeded our Catholic Charities appeal goal for the 11th consecutive year**. This sustained generosity speaks volumes about your love for and commitment to the poor, the vulnerable, and the mission of the Church beyond our parish borders.



## Advent 2024 and Growth in Faith Formation

**Eucharist & the Mystical Life**



The Grace of Christ's Ongoing Advent  
with Bishop Michael Woost

**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
7:00PM in the church**

Join us for a special one-night  
Advent mission!

Free admission! No RSVP necessary!

Advent offered splendid opportunities for deepening faith. We welcomed an evening talk by **Bishop Michael Woost**, whose reflection reminded us of the beauty of preparing our hearts for Christ's coming. Meanwhile, our regular **adult faith formation** continued in many forms. This included Scripture and book studies, as well as encouraging parishioners to take up the Hallow Prayer App to deepen their faith. These offerings fostered spiritual growth, community, and reflection on the Gospel.

Around this time, our parish also began to promote the **Angel Scholarship Fund**, which provides tuition assistance for students to attend Catholic school. At our Saints Joseph and John School, generosity toward the Angel Scholarship Fund allowed us to make available over \$140,000 in tuition assistance for the 2025-2026 school year—a significant increase from previous years. This generosity opens the gift of Catholic education more widely to families and gives real hope to many.

**BE A STUDENT'S ANGEL**

**DONATE today TO SJ**

SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE TO SS. JOSEPH & JOHN SCHOOL



CALL: 216-902-1312   ONLINE: [CatholicCommunity.org/angel-contribution](http://CatholicCommunity.org/angel-contribution)

**"COME & SEE"  
THIS NOVEMBER**

**"Come and see" Jesus in Adoration  
for just 15 minutes.**

**Take a "Come & See" card  
and drop it off when you  
come to Adoration.**

**Let Jesus in the Eucharist  
change your life!**

SAINT JOSEPH  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

In November, I invited every member of our parish to take up a simple **"Come & See" challenge**: spend just 15 minutes in our Eucharistic Adoration Chapel during the month of November. The response was inspiring. Many shared how those quiet minutes before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament brought profound peace, renewed faith, and a deeper sense of belonging. It affirmed, in a small but powerful way, what Bishop Malesic wrote in his pastoral letter: that what truly matters is deepening our friendship with God, entering again and again into the Paschal Mystery of Christ, and allowing His love to shape our lives.

November also marked our first **Sensory Friendly Mass** at the parish. This celebration of Mass was catered to individuals and families with special sensory needs like a quieter environment, low lighting, and soft music. Those who attended this Mass remarked how welcome and comfortable they were, and they would love to see more opportunities like this in the future. As a parish, we will continue to look at ways for all who seek Christ to encounter Him here.



## Christmas, Winter, and 2025 Parish-wide Consecration



At Christmas 2024, as a sign of our commitment to Eucharistic life, families received the book *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* by Matthew Kelly. And in January 2025, we launched a **parish-wide book study using this book**. Small groups formed throughout the parish, meeting to reflect on the book, on Scripture, share testimonies, and spend time in Eucharistic adoration. These 33 days really enflamed the Holy Spirit in the hearts of so many in our parish.

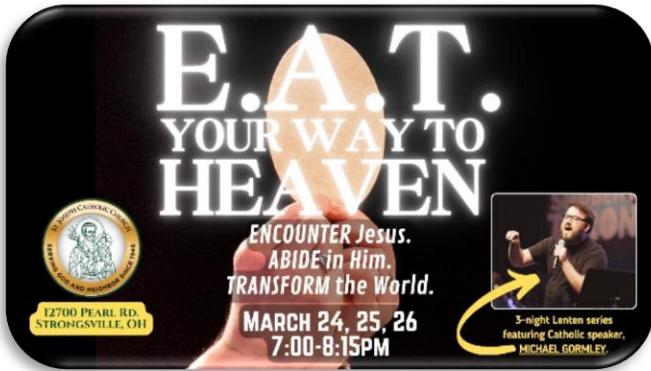
In February, after completing the book study, we came together as a parish to **consecrate ourselves to the Eucharist** – a communal act, a commitment to live as a Eucharistic community. This moment was not only symbolic, but deeply spiritual: a sign of renewed identity, unity, and desire to be transformed by Christ's True Presence in the Eucharist.

This focus on Jesus in the Eucharist mirrors the invitation from Bishop Malesic in his pastoral letter: to deepen our relationship with Jesus in daily prayer, the sacramental life, and communal encounters with God. He describes this as the foundation from which a parish can "flourish." And I am continuing to see how our parish consecration to the Eucharist is bearing fruit.

Around this time, we also completed the long-awaited **upgrade of our Hearing Loop Assisted Listening System** in the church. This system allows those with compatible hearing aids to "tune in" to the sound system at church and receive a direct audio feed into their hearing aids, eliminating unnecessary background noise. This upgrade was a concrete step toward greater inclusivity and accessibility so that all who come to St. Joe's may more fully participate in the liturgy.



## Lent and Parish Lenten Series 2025



Lent 2025 brought grace-filled renewal. We held our **first parish Lenten series in many years**. Our speaker, Michael Gormley, led a dynamic three-night series entitled "E.A.T. Your Way to Heaven"

— **Encounter** Jesus in the Eucharist, **Abide** in Him, and **Transform** the world through His presence in us. The mission stirred hearts, rekindled devotion, and renewed our sense of purpose as missionary disciples.

## Easter Vigil 2025, OCIA, and New Life

One of the most powerful moments of this past year came at the **Easter Vigil 2025**, when we welcomed **20 individuals into the fullness of the Catholic faith through OCIA**, including an entire family of four. Their joy, faith, and commitment to Christ were a beautiful reminder of what it means to embrace the Paschal Mystery — to die to self and rise to new life in the Risen Lord. This is at the heart of our diocesan calling, as Bishop Malesic writes that we are not to live merely as members of a parish, but as missionary disciples living out God's love in our world.



## Spring and Summer 2025: Building Community & Celebrating Life



In April, I was humbled and honored to be installed as the **seventh pastor of St. Joe's**, with Bishop Woost presiding at the celebration and joined by the parish's two previous pastors: Fr. Bob Sanson and Fr. Joe Mamich. It was a grace-filled day of thanksgiving and recommitment — both personally and communally — to shepherding this parish according to the Gospel. I am beyond blessed to be with all of you as your shepherd, and I am grateful for your love, prayers, and support.

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In May, we mourned the loss of **Deacon Pete Moore** — a faithful servant who ministered at St. Joe's for 21 years. His funeral was a moving tribute to a life of love and service to Christ's people; we continue to pray for his soul and trust in the promise of a glorious resurrection.



During the summer, our school building received a bright **new paint job**, symbolizing renewed life and hope for our children's future here. The Parish Picnic in June 2025 was a joyful, home-grown celebration — food cooked by our own parishioners, over 30 raffle baskets, and old-fashioned fellowship. Our Parish Golf Outing the same month was also a tremendous success, bringing together parishioners in fun, friendship, and community.



And our youngest parishioners enjoyed summer faith and fun with our **Holy Heroes Saintly Safari Vacation Bible School** — a week where saints' stories, games, and joy combined to help children encounter Christ in a creative, engaging way.

### Parish Life Statistics and Spiritual Fruit

| Parish Life Statistics          | 2025  | 2024  |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Adults welcomed into the Church | 19    | 6     |
| Infant Baptisms                 | 47    | 47    |
| Marriages                       | 9     | 7     |
| Funerals                        | 62    | 64    |
| 8th Grade Confirmations         | 50    | 53    |
| 2nd Grade First Communions      | 63    | 67    |
| Registered Households           | 2,791 | 2,725 |
| Registered Parishioners         | 7,290 | 6,780 |
| Average Weekend Mass Attendance | 828   | 820   |

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As we look at these parish life statistics, this is not only “data,” but beyond the numbers, they are souls drawn into friendship with God, families renewed, hearts reopened to sacramental living. They represent a parish stepping more deeply into its identity as an apostolic community called to **worship, evangelize, and serve** – precisely the vision Bishop Malesic lays out for all parishes in our diocese.

### Financial and Structural Health

Looking at the financial picture of the parish, we are blessed to be in stable and healthy condition. This past year we ended with a **surplus of just over \$81,000**, and offertory collections grew compared to the previous year. Your consistent generosity and sacrificial giving make all our ministries, outreach, and improvements possible.

Thanks also to favorable market conditions, our endowment and investment income supported our financial health. As we planned the 2025–2026 fiscal year, we budgeted conservatively and do not anticipate major capital repairs in the near future. We are poised to continue building on what the Holy Spirit has begun in our midst. As you view our financial report, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jonathan Krol, Parish Finance Council Chairperson, at 216.789.2797, or Dean Robinson, Parish Business Manager, at 440.238.5555. Thank you to the Finance Council for their prudent and thorough counsel. You can find out more about the Finance Council and see past Annual Reports at [sjohio.org/finance-council/](http://sjohio.org/finance-council/).

| ST. JOSEPH PARISH<br>STATEMENT OF CHURCH REVENUE AND EXPENSES |                            |                   |                  |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|   | Actual Year Ended June 30, |                   | Budget           |
|   | 2025                       | 2024              | 2026             |
| <b>Parish Receipts:</b>                                       |                            |                   |                  |
| Offertory Collections   | 1,067,719                  | 1,045,880         | 1,104,000        |
| Bequests  | -                          | -                 | -                |
| Maintenance & Repair Fund (1)                                 | 115,394                    | 107,579           | 115,000          |
| Income From Parish Programs                                   | 92,269                     | 96,044            | 96,251           |
| Investment & Endowment Income                                 | 122,429                    | 115,437           | 43,028           |
| Miscellaneous Receipts  | 92,224                     | 98,470            | 32,899           |
| Designated Collections  | 24,313                     | 23,115            | 23,860           |
| <b>Total Parish Receipts</b>                                  | <b>1,514,348</b>           | <b>1,486,525</b>  | <b>1,415,038</b> |
| <b>Parish Disbursements:</b>                                  |                            |                   |                  |
| Salaries, Benefits & Taxes                                    | 627,518                    | 582,129           | 627,582          |
| Rectory & Household   | 20,616                     | 15,712            | 18,504           |
| Parish Office & Administration                                | 77,311                     | 72,299            | 82,219           |
| Altar, Sanctuary & Liturgical                                 | 85,408                     | 59,136            | 63,210           |
| Community Outreach (2)  | 38,565                     | 36,588            | 30,546           |
| Religious Education   | 18,305                     | 21,221            | 26,210           |
| Stewardship & Evangelization                                  | 18,857                     | 18,832            | 17,755           |
| Utilities   | 53,625                     | 46,862            | 54,304           |
| Insurance & Property Taxes                                    | 39,063                     | 37,115            | 41,102           |
| Maintenance, Repairs & Plant Operating                        | 57,051                     | 53,848            | 66,742           |
| Diocesan Assessment   | 122,466                    | 125,154           | 134,100          |
| School Support (3)  | 216,792                    | 218,532           | 209,172          |
| Designated Collections  | 24,313                     | 23,115            | 23,860           |
| Capital Expenditures (4)                                      | 32,746                     | 21,643            | 18,700           |
| <b>Total Parish Disbursements</b>                             | <b>1,432,636</b>           | <b>1,332,186</b>  | <b>1,414,006</b> |
| <b>TOTAL PARISH SURPLUS</b>                                   | <b>\$ 81,712</b>           | <b>\$ 154,339</b> | <b>\$ 1,032</b>  |

(1) These funds help to offset maintenance, repairs, plant operating and capital expenditures.  
 (2) Includes Social Concerns Ministries, such as Feeding Our Family, our support of West Side Catholic Center, Habitat for Humanity, Mission of Hope and Bereavement  
 (3) Includes our parish subsidy to our interparochial school and any parish-awarded tuition assistance  
 (4) Includes parking lot repair and upgrading the hearing loop in the church

## 2024-2025 SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

### ST. JOSEPH PARISH STATEMENT OF CHURCH ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

|   | Balance As Of June 30, |                     |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|
|   | 2025                   | 2024                |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                             |                        |                     |
| Checking, Savings And Investments         |                        |                     |
| Checking Account Balances                 | \$ 5,441               | \$ 15,443           |
| Savings and Investment Account Balances   | 1,072,832              | 983,936             |
| Total Checking, Savings and Investments   | 1,078,273              | 999,379             |
| Accounts Receivable                       | 6,044                  | 6,044               |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                       | <b>\$ 1,084,317</b>    | <b>\$ 1,005,423</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                        |                        |                     |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses     | \$ 19,584              | \$ 22,402           |
| Income Received in Advance                | -                      | -                   |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                  | <b>19,584</b>          | <b>22,402</b>       |
| <b>FUND BALANCE</b>                       |                        |                     |
| Fund Balance, Beginning of Year           | 983,021                | 828,682             |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) for the Year        | 81,712                 | 154,339             |
| <b>Fund Balance, End of Year</b>          | <b>1,064,733</b>       | <b>983,021</b>      |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 1,084,317</b>    | <b>\$ 1,005,423</b> |

### *A Call to Live the Vision of A Flourishing Apostolic Church*

Reading Bishop Malesic's pastoral letter for the diocese, I am convinced that what we have lived at St. Joe's this year — our worship, our Eucharistic adoration, our welcome, our service, our sacramental life, our faith formation, our outreach — are concrete steps toward becoming the "apostolic parish" he calls us to be.

But there is more to come. The letter encourages daily prayer, commitment to the sacramental life, small-group discussion, service to the poor, evangelization — all grounded in a deep friendship with Jesus. Again, I ask and encourage all parishioners to read through Bishop Malesic's letter, which can be found here: [dioceseofcleveland.org](http://dioceseofcleveland.org).

As your pastor, I invite each of you to reflect: How can I continue to grow in friendship with Christ and with one another? How can we do that as a parish? How can we use our gifts — time, talent, treasure — to build up this parish, to help more souls encounter Jesus, and to serve our community as Gospel disciples?

I believe St. Joe's is ready and able — by God's grace — to respond with generosity, with faith, with boldness so that we may continue to serve God and neighbor. Please know of my continued prayers for you, and I'll see you at Mass! St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary...*pray for us!*

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Andy Gonzalez



| Parish Pastoral Staff                          |  | Liturgy Schedule                       |
|--|--|--|
| Fr. Andy Gonzalez   Pastor                     |  | Saturday Vigil   4:30pm                |
| Fr. Arnold Tiplaca   Parochial Vicar           |  | Sunday   8:00am & 10:30am              |
| Fr. Greg Olszewski   Parochial Vicar           |  | Monday Evening   6:30pm                |
| Dc. Bob Lester   Permanent Deacon              |  | Tue., Wed., Thur.   7:30am             |
| Dc. Paul Kutolowski   Permanent Deacon         |  | Fri. (during school year)   8:05am     |
| Mrs. Linda Zvoncheck   Dir. of Faith Formation |  | Fri. (outside of school year)   7:30am |
| Mr. Luke Massery   Dir. of Music Ministry      |  |  |
| Mr. Dean Robinson   Business Manager           | Reconciliation                               |  |
| Mr. Al Lechler   Dir. of Facilities            | Saturday   3:00 – 4:00pm                     |  |
| Ms. Judy Rawlins   Office Manager              | Thursday before First Friday   6:30 – 8:00pm |  |
| Mrs. Jennifer Francis   School Principal       | *or by appointment                           |  |

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