

**Saint Thomas More University Parish**  
1200 Oakland Avenue  
Indiana, PA 15701

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Greensburg, PA  
Permit No. 130

**Dear Parishioners,**

I am happy to present you with this year's Parish Annual Report titled *thanks*GIVING for Our Blessings. I am so thankful for the blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon our faith community.

Among our many blessings, let me begin with the youth of our parish, the next generation of Christ's disciples, and the future of our Church. We are working on a new and innovative curriculum for faith formation to transmit the faith through unforgettable experiences that move our children toward the Holy Spirit.

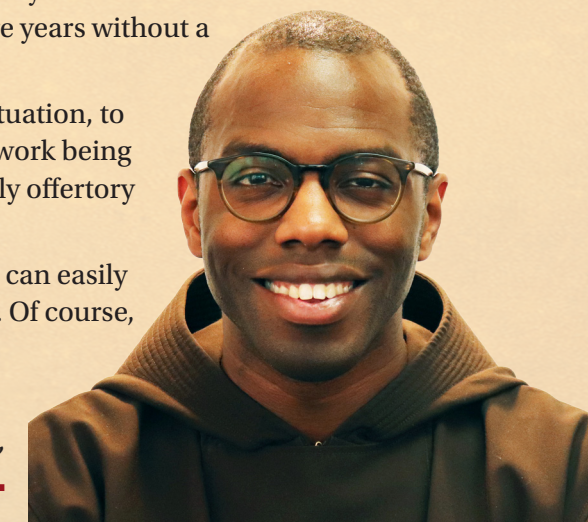
Our blessings include numerous impactful ministries in our parish and engage many liturgical volunteers who reach out to the sick, the poor, and the elderly. Please read through our ministry listing and consider becoming part of this transformative work. We can always use more help!

Let me also mention our Indiana Catholic Communities' combined events, which support both Saint Bernard of Clairvaux and Saint Thomas More University Parish and foster a sense of joyous community spirit while always supporting our mission to grow in faith and service.

You, yourself, are a blessing to our parish. Thank you for attending Mass, praying with us, and supporting the parish through your generous donations. The next time you visit, I hope you notice the work underway to improve the front entrance to the church, which will provide a ramp and walkway from the handicapped parking area for parishioners who are not able to use stairs, plus the ability to have caskets for funerals enter through the front entrance. We are also updating the landscaping surrounding the new walkway. Updating the entrance to the church will make our parish an even more welcoming place. Less visible is the resealing of the Saint Thomas More roof. We have been lucky that the original roof made it through 55 years with only minor maintenance. The time has come, however, to repair the roof so that we may have many more years without a water issue in our worship area.

Now I am asking you, with prayerful consideration to your current financial situation, to make a year-end gift to our parish to show your gratitude to God for the good work being done here. Or, if you are able, perhaps you will increase your weekly or monthly offertory as a show of thanks for the blessings God has bestowed upon you.

For your convenience, we've included a GIVING QR Code. By scanning it, you can easily enroll in online giving, increase your weekly offertory, or make a year-end gift. Of course, traditional check and cash donations are always deeply appreciated as well.



*Peace and All Good,*  
**Father Richard Owens, OFM Cap.**



*thanks*  
**GIVING**  
for Our Blessings



GIVING QR Code

**Saint Thomas More University Parish  
Annual Report 2024**

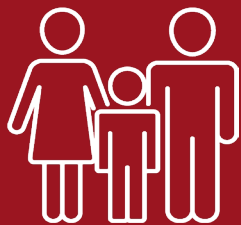


# Become an Intentional Disciple

Enter into a deeper relationship with your fellow parishioners by attending one of these upcoming events:

- **October 24 – Prayer and Perfect Pairings, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg.**  
A five-course meal and wine pairings with recipes from Bishop Larry J. Kulick, Father Christopher J. Pujol, Father Andrew J. Hamilton, Father John Torres and Father Daniel E. Carr; proceeds benefit Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg (tickets: [DioceseofGreensburg.org/PrayerandPerfectPairings](https://DioceseofGreensburg.org/PrayerandPerfectPairings)).
- **October 26 – Living Museum of Saints, 5-8 PM. Outdoor candlelit tour at Saint Bernard Regional Catholic School, with local youth portraying saints and sharing their stories (proceeds benefit the school).**
- **Novemfor the Catholic Student “SEEK” retreat in Washington DC in January.** Enjoy an evening of good food, drinks and a basket raffle. Takes place at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Social Hall from 5pm to 8pm. Tickets will be sold ahead of event.
- **December 7 – Breakfast with Saint Nicholas, 9:30 AM, Saint Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon.** Free event with brunch, photos with Saint Nicholas, an art project and a show about cultural versions of Saint Nicholas (details available in November: [DioceseofGreensburg.org](https://DioceseofGreensburg.org)).
- **December 14 – Christmas Night Market, 2-9 PM, Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg.** Food and craft vendors, 4 PM Mass with Bishop Larry J. Kulick and the Diocesan Youth Choir (details: [ChristmasNightMarket.org](https://ChristmasNightMarket.org)).

# Our Parish by the Numbers:



2024: 635  
2023: 633  
2022: 654

**Registered Households**

**Current Single Member Households**



**185**



**Baptisms**  
2024: 11  
2023: 10  
2022: 10

**Weddings**



2024: 4  
2023: 4  
2022: 2



**Funerals**  
2024: 6  
2023: 7  
2022: 8

**Households that Give**

**332**

**Households that Don't Give**

**303**

# New to Our Parish



**Father Jonathan Ulrick**  
New Parochial Vicar

Father Jonathan Ulrick arrived July 1, 2024 at St Thomas More University Parish. The oldest of four boys in Grapevine, TX, a Dallas/Fort Worth suburb. After earning an undergraduate degree, he worked in mortgage banking at a company in Dallas for 8 years. During that time, he became involved in a local parish and had a transformative experience, shortly after that, he began discerning religious life. He was contacted by the Capuchins and, after visiting the province in 2006, decided to trust the Lord and give it a shot. He was ordained to the priesthood in June 2017.



**Danielle Cribbs**  
New Regional Director for Faith Formation & Discipleship



**Rachel Digmon**  
New Director of Campus Ministry



**Jessica Thompson**  
New Regional Director for Youth Ministry

## Giving With Gratitude



We are excited to showcase our GIVING QR Code. By scanning it, you can easily enroll in online giving, increase your weekly offertory or make a year-end gift. Traditional check and cash donations are always deeply

appreciated as well. You can visit our website, stop by in person, or mail your gift.



**BY MAIL:**  
Saint Thomas More University Parish  
1200 Oakland Avenue  
Indiana, PA 15701



**IN PERSON:**  
Monday – Friday  
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
724-463-2277



**ONLINE:**  
[stmup.org](https://stmup.org) (click on “Donate”)

## Our Ministries:

- **Altar Servers** - Assist the priest in preparing for and during the Mass.
- **Music Ministry** - Choirs and cantors provide musical support of full and active participation in the liturgy.
- **Catechists and Youth Ministry Leaders** - Individuals echoing God's Word who seek to foster and nurture the spiritual needs of children and youth as they form faith communities to build the Kingdom.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist** - Assist the priest by distributing the Eucharist at Mass.
- **Prayer Chain/Prayer Shawl** - Volunteers receive prayer requests each week and offer their prayers for them.
- **Greeters** - Welcome parishioners to our faith community.
- **Lectors** - Proclaim the word of God during Mass and other liturgical functions, devoting time to preparation and understanding of sacred Scripture.
- **Ushers** - Take up the offertory and distribute bulletins after Mass and assist with emergencies or other concerns.
- **Groundskeepers** - Those who enjoy gardening help to maintain the beauty of the landscape of the church grounds.
- **Emergency Food Assistance** - Collections are taken up to provide meals and non-perishable items for those in need.
- **Ministry of Care** - Volunteers provide pastoral care to the sick and homebound of the parish, taking the Eucharist to them.
- **OCIA** - Adult faith formation journey into the Catholic Church.
- **Bereavement Ministry** - Provides a loving, compassionate and caring presence for those who have lost a loved one.
- **Campus Ministry** - In Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Catholic Student Association, students can grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and enjoy fellowship with one another. Parish priests and staff minister to the students.
- **Campus Ministry Sunday Night Communal Meal** - Two Sundays per month, volunteers cook dinner for IUP students after the 6 PM campus Mass.
- **Faith Formation Events** - Family-friendly events provide fellowship and create a sense of Church community among families.
- **Children Liturgy of the Word** - During 9:30 AM Mass the second and fourth Sundays of each month, children ages 4-10 participate in the readings and Psalms. Volunteers are needed to assist.
- **Sacristan** - (Daily Mass and Weekend) Sacristans assist in preparing the church for the celebration of Mass and the cleaning up and securing of items that were used. In most cases, such ministry will involve ensuring that the gifts for Communion are prepared, that the credence table is set with the items the priest and Altar Servers will require, and that other items required for Mass are in place and in working order.

## Parish Financials

	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 437,235	\$ 418,399	\$ 432,387
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	5,267	3,698	1,585
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	140,449	108,912	89,110
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	31,502	47,079	24,179
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income*1</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	95,385	42,138	118,958
<b>Special Collections</b>	30,157	34,246	38,092
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 739,995	\$ 654,472	\$ 704,310
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 121,453	\$ 119,374	\$ 131,973
Church	65,459	62,931	74,286
Rectory	11,843	8,269	16,240
Education and Ministry	100,167	100,142	95,247
General Expenses	236,666	238,544	220,788
Special Collections	28,028	34,206	38,082
Extraordinary Expenses*2	161,002	85,310	183,227
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>724,618</b>	<b>648,776</b>	<b>759,843</b>
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 15,377</b>	<b>\$ 5,696</b>	<b>\$ (55,533)</b>

\*1 Other Non-Assessable Income includes \$45,199.00 withdrawn from Catholic Institute savings for Church Projects and \$15,000.00 refunded from the Focus downpayment on Campus Ministry services that were cancelled.

\*2 Extraordinary Expense includes \$15,000 refund that was returned to our Catholic Institute savings account to be used for Campus Ministry, a few larger donations targeted for special church projects, DLA refund money moved to the Catholic Institute savings account until needed for church projects and Endowment interest received into our Catholic Institute savings account.

**We really do need volunteers to support our parish. Please call the parish office today at 724-463-2277 so we can walk you through the process of becoming a volunteer.**