

**Saint Cecilia Parish**  
118 Church Street  
Brownsville, PA 15417

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

### Dear Parishioners,

The safety and health of every member of our parish have been in my daily prayers as together we continue to face the ups and downs of the pandemic. Many of you, I know, have endured great pain and personal loss, not to mention the numerous concerns that have developed as the pandemic has imposed an ongoing struggle with fear and isolation in many people's lives. Still today, there is the ongoing uncertainty of what is next.

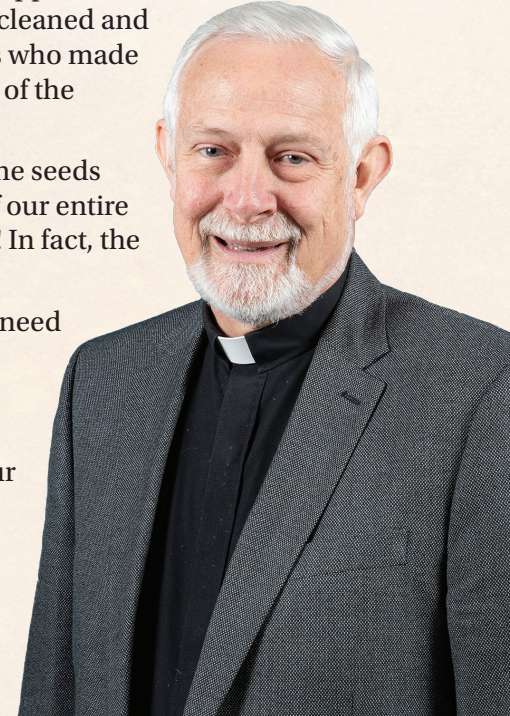
I hope you have been comforted by our local and Diocesan outreach through streaming Masses, other opportunities for prayer, phone calls, special mailings and our gatherings for events such as the coffee and doughnuts socials and spaghetti dinners. There were also special collections to support mission work at home and around the world, food drives to help the hungry, volunteers who cleaned and sanitized our churches to protect our at-risk parishioners, and outreach coordinators who made a crucial connection with the elderly and homebound. These are just a few examples of the outpouring of love we saw in the name of Jesus Christ throughout the pandemic.

I want you to know that through it all, Saint Cecilia Parish has continued to nourish the seeds of faith that have been planted, seeking to care for the spiritual and material needs of our entire parish community. The good news in all of this is that the harvest has been bountiful! In fact, the support provided by you, the faithful, has been just remarkable.

As excited as I am about the impact of our outreach, I also realize that a tidal wave of need is still on the horizon. Economic uncertainty and continued isolation mean the most vulnerable among us will need us now more than ever. Our missions and ministries cannot continue to meet that need without your help.

I want to sincerely thank you for all that you have given to our parish. Remember, your contributions keep this parish vibrant and impactful. Please remember your parish this year, and prayerfully consider increasing your stewardship so we can continue God's work.

*Yours in Christ,*  
**Father Tim**



Growing Support for our  
**FAITH**  
Community



**Saint Cecilia Parish Annual Report 2021**

## Flowers that Feed the Soul: Our Ministry Listing

- **Altar Servers** — Altar servers assist the priest in preparing for Mass. The servers take part in the liturgy by performing tasks to help the priest celebrate the Eucharist. Children in grades 3 and above, or once their first Communion is made, are encouraged to become altar servers.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** — These ministers assist the priest in the distribution of holy Communion.
- **Lectors** — Lectors proclaim the word of God during Mass or other liturgical functions and devote time to preparation and understanding of sacred Scripture. To serve the parish in the ministry of lector, you must be of high school age, be able to read well and proclaim the Scriptures loudly and clearly.
- **Ushers** — The ushers take up the offertory and distribute bulletins after Mass. They also assist as needed with emergencies or other necessary concerns.
- **Christian Mothers** — The Christian Mothers are a group of lay women who wish to hold true to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Additionally, the Christian Mothers are concerned with the faith formation of youth and the expansion of their personal faith relationships with Christ Jesus.
- **Hospitality Ministry** — Ministers of Hospitality help assist ushers at each Mass and also assist those attending in fulfilling the special expectations that need to be observed in light of the pandemic.
- **Cantor** — Cantors provide musical support of full and active participation in the liturgy.
- **Religious Education** — Children of the parish are instructed in the principles of the Catholic faith.
- **Ministry to the Sick and Homebound** — Parishioners assist the priest in providing pastoral care to the sick and homebound of the parish. The ministers take the Eucharist to the sick, whether they are at home, a personal care home or a nursing home.





# Cultivate the Garden Within: Capital Improvements



Your contributions to our parish help maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community. Over the last year, we have created the beautiful Mary Garden and procured and installed a new air conditioner and fur-

nace in the rectory. The old units were installed in 1986, and their efficiency had greatly diminished. These enhancements will be a welcome improvement for the new parochial vicar residing at Saint Cecilia Parish.

## Parish Financials

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 95,414	\$ 82,273	\$ 90,990
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	858	234	1,173
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	270	25	10,487
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	17,230	23,394	16,740
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	232	7,982	681
<b>Special Collections</b>	21,500	30,398	19,605
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 135,544</b>	<b>\$ 144,306</b>	<b>\$ 139,676</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 21,950	\$ 20,109	\$ 24,927
Church	18,647	18,074	30,494
Rectory	1,600	1,680	2,202
Education and Ministry	14,354	13,834	15,745
General Expenses	58,068	50,693	53,732
Special Collections	21,500	29,723	19,605
Extraordinary Expenses	-	25	99
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>136,119</b>	<b>134,138</b>	<b>146,804</b>
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (575)</b>	<b>\$ 10,168</b>	<b>\$ (7,128)</b>

## Our Garden



### Registered Households

2021: 176  
2020: 165  
2019: 170

### Single Member Households

102



### Baptisms

2021: 2  
2020: 0  
2019: 1

### Weddings

2021: 1  
2020: 0  
2019: 0



### Funerals

2021: 10  
2020: 10  
2019: 8



## Weathering COVID-19

Just as God has provided for you, you have provided for our parish. Your investment is like the tilling of the soil, helping us to grow stronger. Despite the pandemic, our parish offertory remained strong, primarily due to the generosity of our parishioners; but it was greatly assisted by online giving and a record-breaking Diocesan Lenten Appeal.

As I am sure you can imagine, our parish, and particularly our societies, suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. However, the Christian Mothers held a number of successful fundraisers in support of Saint Cecilia Parish.

We do have some future events on the calendar, so please consider participating. Help us grow the flowers of tomorrow by planting the seeds today. Spaghetti dinners, calendar parties and other similar events sponsored by the Christian Mothers, as well as our gatherings after the fall and spring anointing Masses, have done much to strengthen the faith community.

Although Father Marlon Libres was reassigned as Pastor of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, we've been told that a new parochial vicar will be assigned and live in the Saint Cecilia Parish rectory. I also want to call your attention to our beautiful Mary Garden and weekly rosaries by faithful parishioners. These ongoing expressions of our Catholic faith will go a long way toward planting the seeds of faith in the next generation of our parish.

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- Oct. 31 — Knights of Columbus pancake and sausage breakfast
- Nov. 14 — Thanksgiving orders for pumpkin rolls and pumpkin pie accepted

## Ways You Can Give



**BY MAIL:**  
Saint Cecilia Parish  
118 Church Street  
Brownsville, PA 15417



**IN PERSON:**  
Monday - Friday  
9:00AM - 4:00PM



**ONLINE:**  
[stpeterstcecilia.org](http://stpeterstcecilia.org)

