

Devoting Support <sup>to our</sup>

# FAITH

Community

## STAYING CONNECTED

God's work continues during  
the COVID-19 pandemic.

## INSIDE

How COVID-19 has  
impacted our parish

## PLUS

We need you! All the  
ways you can be part  
of our parish!

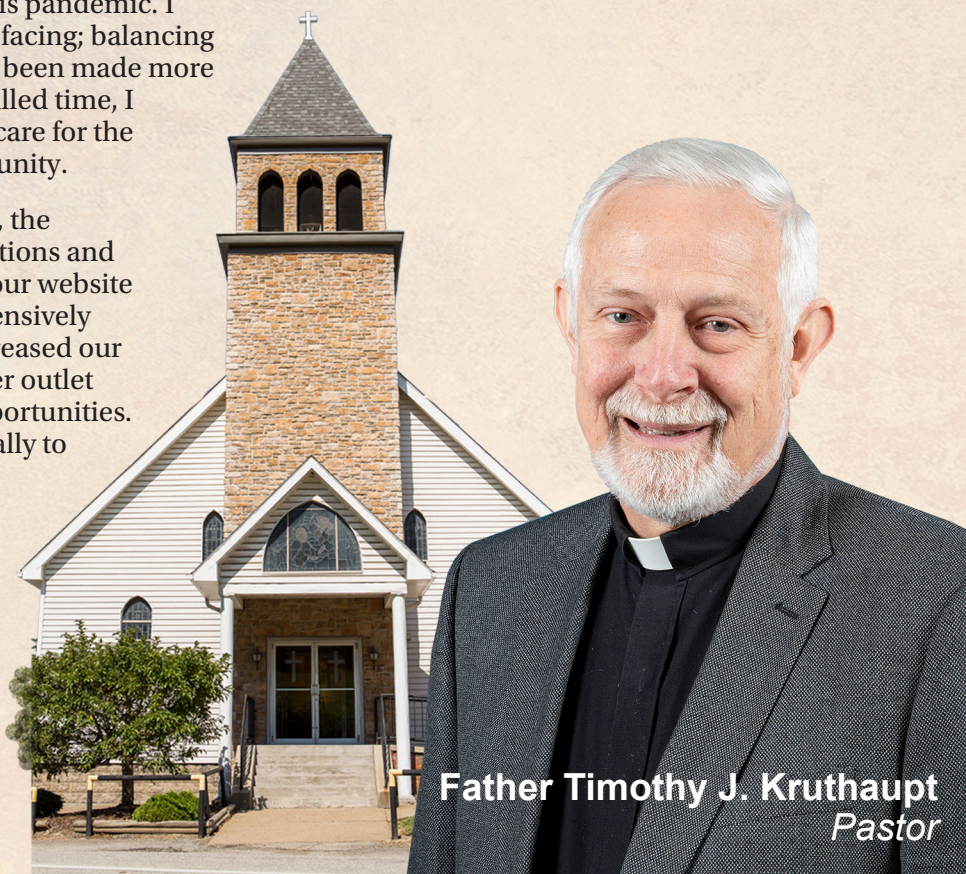


# Staying Connected During COVID-19

I have been keeping the parishioners of our Partner Parishes St. Peter and St. Cecilia in my prayers during this pandemic. I can't even imagine the difficulties you must be facing; balancing family, job, school and everything else that has been made more complicated by COVID-19. During this stress-filled time, I want you to know that our parish continues to care for the spiritual and material needs of our faith community.

Once our church building was closed in March, the partner parishes began to stream Masses, devotions and informational updates to our parishioners via our website and through Facebook. We communicated extensively through our Parish Facebook pages, which increased our social media presence. This also offered another outlet for our streaming liturgies and educational opportunities. We conducted a parish phone outreach especially to the elderly and homebound. We created a Ministry of Hospitality.

During the period of the COVID Pandemic, we've created a number of special Facebook presentations to keep our Partner Parish members up to date with parish events and developments. We also, once our church building opened, created volunteer cleaning crews to sanitize the church and restrooms after each use.



**Father Timothy J. Kruthaupt**  
*Pastor*

## Ways You Can Give



**St. Cecilia Parish**  
118 Church St.  
Brownsville, PA 15728



**9 AM to 4PM**  
Monday-Friday



**[stpeterstceilia.org](http://stpeterstceilia.org)**  
**[parishgiving.org](http://parishgiving.org)**

Sadly, as you can imagine, the virus has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. If you are willing to give of your time and talent to help those in need, please look for our ministry listings and contact us to volunteer. Even though we cannot gather as we normally would, this may be an especially good time to consider a ministry in our parish so that when we do begin to gather, you will have an idea of how you want to serve our community of faith.

Additionally, as you might imagine, your continued financial support during this difficult time will help our parish to maintain and to continue God's work. And so, with great sensitivity to whatever your circumstances might be, I humbly ask, if you are able, that you consider an increase of your weekly or monthly offertory. You can make that commitment online or by sending those donations directly to the parish via U.S. Mail or by visiting our website for online offertory

# COVID-19 and its Impact on our Faith Community

Our parish weekly offertory was reduced because of our limited Mass attendance at St. Cecilia - but it was greatly assisted by those who sent contributions to the Diocesan Lenten Appeal. St. Cecilia will exceed its highest DLA total from previous years.



Our parish and particularly our societies who participate so fully in parish fund raising events suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. For example, our Christian Mothers had plans for a Spaghetti Dinner in the spring, which had to be cancelled. They were able to collect a wide array of articles which they beautifully displayed and sold at their recent Consignment and Vendor sale.



## Parish Statistics



### Registered Households



\*2018: 172  
\*2019: 170  
\*2020: 165

### Single Member Households



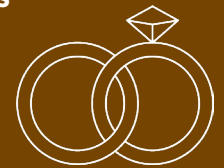
103

### Baptisms



\*2018: 3  
\*2019: 1  
\*2020: 0

### Weddings



\*2018: 1  
\*2019: 0  
\*2020: 0

### Funerals



\*2018: 15  
\*2019: 8  
\*2020: 10

## Parish Financials

	*2018	*2019	*2020
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 105,552	\$ 90,990	\$ 82,273
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	722	1,173	234
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	11,861	10,487	25
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	6,791	16,740	23,394
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	1,492	681	7,982
<b>Special Collections</b>	17,768	19,605	30,398
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 144,186	\$ 139,675	\$ 144,306
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 21,537	\$ 24,927	\$ 20,109
Church	24,494	30,494	18,074
Rectory	1,680	2,202	1,680
Education and Ministry	12,651	15,745	13,834
General Expenses	52,989	53,732	50,693
Special Collections	17,768	19,605	29,723
Extraordinary Expenses	3,408	99	25
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	134,527	146,802	134,138
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	\$ 9,659	\$ (7,127)	\$ 10,168

\*These are the fiscal year

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# Capital Improvements

Your contributions to our parish help to maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community.

Over the last three years, we completed significant work in the Social Hall, including new doors. We revamped aspects of the rectory, and worked on beautifying the church grounds; the addition of the Mary's Garden with a beautiful statue has encouraged regular praying of the rosary. We undertook the procurement and installation of a bell system that has been a great enhancement of the church and the patch. Many comment on the beauty of the hourly chimes and musical selections.



## Ministries at St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia Parish encourage parishioners to participate in one of our liturgical, social or music ministries. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

### 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 an altar server.

### 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.