

Saint Cecilia Parish
118 Church Street
Brownsville, PA 15417

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Dear Parishioners of Saint Cecilia Parish,

Peace and blessings to you all!

It is with a grateful heart that I offer this year's annual report, *ThanksGIVING for Our Parish*. As we reflect on the blessings and growth of our faith community, we are reminded of Pope Leo XIV's inspiring call for every parish to recognize its vital role within the universal Church. Our parish is not simply a local gathering spot; it is a living part of the Body of Christ, united with the Holy Father and Catholics worldwide in mission, prayer, and service.

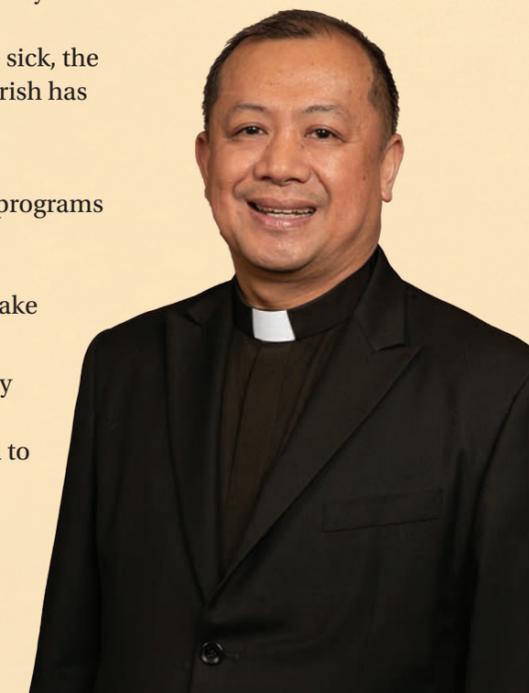
Bishop Larry J. Kulick has challenged us to build a strong and vibrant parish community that will flourish well into the future — rooted in faith, hope, and charity. Our parish has responded generously to this call by nurturing discipleship, deepening faith formation, and reaching out with Christ's love to those in need.

Through your prayers, time, and generosity, we continue to grow as a parish family united in Christ's mission. Our educational programs inspire the young, our sacramental preparation strengthens hearts, and our outreach ministers to the sick, the poor, and the elderly. We encourage you to explore the many ministries our parish has to offer and consider joining us in this joyful work. Your gifts are truly needed and welcomed!

Looking ahead, we are grateful for your support as we undertake projects and programs such as purchasing a church organ in order to make our church an even more welcoming place for all who seek God's presence. For your convenience, a Giving QR Code is included to help you easily participate in online giving or make a year-end gift. Traditional offerings remain deeply appreciated as well.

Our parish is a blessing, not only to each other but also to the wider community and Church. Let us move forward together with thanksgiving in our hearts, confident that by strengthening our parish, we are answering the universal call to be a living witness of Christ's love in the world.

With gratitude and prayers,
Father Efren Ambre, Pastor



thanks
GIVING
for Our Parish



GIVING QR Code

**Saint Cecilia Parish
Annual Report 2025**



Our Shepherds

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church

Pope Leo XIV, elected in 2025 as the first American Pope, hails from Chicago. Before his election, he was Cardinal Robert Prevost. Known for his pastoral heart, theological clarity, and commitment to evangelization, Pope Leo brings a renewed focus to the vital role of the parish in the life of the universal Church. Pope Leo spent more than two decades in Peru, where he became a naturalized citizen and served as a missionary and Bishop. He is fluent in English, Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese, and also reads Latin and German.



The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., Bishop of Greensburg

Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., is the sixth Bishop of Greensburg, having been appointed by Pope Francis on December 18, 2020, and consecrated on February 11, 2021. He is the first native Bishop of the Diocese, hailing from Leechburg. His episcopal motto is *Christus est veritas* ("Christ is the truth"), reflecting his deep devotion to truth rooted in the Gospel. He is steadfastly committed to strengthening and nurturing our parishes, ensuring they remain vibrant centers of faith and service for generations to come.

Father Efren C. Ambre, Pastor

Father Efren C. Ambre, a native of the Diocese of Bangued in the Philippines, was ordained a priest May 24, 1997. He served in the Diocese of Greensburg in different parishes from 2015 until July 2020, returning for a second term to the Diocese in June 2022, when he was installed as Pastor of the partner parishes of Saint Cecilia and Saint Peter in July 2022. Father Efren faithfully ministers to these communities, bringing pastoral care and international missionary experience to his parish assignments. He is deeply dedicated to fostering and enriching the spiritual and prayer life of the parish community by guiding the faithful toward a closer union with Christ through faith, family, and discipleship.



Our Parish by the Numbers:



Registered Households
2025: 125
2024: 131
2023: 176



Baptisms
2025: 1
2024: 1
2023: 2

First Holy Communions
2



Confirmations
1

Weddings
2025: 0
2024: 1
2023: 0



Funerals
2025: 4
2024: 7
2023: 8

Households that Give
101

Households that Don't Give
24

A Call to Serve

We truly need your help to serve our parish family as altar servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, greeters, or catechists. Or consider joining the Christian Mothers, the Ministry to the Sick and Homebound, the Social Service Ministry, or the Vocation Ministry, or becoming a cantor or religious education teacher. Your service brings Christ's light to our community. Please prayerfully consider answering this call, and don't hesitate to reach out to the parish office — we're here to guide you through every step, including the clearance process, so you can share your gifts confidently and joyfully.



Ministries in Action

The Christian Mothers, through the parish Hospitality Ministry, organize a regular coffee and donuts fellowship after Mass and sponsor the Ecumenical Lenten Series, the Regional Penance Service during Lent, and the annual Healing Mass.

The Maintenance Ministry tackled a recurring drainage problem around the church that had been flooding the social hall, completing repairs to prevent future incidents.

Adult Formation recently kicked off a new series of lectures on the "Healing Ministry of Jesus."



Parish Financials

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
Offerory	\$ 117,422	\$ 109,896	\$ 109,219
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	609	835	1,357
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	625	7,450	3,058
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund **	8,315	20,691	19,443
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements and PPP Loan)</i>	8,687	163	154
Special Collections	<u>4,348</u>	<u>2,828</u>	<u>6,536</u>
Total Income	\$ 140,006	\$ 141,863	\$ 137,767
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 20,838	\$ 20,345	\$ 34,982
Church	6,426	6,962	10,675
Rectory	-	-	885
Education and Ministry	17,252	16,147	15,016
General Expenses	65,400	62,410	77,990
Special Collections	4,323	2,828	6,305
Extraordinary Expenses	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	<u>114,239</u>	<u>108,692</u>	<u>145,853</u>
Net Operating Income (Loss) *	\$ 25,767	\$ 33,171	\$ (6,086)

* The 2024 Net Operating Income resulted from the transfer of Father Arnel Tadeo, which decreased Administrative, Rectory, and General expenses.
* The \$7,400 difference in the 2025 Net Operating Income vs. 2024 (all other factors remaining relatively equal) is due to the DLA.
** The Christian Mothers did not yet make their annual \$7,500 DLA contribution for 2025.

Giving With Gratitude

This is our Giving QR Code. By scanning it, you can easily enroll in online giving, make your first gift, increase your weekly offertory, make a year-end gift, or donate in honor of or in memory of someone you love.



Or, visit our website to make a donation: StPeterStCecilia.org and click on GIVING at the top of the page. Of course, traditional check or cash donations are always deeply appreciated too. Mail your gift to Saint Cecilia Parish, 118 Church Street, Brownsville, PA 15417.