

Dear Parish Family,

As we approach Commitment Weekend, I am humbled to report that there are many good things happening at Most Holy Eucharist Parish.

There are many ways to measure success. Historically, our diocese has measured success by looking at numbers: the number of those attending Mass, the numbers of Marriages and Baptisms celebrated, the number of people participating in OCIA, and the number of those receiving Confirmation, as examples. While all these have been strong and some are even on the rise in our parish, not all of our fruit-bearing efforts are so easily quantified.

Ultimately, the real mission of our parish is to invite and accompany others into an encounter and intimacy with Jesus. With that in mind, we continue to provide increased opportunities for parishioners to encounter Jesus, through events like Encounter Night and Eucharistic Adoration. We are working to train others in the model of our Lord, so lay people are equipped with the tools and confidence to evangelize and disciple others. The impacts these encounters have in others' lives, while difficult to measure, are at the heart of the mission of our parish. I do, however, see the Holy Spirit working and fruit stemming from our efforts. I am meeting with more and more people who are new to, or returning to, our Catholic faith.

I would be remiss in not mentioning how blessed we have been in our financial security. Our dream of building a rectory is becoming reality. Parishioners have generously contributed to the project unsolicited. Between their contributions and our Capital Improvement Fund, the rectory will be completed without the need for a capital campaign.

We have been good stewards of our parish resources, which has allowed us to address capital expenditures as they arise. We do, however, have upcoming, pressing expenditures that will require funding beyond our current savings. Although Most Holy Eucharist Parish is new, the properties it is obligated to maintain are aging. The entire St. Patrick of Merna facility needs a new roof. HVAC work in the gathering space at St. Patrick of Merna was completed in the fall. There have been water intrusion issues at St. Mary Church, and we have been working to determine and rectify the cause.

I invite you to prayerfully consider how you are able to respond to the call to be united in God's love by making a commitment to financially support our parish's mission through our **God's Love Unites Us** program on January 24-25, 2026. I sincerely thank you for sharing your treasure through sacrificial giving.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Fr. Dustin Schultz  
Pastor

**MOST HOLY  
EUCHARIST  
PARISH**



## Connect With Us at Our Locations

**Most Holy Eucharist Parish Office**  
1001 N Towanda Barnes Rd.  
Bloomington, IL 61705  
office@mheparish.org  
(309) 662-7361

**St. Patrick Church of Merna**  
1001 N Towanda Barnes Rd.  
Bloomington, IL 61705

**St. Mary Church in Downs**  
108 E Washington St.  
Downs, IL 61736

## Discerning Your New Commitment

Please fill out the enclosed Commitment Card  
and bring it to Mass next weekend

or

scan this QR code to complete your  
Commitment Card online.



## Fulfilling Your New Commitment



To sign up for **Online Giving** or to  
update your current online gift, visit  
[www.mheparish.org/giving](http://www.mheparish.org/giving)



Use your **offertory envelope**  
and bring it to Mass  
or mail it to the parish office.



To learn more about making a  
**Planned Gift** to Most Holy Eucharist  
Parish, contact the parish office at  
**(309) 662-7361.**

God's  
*Love*  
Unites  
Us



**MOST HOLY  
EUCHARIST PARISH**

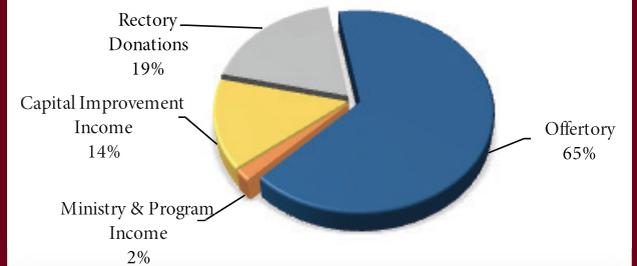


# Financial Snapshot: 2024/2025 Fiscal Year

## Operating Income

Offertory	\$2,375,207
Ministry & Program Income	\$65,728
Capital Improvement Income	\$522,548
Rectory Donations	\$677,101

**Total Operating Income** **\$3,640,584**



United in God's love, we are a visible sign of the body of Christ and together we do great things. Nourished by prayer and the sacraments, the members of our parish community journey on the path of discipleship and grow in relationship with Jesus Christ daily.

Everything we have is a gift from God. As we strive to love one another, good stewardship plays a key role. Stewardship consists of receiving God's gifts with gratitude and sharing them in love and justice to further the mission of our Lord.

We know the importance of bringing the love of God to our neighbors. Through our many ministries, and our social and service-oriented outreach programs, we put into action the words of St. John the Apostle: "If God so loved us, we also must love one another" (1 Jn 4:11).

# 2,063

families in our parish

# 1,006

Masses celebrated in our church each year

# \$43,000

distributed through the *Parishioners Helping Parishioners* program

## 71

Baptisms

## 81

First Holy Communions

## 95

Confirmations

## 25

funerals

## 370

children in our parish schools

## 334

children in Religious Education

## 15

OCIA candidates and Catechumens

## 232

parishioners serving in Liturgical Ministries

## 1,664

hours spent in Eucharistic Adoration

## 90

Choir members beautifying our liturgies

## 106

Ministers of Hospitality welcoming parishioners

Our Mission

Our Community

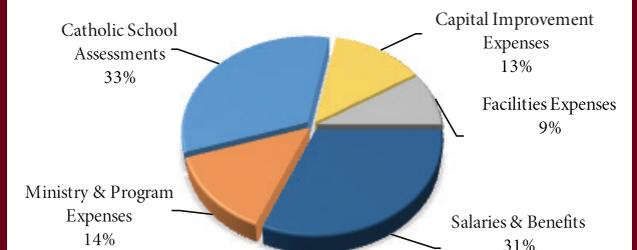
Our Witness

## Operating Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$885,879
Ministry & Program Expenses	\$386,704
Catholic School Assessments	\$929,638
Capital Improvement Expenses	\$367,932
Facilities Expenses	\$254,561

**Total Operating Expenses** **\$2,824,714**

**Net Operating Surplus** **\$815,870**



**141** teen and adult volunteers made *Vacation Bible School* and *Totus Tuus* possible

**1,836** volunteer hours spent on Religious Education