



ANNUAL REPORT

2025

THE BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

353 PEACHTREE STREET NE ATLANTA, GA 30308

BY THE NUMBERS

New Parish Registrations

87

Infant Baptisms

24

Adult Baptisms

28

First Communions

12

Confirmations (High School)

18

Confirmations (Adult)

20

Quinceañeras

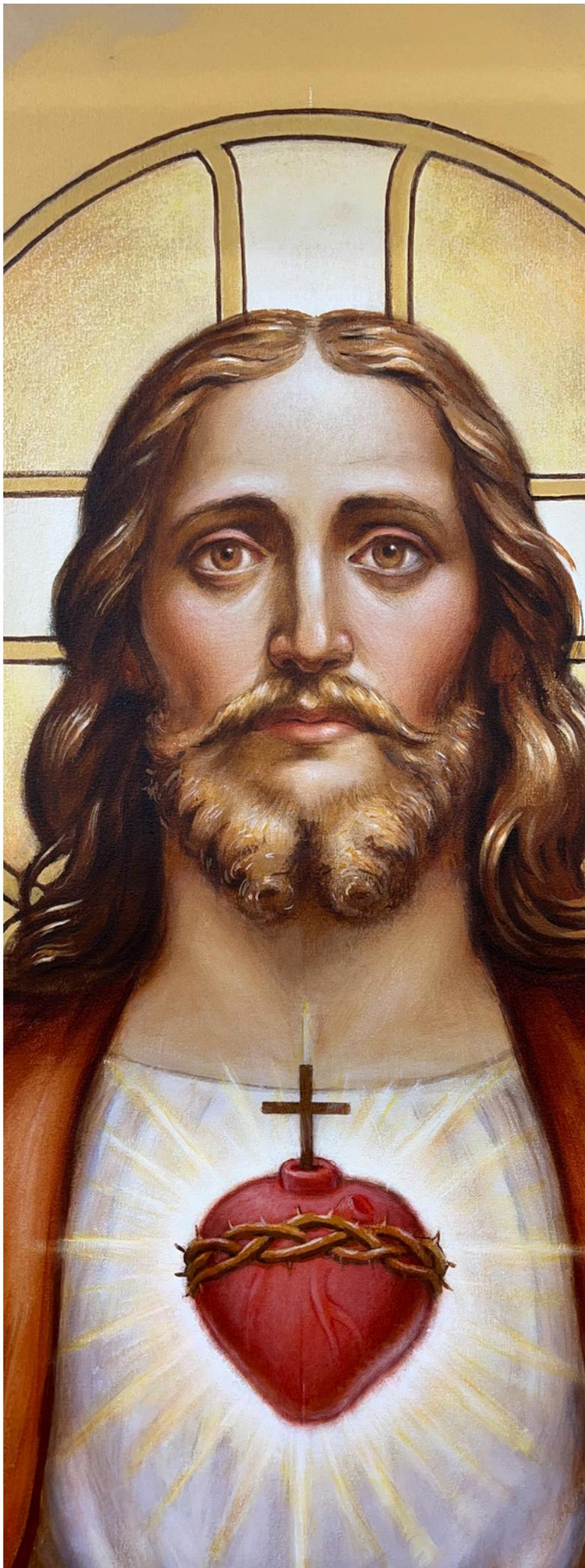
3

Marriages

7

Deaths/Funerals

12



*Cover: Father John blessing the new Altar
at Advent Lessons & Carols on
Friday, December 13, 2024.*

*Left: Rendering of the Salvator Mundi
(Savior of the World), the center of our
newly redecorated Apse.*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Greetings in the Risen Christ!

There is much to be thankful for as we reflect on the past year. Even with necessary disruptions related to the redecorating project, we were able to continue to celebrate Mass in the church during Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter and maintain near-normal parish functions. Thank you for your support and patience as we move toward completing all phases of the redecorating in early October.

With great joy I share good news with you, providing this fiscal year-end report, and additional information regarding your Stewardship. As you can see herein, through the cooperation and help of all those who have participated faithfully in Christian Stewardship (parishioners, lay ministers, volunteers, clergy and staff) we have dutifully maintained good fiscal responsibility. This has resulted in a break-even year financially, in line with our planning and projections.

While, as noted, this was a year of significant physical changes to the building, which had some impact on the day-to-day life of the parish, we continued to make good use of our financial resources. Through your generous stewardship, we funded all our worship, ministry, and administrative operations, and that enabled us through those ministries and the people who serve in them to touch the lives of hundreds of parishioners and those around us. Together, we continue to demonstrate the parish's integral role in the community, with our Basilica serving as a spiritual beacon for the Catholic faith in this area.

As I look ahead to the completion of the redecorating, I am filled with optimism about the future of the Basilica. Not only did we complete the first phase on time, on budget, and fully funded, but we also successfully combined all the remaining work into one final phase, allowing us to finish almost two years earlier than planned. I am confident that through your prayers and support of For Such a Time as This, we continue to move in concert with our mission - To Encounter Christ & Learn to Live as Disciples.

Our efforts will have honored the 127-year legacy of the building, but most importantly, all those who have worshipped at the parish since its founding in 1880. I look forward to sharing with you a joyful sesquicentennial celebration of that founding in 2030.

Thank you for your faithful dedication to the Lord Jesus, and your continued prayers for the new Holy Father, our bishops, me, your pastor, and one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Your support of this parish is very clearly a sign of fruitfulness in the Kingdom that Jesus spoke into being. Please know that I pray to Him for you and your families daily.

Yours in Christ Risen,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. John". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Very Rev. John T. Howren V.F.
Rector and Pastor



Fr. John with members of the SVDP International Board & parishioners in April.

LIVING OUR MISSION





HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Every Sunday, a Eucharistic Minister visits every Catholic patient at Emory Midtown Hospital. The Chaplain's office at the hospital provides the list of Catholic patients and offers free parking for ministry volunteers. The visit includes interaction with the patient, prayers, and the offer of the Eucharist to the patient and visitors. Ministry volunteers would say that it is the most personal and meaningful ministry opportunity that we offer! If you would like more information, contact Milt Shlapak, shlapak@comcast.net.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We have 10 active SVDP members who support the Sacred Heart Conference, which is the oldest continuing operating Conference in the State of Georgia.

For the period of 7/1/24-6/30/25, the St. Vincent de Paul Conference provided nearly \$64,000 in assistance to about 300 households.

Of the neighbors whom we helped:

- 37% received rental assistance, representing approximately \$49,000 - to help keep people in their homes, or for placement in short-term housing.
- 33% received assistance to help maintain utility service.
- 3% received help with natural gas or phone bills.
- 6% received financial assistance for Medical, insurance, burial expenses, and long-distance bus tickets.
- We also provided store gift cards amounting to \$2325, for groceries and other needed supplies.
- \$353 for MARTA cards for clients needing transportation assistance.

Caseworkers are always needed on "the front lines of poverty" in this vital ministry. Contact Mary Hudak at mary.hudak@comcast.net

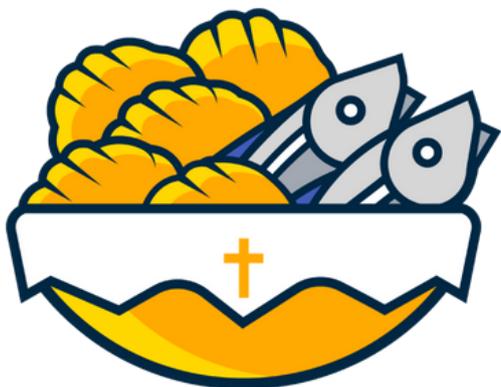


#IGIVECATHOLIC

As Catholics, we are called to receive God's gifts gratefully and share them lovingly in service to one another. #iGiveCatholic is a bishop-led initiative in collaboration with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and dozens of individual dioceses to bring the Catholic community together to inspire and support generosity on the Annual Day of Giving (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving). Parishes, schools, and Catholic Organizations can choose to participate and select a project or ministry to fund with the proceeds.

The day is meant to prompt us to gratitude and generosity. For the second year in a row, thanks to the donations and prayers of many parishioners, we were able to fund our weekly Thursday Food Distribution Outreach Ministry (3,120 sack lunches made and distributed), and our November-March Night Shelter Ministry, both of which help those in our local area experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity

Coming soon! 2025 #iGiveCatholic - December 2.



#iGIVECATHOLIC

FUNDING OUR MISSION

Comparative Income Statements for the Fiscal Years
ending June 30, 2026, and ended 2025 and 2024

Description	Budget		Actual	
	Fiscal Year Ended Jun 30 2026	Fiscal Year Ended Jun 30 2025	Fiscal Year Ended Jun 30 2025	Fiscal Year Ended Jun 30 2024
Operating Income:				
Offertory/Interest	\$ 1,050,000	\$ 1,013,170	\$ 1,013,170	\$ 1,066,159
Liturgy and Worship	\$ 48,000	\$ 41,010	\$ 41,010	\$ 37,150
Religious Education	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,090	\$ 4,090	\$ 4,591
Parish Ministries	\$ 24,000	\$ 31,560	\$ 31,560	\$ 31,142
Facilities	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,400
Georgia Bulletin & Annual Appeal	\$ 1,000	\$ 10,458	\$ 10,458	\$ 8,244
Total	\$ 1,128,500	\$ 1,103,088	\$ 1,103,088	\$ 1,148,686
Operating Expenses:				
Liturgy and Worship	\$ 202,000	\$ 205,415	\$ 205,415	\$ 205,200
Religious Education	\$ 26,650	\$ 22,590	\$ 22,590	\$ 21,702
Parish Ministries	\$ 107,200	\$ 104,267	\$ 104,267	\$ 103,706
General and Administration	\$ 286,200	\$ 289,006	\$ 289,006	\$ 312,759
Facilities	\$ 330,950	\$ 317,636	\$ 317,636	\$ 315,451
Archdiocesan Assessments	\$ 176,430	\$ 175,981	\$ 175,981	\$ 181,954
Total	\$ 1,129,430	\$ 1,114,895	\$ 1,114,895	\$ 1,140,772
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (930)	\$ (11,807)	\$ (11,807)	\$ 7,914
Non-Operating Income:				
Capital Campaign	\$ -	\$ 1,057,742	\$ 1,057,742	\$ 835,758
Restoration	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,566	\$ 32,566	\$ 48,581
Total	\$ 32,000	\$ 1,090,308	\$ 1,090,308	\$ 884,339
Non-Operating Expenses:				
Capital Campaign	\$ 30,000	\$ 2,726,843	\$ 2,726,843	\$ 16,661
Restoration	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,384	\$ 10,384	\$ 4,897
Total	\$ 35,000	\$ 2,737,227	\$ 2,737,227	\$ 21,558
Non-operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (3,000)	\$ (1,646,919)	\$ (1,646,919)	\$ 862,781

NOTES

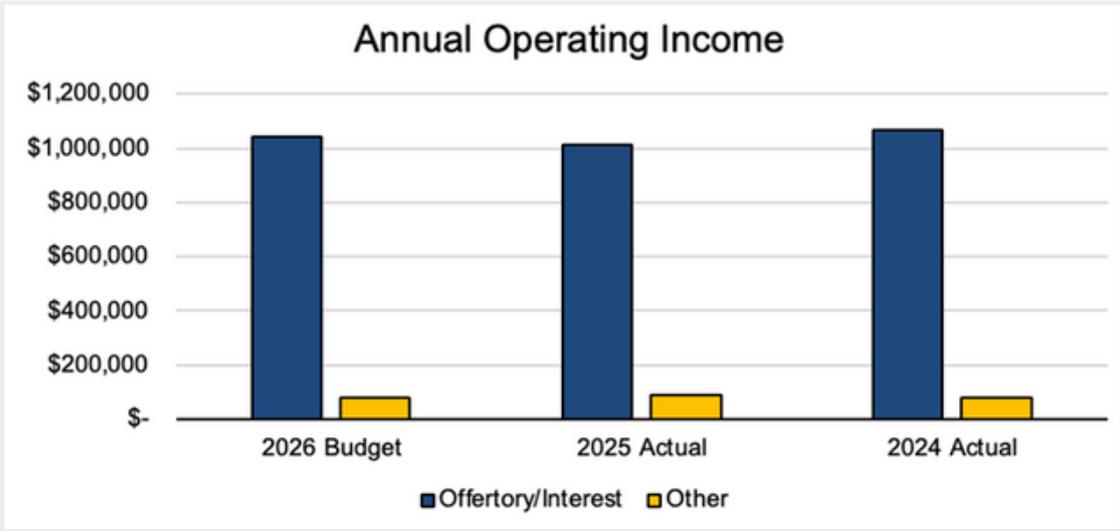
Operating Income: Liturgy and Worship are monies received from Weddings, Quinceañeras, Christmas & Easter flowers, and Mass Intentions. Parish Ministries are monies received from donations to Outreach ministries. Facilities is income from the rental of the space to interested parties. The Refund on Annual Appeal line item in fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, has been reclassified to be consistent with the fiscal year 2025 presentation and is not budgeted in Operating Income for fiscal year 2026.

Operating Expenses: Salaries and benefits for staff are allocated to each of the various cost centers. The Archdiocese levies Archdiocesan Assessments to support its projects and costs.

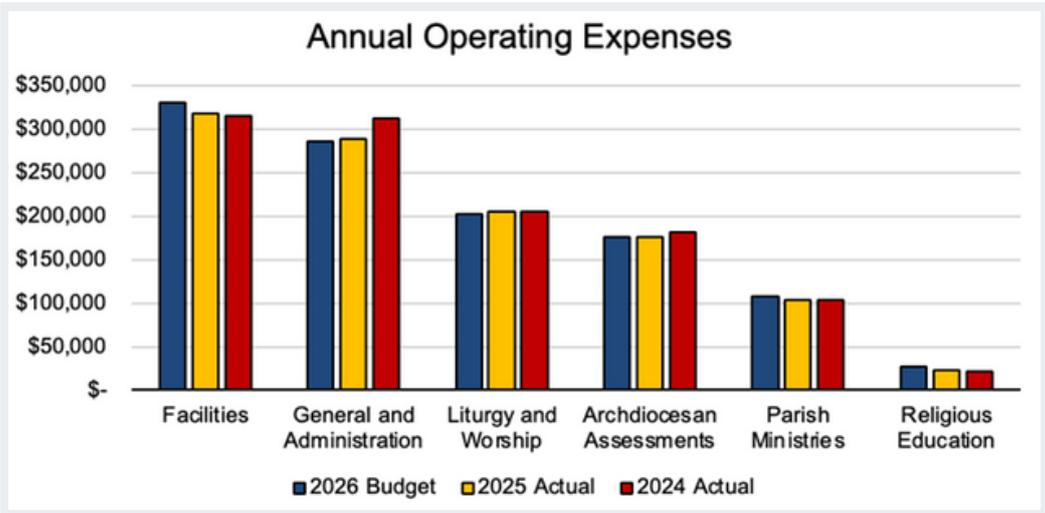
Non-Operating Income: Capital Campaign amounts are monies parishioners have donated to our redecoration project, For Such a Time as This. The campaign will wind down this fall; however, pledge income will still be received during the year. This item is not budgeted.

Non-Operating Expenses: Capital Campaign amounts are other expenses related to For Such a Time as This. Project expenses related to the completion this fall of For Such a Time as This are not budgeted within the operating budget. Capital Campaign expenditures are recorded as the contractors' invoices are paid. In the For Such a Time as This project, expenditures typically are in periods later than the campaign donations are received. This mismatch results in either surpluses or deficits in the financial report, depending on the project's stage in its life cycle.

A CLOSER REVIEW OF THE NUMBERS



Operating Income for the past year, which is largely comprised of Offertory and Interest income, has reduced slightly during the Financial Year ending June 2025. This is consistent with what we have seen and shared with you during our quarterly Financial Results reports. There are many factors that have driven this outcome during the year; however, please be assured that the staff and I are working to ensure we remain in a healthy financial position for the years ahead. We have several planned initiatives in the coming year to ensure our Offertory stabilizes. With your prayers, efforts, and tithes, I am confident we will achieve our goal.



Throughout the past year, the Parish Staff has successfully managed the available budget, resulting in a reduction of approximately \$26,000 in expenses. These budget savings have been primarily within the General and Administration Category. In fiscal year 2026, expenses are expected to remain mostly stable, with a modest increase anticipated in Facilities and Religious Education. Staff compensation has not increased over the last years or in the fiscal year 2026 budget.

Non-operating Income and Expenses are primarily related to our redecoration project, For Such a Time as This. The project is scheduled to conclude in October 2025, on time and on budget. While the project work will be complete, and once again we will be celebrating Mass in the church Sanctuary and Nave, we will continue our fundraising, and individual pledge commitments (both past and future) will continue to be received over the next several years.

Thank you once again for your prayers, offerings, and tithes to the Parish; your contributions in every form are greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU!

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT DURING THE
FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS REDECORATION PROJECT.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE COMPLETION THIS FALL!

