



EASTSIDE CATHOLICS

Family Pathway Report

FALL 2025



At the birth of our parish family, I formed a leadership team within the staff. This parish leadership team was created to specifically work on the most important objectives of the family. With the leadership team we created a mission and a vision for the family. While I, as pastor, hold the responsibility for final decisions, the input of my dedicated staff in creating the mission and vision was invaluable. The formation of the mission and vision was inspired not only by the church's desire to bring the good news of Jesus to all the world and to utilize His Church to do it, but was also informed and given life through the DMI (Disciples Makers Index). The Disciples Makers Index was a family-wide survey taken by over 800 parishioners three years ago, along with input from the Parish Council. The DMI was compiled from answers of parishioners. There were also groups of parishioners interviewed in focus groups by the Catholic Leadership Institute we were working with in collaboration.

Our **mission** as a parish family is to lead people to holiness. To love each other as God loves us. To unite our lives intimately with Jesus.

The **vision** for the Family of Parishes is to build up God's Kingdom through truth, beauty, and goodness. By teaching truth through the Gospel boldly and clearly rooted in the teachings of the Catholic Church. In a time where we are filled with relativism and unclear values we are called to give clarity and speak the truth.

Through beauty we bring people closer to the divine. When we foster beauty in our worship and in our lives, we invite others to join with us in encountering God. Through goodness in action and by living the corporal and spiritual works of mercy we manifest the Kingdom of God.

As we continue to live out our mission and vision and move forward through the phases of Beacons of Light as a family, we are committed to uniting our parishes in faith and purpose. Altogether I want us to act as a family, rather than separate parishes. With the blessing of our combined Pastoral Council a long-range plan has been initiated to plot the course of the family for the next ten years. Altogether, I want us to act as a family rather than parochially. Every decision must be for the good of the family.

Fr. Jamie

Fr. Jamie Weber



Fr. Alex Dugas,
Parochial Vicar



Fr. Stephen Jones,
Parochial Vicar

MASS ATTENDANCE

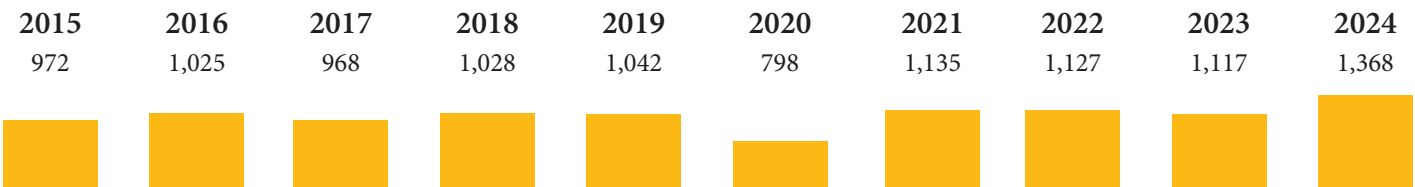
MASS COUNT | 2023-24

Saint Cecilia +22%
 Saint Mary +16%
 The Oratory +29%
Overall +21%

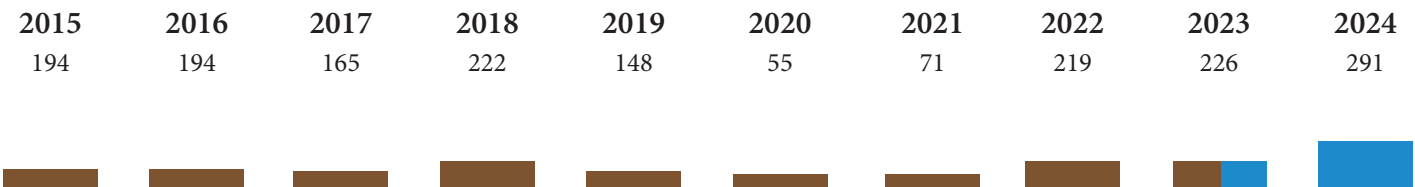
By focusing on beauty
 in our liturgies we have been
 blessed with increased
 attendance at our churches.
 People, especially young people,
 hunger for meaningful traditions
 and the beauty of our Faith.
 They want to be transported out
 of our mundane and often
 difficult secular world —
 longing for a small glimpse of
 eternal life in heaven.



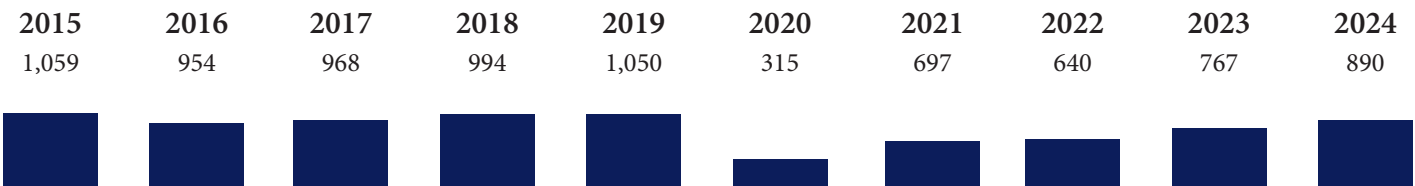
SAINT CECILIA



SAINT ANTHONY / THE ORATORY



SAINT MARY

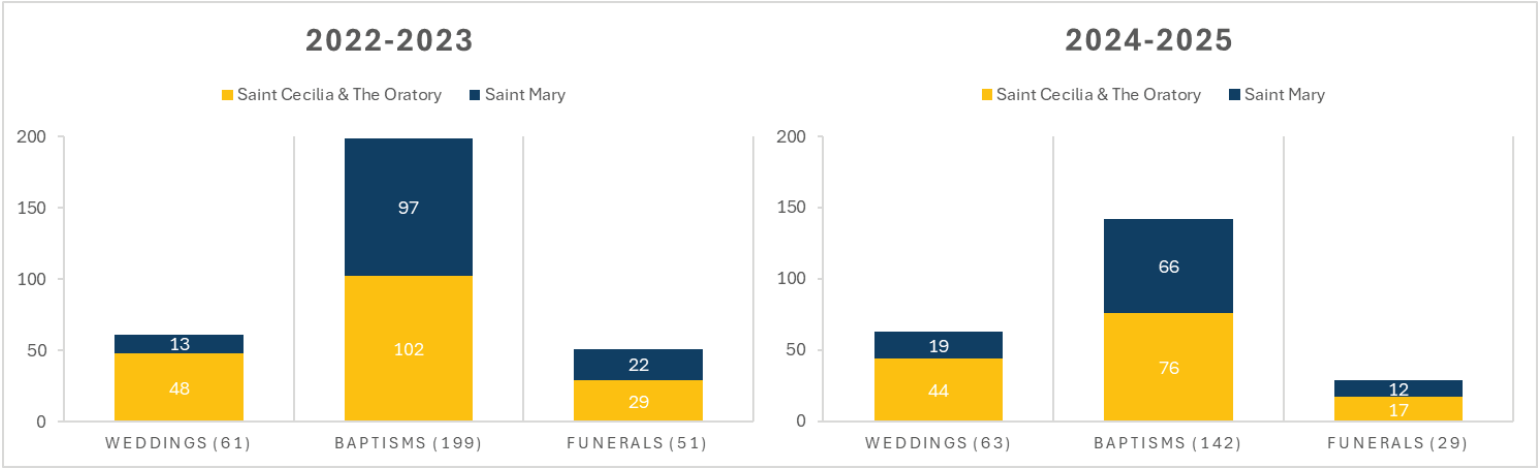




SACRAMENTS & RITES



A Catholic sacrament is a visible sign of God’s grace, instituted by Christ, and entrusted to the Church. Sacraments are sacred rituals through which we receive divine grace and grow in our relationship with God.



ST. CECILIA SCHOOL continues to build on its more than 100 year tradition of educating children from across Cincinnati in the heart of Oakley. Although the times have changed, St. Cecilia's Mission remains the same: to pass on the Catholic faith, to provide a rigorous academic program, and to build character in its students. Our school evangelizes the beauty of our Catholic faith through regular Adoration, school-wide Stations of the Cross and the Rosary, seasonal Reconciliation services, visits to the local seminary, and classroom time with the Children of Mary and the seminarians. Teachers are challenged to see themselves as not just educators but powerful spiritual witnesses in the life of their students, and meet regularly for conversations surrounding their own faith journey and how they can share this during their lessons. Leaders of the school are continuously seeking new ways to provide a personal encounter with Christ both in and out of the classroom. Serving 245 students PK-8, students are equipped to embrace their God-given vocation and pursue lives of leadership, service, and holiness.



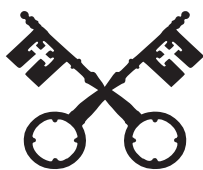
ST. MARY SCHOOL – HYDE PARK remains a vibrant and thriving Catholic institution, with a projected enrollment of over 500 students for the 2025-2026 school year. With a legacy of faith formation and academic excellence, we provide a well-rounded education that nurtures students spiritually, intellectually, and socially.

Our school offers a dynamic learning environment where students are challenged to grow in their faith, think critically, and develop a deep sense of responsibility and compassion. From innovative classroom instruction to hands-on STEM initiatives, regular school masses, arts programs, and service-learning opportunities, we strive to cultivate well-prepared, confident, and faith-filled leaders.

This year's theme, "Jesus Loves," serves as a daily reminder that every student is deeply loved, valued, and called to live as a child of Christ. Our dedicated faculty and staff work tirelessly to create a nurturing and engaging atmosphere where students can flourish academically while strengthening their relationship with God.

At St. Mary School, we are committed to upholding our Catholic values, fostering a community of faith and excellence, and inspiring students to become the best versions of themselves—both in the classroom and beyond. With a rich tradition of success and a forward-thinking approach to education, we continue to shape the hearts and minds of tomorrow's Catholic leaders.





THE FINANCIALS

The Families of Parishes are communities of grateful disciples who acknowledge God's gifts and utilize their talents, skills, and resources to strengthen the Church and build up the Kingdom of God.

As part of this commitment to this pillar of Beacons of Light, the Eastside Catholic Family of Parishes aims to prioritize key initiatives such as enhancing volunteer engagement, improving parish financial health, encouraging charitable giving, and supporting schools through supplemental fundraising efforts.

As part of improving the Parishes' financial health, the following progress has been made thus far:

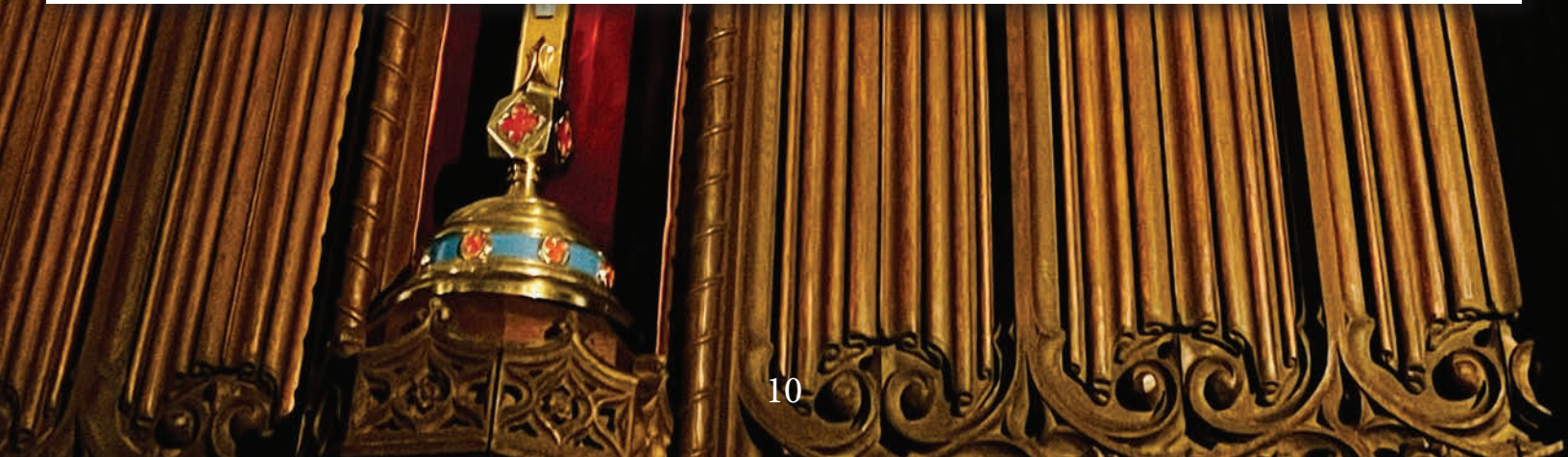
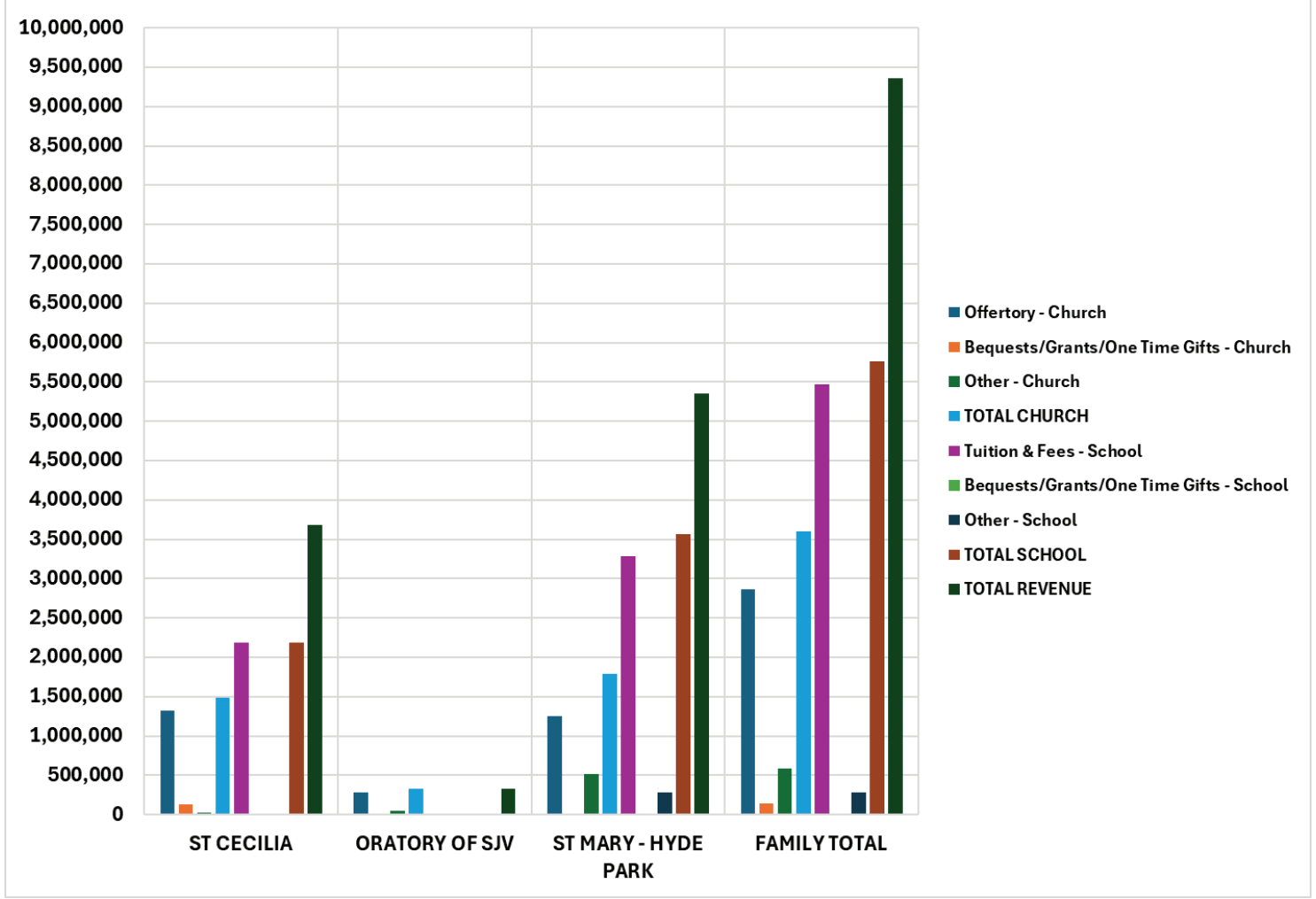
- 1 | **Streamlined and centralized the Parish Administrative, Catechesis/Evangelization, and Facility Teams** to support the financial, technical, maintenance, HR (Human Resource), and catechetical needs of parish staff, parishioners, school families, and students. As a result of this consolidation of staff, the family has saved time and money amongst the Parishes.
- 2 | **Established consistency in operational processes across all parishes.**

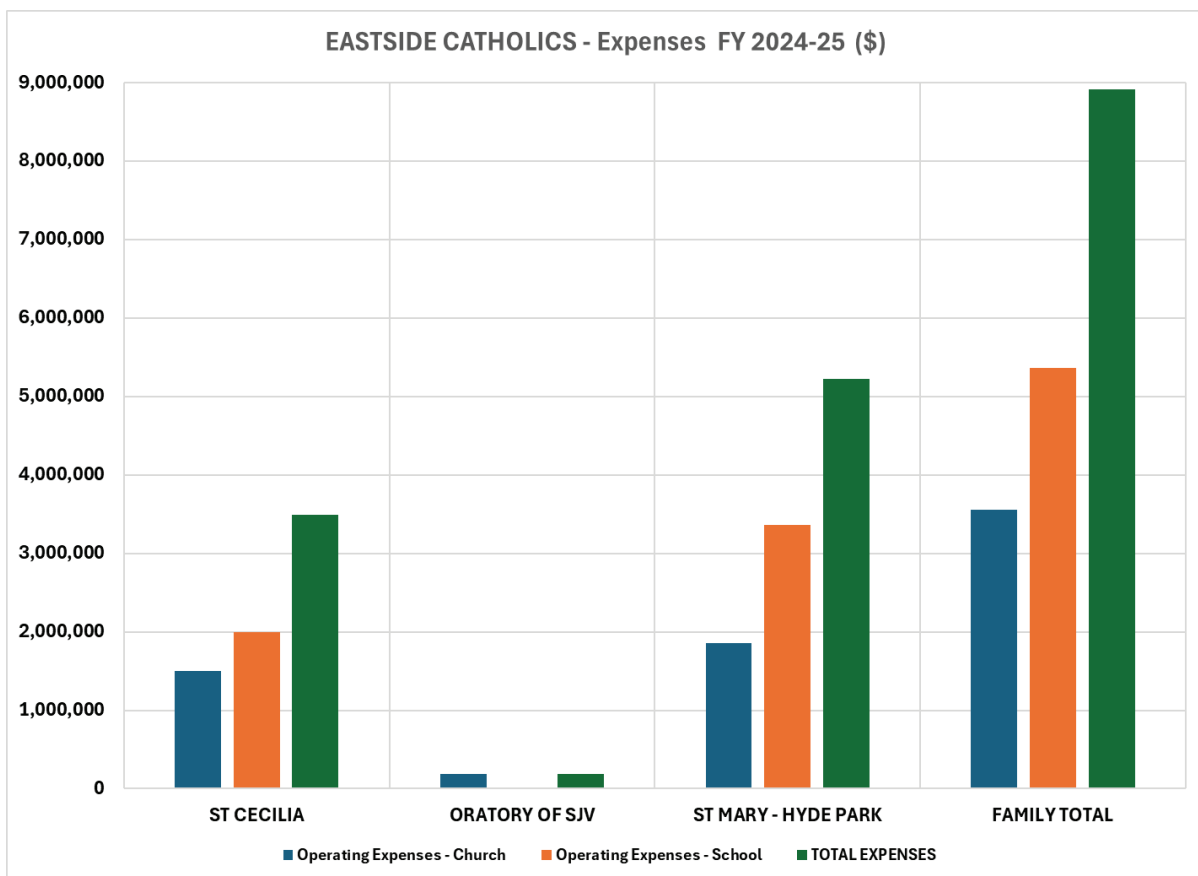
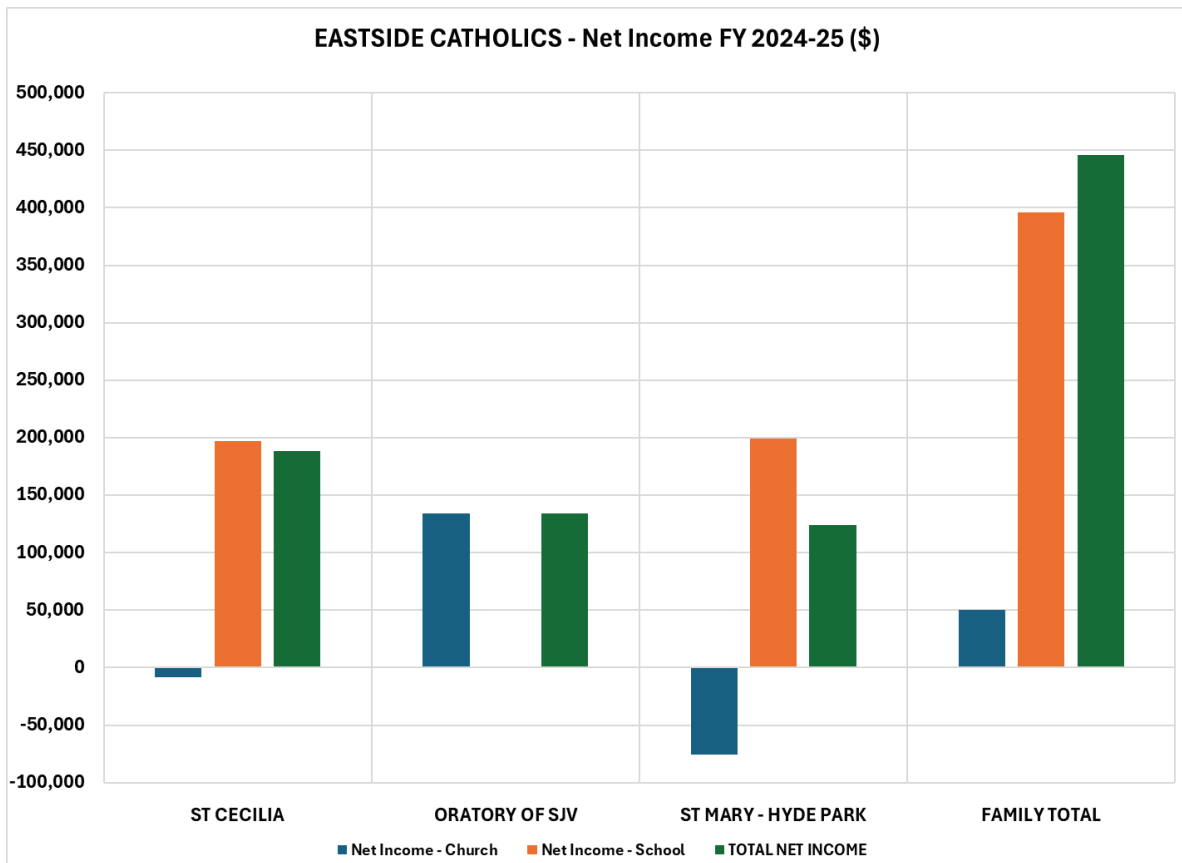
The Parish financial reports for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 confirm that all of our parishes are financially stable and free of debt. Each year, we remain dedicated to maintaining this stability by using donor funds with the utmost prudence and efficiency. At the end of each fiscal year, any remaining balances are transferred to the respective Parish/School capital accounts to support capital projects and significant maintenance needs. Recognizing that older buildings require frequent upkeep, we prioritize ensuring that our facilities and worship spaces remain safe, welcoming, and inviting for everyone. *Please note, all family entities still have their own bank accounts and financials. Funds given/donated to a Parish/School remain with their respective Parish/School.

EASTSIDE CATHOLICS - Financial Results (FY 2024-25)				
	ST CECILIA	ORATORY OF SJV	ST MARY - HYDE PARK	FAMILY TOTAL
REVENUE				
Church				
Offertory - Church	1,327,072	283,432	1,252,476	2,862,980
Bequests/Grants/One Time Gifts - Church	133,452	0	13,573	147,025
Other - Church	29,480	43,274	518,385	591,139
TOTAL CHURCH	1,490,004	326,706	1,784,434	3,601,144
School				
Tuition & Fees - School	2,183,304	0	3,285,875	5,469,179
Bequests/Grants/One Time Gifts - School	7,500	0	3,573	11,073
Other - School	0	0	276,502	276,502
TOTAL SCHOOL	2,190,804	0	3,565,950	5,756,754
TOTAL REVENUE	3,680,808	326,706	5,350,384	9,357,898
EXPENSES				
Church				
Operating Expenses - Church	1,498,385	192,796	1,860,050	3,551,231
School				
Operating Expenses - School	1,993,978	0	3,366,673	5,360,651
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,492,363	192,796	5,226,723	8,911,882
NET INCOME				
Net Income - Church	-8,381	133,910	-75,616	49,913
Net Income - School	196,826	0	199,277	396,103
TOTAL NET INCOME	188,445	133,910	123,661	446,016



EASTSIDE CATHOLICS - Revenue FY 2024-25 (\$)





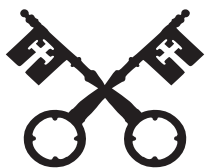
Introduction to PRINCIPLES AND PILLARS FOR THE PATHWAY

This Pathway Planning document offers each Family of Parishes a meaningful opportunity to prayerfully shape a pastoral plan rooted in the six Beacons principles. It's a strategic step and commitment to building a vibrant, mission-driven parish life together. Fr. Jamie has each meeting in our family start with the Holy Spirit Prayer. With trust in the Holy Spirit's guidance, each Family will discern how to live these principles fully and honor the parameters that unite us in purpose.

The goal is not just collaboration, but true communion, growing as one family of faith, ultimately becoming one canonical parish where the love of Christ is alive and active in every aspect of parish life. Each church will keep its own name and church building and continue to hold Mass and events, but together they will become part of one parish family.







THE EUCHARIST

/ PILLAR 1 /


When Beacons of Light began, our Pastoral Leadership Team reflected on what defines us as a faith community. Two values stood out: beautiful worship and access to the sacraments—central to St. Cecilia, St. Mary, and the Oratory of St. John Vianney.

Our parishes are vibrant and growing, with over 200 Baptisms and nearly 100 First Communion each year, and the large number entering the Church at Easter. These journeys often begin in Adoration or by regular confessions.

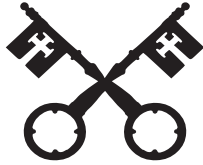
The timing of Beacons alongside the National Eucharistic Revival feels providential. In June 2024, we proudly hosted “Bread for the Journey,” uniting all three parishes in a powerful Eucharistic procession. We will continue to unite our family of parishes and work together to make our churches stronger.

We continue to grow as a Eucharistic people through study, retreat, prayer, and our expanding ministries. Looking ahead, we’re excited to beautify the Oratory and carry on cherished traditions, working on establishing a long range plan for the family, and being grateful for the journey we’ve shared and hopeful for all that’s to come.

The Mass is the source and summit
of the whole Christian life. The Eucharist is
the essential moment — the passion, death,
and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Bail
Full of
The Lord
Thee, Bless
Thou art
Mary
Grace
is with
sed art
ong women



THE CHURCH

/ P I L L A R 2 /

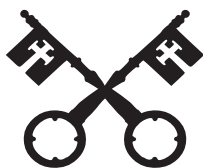
We began as South-9, then became the Eastside Family, and now proudly call ourselves Eastside Catholics. Adopting a common name marks an exciting first step in shaping our shared identity as a new pastoral region. Each parish brings its own history and strengths, yet we are united as Catholics—learning, worshipping, serving, and evangelizing together on Cincinnati's east side.

Our first task was forming a Pastoral Leadership Team to guide the unification of ministries across our churches. As we blended efforts, existing ministries thrived, and new events like Cocktails with the Catechism, the Commission of St. Louie and Zellie, and our Advent and Lenten Missions which welcomed parishioners from across the family.

Through this collaboration, we've seen our faith communities grow stronger and more connected, grounded in our shared Catholic mission.

**We are all called to actively participate as a member
of a parish, the Universal Church and our local
Church, led by our archbishop.**





LEADERSHIP

/ PILLAR 3 /

We are blessed with strong leadership in our clergy, led by Pastor Fr. Jamie Weber. He is supported by two vicars, Fr. Alex Dugas and Fr. Stephen Jones, and three dedicated deacons: John Schuler, Nathan Beiersdorfer, and Chris Bergman. Their guidance is vital to the many sacraments we celebrate.

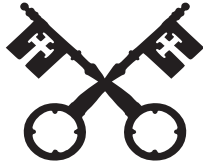
Our Pastoral Leadership Team, composed of staff members, associates, vicars, and the pastor—was formed at Beacon’s inception to implement the pastor’s vision and foster collaboration across departments.

The Pastoral Council, made up of parishioners from each church, advises on key matters impacting our faith family.

With our renewed mission and vision, our leadership is deeply committed to helping each person grow in understanding Christ’s teachings and forming a more profound relationship with God.

Pastors, parochial vicars, deacons and lay ministers
share responsibility for pastoral leadership.
The support of ordained and lay leaders is vital
for a parish family.





STEWARDSHIP

/ P I L L A R 4 /

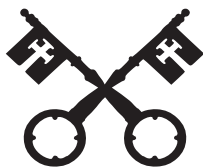
As we've navigated Beacons of Light, service opportunities have flourished through both parish and school. We're continually inspired by the generosity of volunteers supporting festivals, fish fries, Oktoberfest, and ministry work, from St. Vincent de Paul and the Knights of Columbus to Finance Committees and liturgical ministries.

Our parishes foster a culture of invitation, where people are warmly welcomed and encouraged to get involved. Donut Sundays and new Hospitality leads at each location are helping strengthen our sense of community. Welcoming Committee leads also play a key role in connecting with new parishioners and making them aware of the many opportunities available.

In 2024, we emphasized the need for increased financial support alongside time and talent. A video featuring Fr. Jamie and staff invited parishioners to consider how their contributions help expand ministry and programming. While operating on a balanced budget, we're planning for long-term stewardship and hope to find a director to help us put together a long range plan. We are working on combining groups and working as a team in our family to share time, talent and treasures.

Families of Parishes are communities of grateful disciples. They use their prayer, ministry and finance to build up the Church and live as Christ's body in the world.





EVANGELIZATION

/ P I L L A R 5 /

What does it really mean to be a **disciple** of Jesus Christ and how many Catholics today would confidently claim that identity? Many of our faithful are already living the call, even if they don't use the word. Discipleship is not reserved for the few; it is a lifelong journey of relationship with Christ, community with others, and a willingness to share the Gospel. Our mission is to be lifelong disciples—to unpack it and to live out their message.

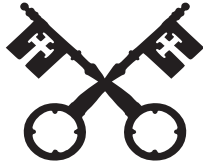
We prioritize adult faith formation with Bible studies, mission speakers, pilgrimages, speaker series, and small groups. Programs like Mom's Group, FATHER'S Team, Cana Institute, and Moms' Bible Studies support parents as primary witnesses to the faith. Family of Faith ensures that parents are catechized and that they also lead and become the primary catechists of their children.

Catholic education in our family forms not just students but saints, with teacher formation, awareness of one's vocation, and evangelizing catechesis at the forefront.

With growing enrollment and energy, we are committed to evangelizing our school families, inviting them into a deeper relationship with Christ and full participation in the Mass, the heart of parish life.

**As centers of missionary outreach,
Families of Parishes find ways to foster missionary
discipleship among all baptized. Our schools and
parishes are centers of this essential work.**





LOVE IN ACTION

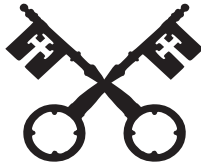
/ PILLAR 6 /

The corporal and spiritual works of mercy guide how we honor each person's dignity and seek justice. Our parish family naturally lives this out. Each year we see incredible generosity through projects like the Giving Tree, Thanksgiving Dinner, and service projects through our many ministries. During 40 Days for Life, donations for mothers and babies fill our crib at St. Cecilia and campaigns like the baby bottle drive support Pregnancy Center Plus.

St. Vincent de Paul serves at all locations, offering material support and personal accompaniment. Parishioners give generously at our monthly collection to keep these conferences going strong. The Men's Guild has also become a vital ministry, helping elderly parishioners with physical needs.

While much is being done, we aim to expand outreach, raise awareness, and encourage more opportunities to volunteer and transform lives with love, truth, and justice.

**Families of Parishes will be communities
of charity and justice, serving those most in need
and working to change systems that oppress
and marginalize.**



WHAT'S NEXT?

/ PLANNING THE FUTURE /

As the Eastside Catholics family, we are stronger united. Each of our three vibrant churches plays a vital role in building God's Kingdom. After prayerful discernment with leadership and finance councils, two clear steps emerged: creating a long-range, family-wide plan and preserving **(1) the St. Margaret-St. John property** for shared use. Originally planned for sale, the property can now serve our family's future without being sold.



Another cornerstone is **(2-3) the beautification of The Oratory of Saint John Vianney** beginning this fall in three phases—funded through Oratory funds, parish contributions, and a future capital campaign. The Oratory will focus on the priesthood by illuminating the love St. John Vianney had for his fellow priests and their ministry in the Church.

Working as a family brings challenges, but through prayer, unity, and God's grace, we can boldly dream and build a future that reflects His love and glory.



"All things work together for good to those who love God."

- Romans 8:28



EASTSIDE CATHOLICS

eastsidefaith.org

