

Ascension Parish

Stewardship 2026

Dear Friends,

Each November, shortly before Thanksgiving, we make our Annual Stewardship Appeal. This timing is by design, as one of the most important ways we show gratitude to God is by giving back to Him some of the gifts and blessings He has given to us.

Your giving to our parish is not only an act of worship, it is an investment in the faith of tomorrow.

We limit the number of times we ask parishioners for financial support, as we believe the best use of our time—and yours!—is to focus on the messages and ministries that help us and others to know, love, and follow Jesus.

But the reality is that **the impact of potentially life-changing ministries is determined largely by finances.**

Ascension Parish's sole revenue source is the financial giving of our parishioners. For this reason, I am so grateful to every individual and family who makes our ministry possible with their financial giving.

As in years past, I invite every individual and family to **join me in making a Faith Commitment for 2026.** Faith Commitments are non-binding annual pledges to our parish offertory for the coming year. Our offertory funds our clergy, staff, ministries, and all operating expenses.

Your annual Faith Commitment to our parish **helps you practice greater intentionality with your giving** and **helps us plan and budget ministries** that drive parish life.

If God has blessed you over the past year, I encourage you to increase your giving in the year ahead. If circumstances require you to decrease or maintain your giving this year, please know that the amount you give matters less to us than **your commitment to give sacrificially to your parish home.**

Thank you for your giving to our Ascension Parish family!

In Christ,

Fr. Gerald Souza



Ascension Parish Mass Times

Saturdays - 4PM and 7PM (Portuguese) in Maynard

Sundays - 9AM and 11AM in Sudbury

Upcoming Events

Small Group Celebration
Maynard Holiday Parade
Jumpstart Season 8

November 19
December 7
February 3 - March 24

Parish Life



Your parish runs exclusively on the intentional, prayerful, and sacrificial giving of the individuals and families who worship here.

- ◆ ~700 people attending Weekend Masses
- ◆ Close to 300 adults have completed Jumpstart
- ◆ 150+ parishioners in Small Groups
- ◆ New Thrive for Teens Ministry
- ◆ 258 students in Faith Formation
- ◆ 50+ students preparing for Confirmation
- ◆ 40+ students preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
- ◆ Two church campuses, home to our worship and ministries

- ◆ 37 parishioners joined our first Parish Pilgrimage to Rome
- ◆ 175 committed volunteer ministers serving in liturgies, welcome teams, music, Jumpstart, Small Groups, Faith Formation, pastoral visiting, bereavement, and more
- ◆ An energized, mission-driven staff of devoted ministry professionals
- ◆ A clergy team that inspires, challenges, and ministers to us all

Knowing Jesus is the greatest gift anyone can receive, and making Him known is our joy.
Your giving allows Ascension to help people:

Know

Jesus through messages, music, and ministries that reveal His truth

Love

Jesus by being met wherever you are on your unique faith journey

Serve

Jesus through stewardship opportunities that align with your gifts and talents



"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be."

-Matthew 6:21



More Info

**Stewardship Weekend
November 15-16, 2025**

Ascension Parish Profit & Loss

	<u>Year to date as of Jun-2025</u>			
	<u>Actuals</u>	<u>Budget 2025</u>	<u>Variance \$</u>	<u>Variance %</u>
INCOME				
Total Collections Contributions,	\$673,175	\$654,000	\$19,175	3%
Bequests & Grants	\$407,310	\$248,000	\$159,310	64%
Total Revenue - All Other Sources	\$206,290	\$160,500	\$45,790	29%
Total Income	\$1,286,775	\$1,062,500	\$224,275	21%
EXPENSES				
Total Lay Salaries & Benefits	\$542,372	\$507,545	\$34,827	7%
Total Clergy Stipends & Benefits	\$113,290	\$72,288	\$41,002	57%
Professional Services	\$11,268	\$11,007	\$261	2%
Total Program Activities	\$3,239	\$4,250	-\$1,011	-24%
Total Office Expense	\$53,558	\$53,750	-\$192	0%
Total Insurance Expense	\$53,221	\$46,204	\$7,017	15%
Total Facility/Maintenance Costs	\$212,049	\$119,942	\$92,107	77%
Total Utility Expense	\$64,829	\$58,895	\$5,934	10%
Total Travel Expense	\$1,813	\$0	\$1,813	0%
Total Household	\$14,067	\$0	\$14,067	0%
Total Central Ministries (RCAB) Expense	\$55,520	\$55,520	\$0	0%
Total Pastoral / Liturgical	\$138,177	\$108,650	\$29,527	27%
Other Expenses	\$22,469	\$24,358	-\$1,889	-8%
Total Expense	\$1,285,871	\$1,062,408	\$223,463	21%
Net Operating Income	\$904	\$92	\$812	0%
Non-Operating Income	\$12,527	\$3,000	\$9,527	318%
Capital Acquisition & Improvement	\$56,989	\$97,000	-\$40,011	-41%
Net Non-Operating Income	-\$44,462	-\$94,000	\$49,538	-124%
Net Income	-\$43,558	-\$93,908	\$50,350	-54%

Cash & Investment Balances as of June 30, 2025

Parish Operating Account	\$68,256
Parish Savings Account	\$35,753
Restricted RCAB Revolving Loan (RLF) Acc Unrestricted	\$734,041
RCAB RLF Account	\$555,746
Unrestricted RCAB CD Account	\$635,917
Restricted RCAB Common Investment Fund (CIF) Acc.	\$207,679
Due From St. Bridget Cemetery less Pre Paid Exp.	\$5,876
Total Assets	\$2,243,268

Capital Projects Over \$10,000

Phone/Network Rewiring Project	\$14,884
Livestream Infrastructure Upgrade	\$11,909
St. Bridget Church HVAC Repairs and Improvements	\$10,260

Explanation for Net Variances > \$10,000

1. **Total Collections:** Weekly offertory revenue slightly outperformed budget through FY2025. Large gifts exceeded expectations, bolstered by increased outreach efforts to major donors. We are grateful for the generosity of our givers who make our ministry possible.
2. **Total Lay Salaries & Benefits:** Lay salary/benefit expenses exceeded the budget due to the addition of a needed Communications Coordinator and costs associated with employee turnover.
3. **Total Clergy Salaries & Benefits:** Clergy expenses increased due to the addition of a full-time priest (Father Eduardo) at the beginning of the year.
4. **Total Office Expense:** We managed expenses well, which allowed us to absorb a major unplanned expense before Christmas when parts of our audio-visual system were impacted by a power surge and needed to be replaced. In addition, we added to our scheduled queue of marketing mailings, made some strategic investments in software subscriptions to enhance our operations, and experienced a mid-year rate increase from our online-giving payment processor.
5. **Total Facility/Maintenance Costs:** Major increases in this category were largely due to painting projects (Saint Bridget Church, Our Lady of Fatima Church, and the Rectory/Parish Center) that were initially categorized as capital expenses.
6. **Total Household:** An error in the budget did not account for the expense. The error will be corrected moving forward.
7. **Total Pastoral/Liturgical:** These expenses increased due to new outreach events for parishioners and a continued investment in programs like Jumpstart for adults and Catholic Heart Workcamp for teens.

St. Bridget Cemetery Balance Sheet

	June 30, 2025	Year to date as of Jun-2025 June 30, 2024	Period Diff	Period % Variance
ASSETS				
Cash & Cash Equivalents				
Checking Accounts	\$87,257	\$52,923	\$34,334	65%
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$87,257	\$52,923	\$34,334	65%
Interest & Dividends Receivable	\$27,329	\$21,019	\$6,311	30%
Due From Related Organizations	(\$5,815)	(\$14,723)	(\$8,906)	(60%)
Investments	\$219,674	\$209,431	\$10,244	5%
Total Assets	\$328,445	\$268,650	\$59,795	22%
Liabilities and Net Assets				
Net Assets				
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$268,650	\$221,103	\$47,547	22%
Current Net Income	\$59,795	\$47,547	\$12,248	26%
Total Net Assets	\$328,445	\$268,650	\$59,795	22%
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$328,445	\$268,650	\$59,795	22%

St. Bridget Cemetery Profit & Loss

	June 30, 2025	Year to date as of Jun-2025 June 30, 2024	Period Diff	Period % Variance
Net Income (Loss)				
Operating Income (Loss)				
Revenue and Other Support				
Interest and Dividend Income				
Dividend Income	\$8,552	\$9,426	(\$873)	(9%)
Total Interest and Dividend Income	\$8,552	\$9,426	(\$873)	(9%)
Cemetery Operations	\$78,250	\$26,885	\$51,365	191%
Other Revenue	\$3,524	0	\$3,523	100%
Total Revenue and Other Support	\$90,326	\$36,311	\$54,015	149%
Expenses				
Salaries & Benefits				
Lay Salaries	\$2,999	\$9,805	(\$6,806)	(69%)
Lay Benefits	\$234	\$705	(\$516)	(69%)
Total Salaries & Benefits	\$3,233	\$10,555	(\$7,322)	(69%)
Professional Services				
Contract Services	\$14,159	\$2,291	\$11,867	518%
Total Professional Services	\$14,159	\$2,291	\$11,867	518%
Office Expense	\$183	\$32	152	473%
Insurance Expense	0	\$3,197	(\$3,197)	(100%)
Facility Expense				
Facility/Maintenance Costs	\$28,914	\$13,050	\$15,865	122%
Utilities	\$597	\$3,627	(\$3,031)	(84%)
Total Facility Expense	\$29,511	\$16,677	\$12,834	77%
Total Expenses	\$47,086	\$32,752	\$14,334	44%
Operating Income (Loss)	\$43,240	\$3,559	\$39,681	1,115%
Non Operating Income (loss)				
Non Operating Income				
Non Operating Gain/Loss on Investments	\$16,555	\$43,988	(\$27,433)	(62%)
Total Non Operating Income	\$16,555	\$43,988	(\$27,433)	(62%)
Total Non Operating Income (loss)	\$16,555	\$43,988	(\$27,433)	(62%)
Net Income (Loss)	\$59,795	\$47,547	\$12,248	26%