



Annual Report 2025

Based on Fiscal Year July 2024-June 2025



***ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE
MORROW, OH***

***ST. FRANCIS DESALES
LEBANON, OH***



NOVEMBER 2025

A Message from our Pastor

Father Craig Best



Dear Parishioners,

It remains an exciting time to be part of Our Lady of Hope, with many new families joining our parishes each month. We also continue to see strong interest among non-Catholics in our community exploring our wonderful Faith through OCIA — so much so that we wonder if St. Francis de Sales is large enough to accommodate all our catechumens at the Easter Vigil. Thus, we are thinking of splitting the group and bringing back the Easter Vigil Mass to St. Philip. What makes our OCIA numbers even more astounding is that the staff and I have thus far done relatively little to “market” the Faith or our parishes to the surrounding community — something we plan to change soon by expanding our social media presence, launching a podcast, and offering various “front porches” to have something to invite people to who are not currently Catholic. Faith sharing groups, small group Bible studies, and a corn hole league are among our ideas.

Enhancing our facilities has been another area of focus. This summer brought some overdue upgrades to the school kitchen at St. Francis, while several upgrades are currently underway at St. Philip. In addition to the installation of an elevator, we are adding three conference rooms to the St. Philip undercroft, all of which will be used as classrooms for YFF on Sunday mornings, as well as for hosting various adult and youth faith formation or group meetings during the week.

Our music ministry continues to be a blessing to our Family of Parishes, with many dedicated and talented people involved. Our school choir has exploded in size this year. I could go on.

The following financial information gives you an overview of the past fiscal year and where we currently stand. You will note that both of our parishes are blessed with healthy reserves. One point you may wish to consider, however, is that today’s dollars don’t go as far as they did ten or even five years ago. While many may be struggling financially, if you have been donating the same amount for several years and are able to give the parish “a raise,” remember that God will never be outdone in generosity. We also continue to add much-needed staff, and of course these people need to be paid. Thanks to everyone for your ongoing support.

While there is so much to be thankful for, there is always more we can be doing to improve. I am particularly sensitive to the many people in our community — be they Catholic or not — who have little-to-no knowledge of or relationship with Jesus Christ. While this is very much my focus, the staff and I can’t do it alone, and so I encourage all of you to pray not only that hearts and minds of people in our communities will be open to the truth of the gospel, but also to pray for opportunities for yourselves to plant seeds that will help grow our parishes and thus the Kingdom. We desire this for the benefit of others and because it is God’s will.

In Christ,

Fr. Craig

www.olohparishfamily.org



Parish Family Overview

Parish Registration

St. Francis DeSales

2022	1785	Families
2023	1776	Families
2024	1759	Families

St. Philip the Apostle

2022	1076	Families
2023	1046	Families
2024	1031	Families

Weekend Mass Attendance

(October count data)

St. Francis DeSales

2022	1061	Individuals
2023	1055	Individuals
2024	1082	Individuals

St. Philip the Apostle

2022	690	Individuals
2023	734	Individuals
2024	800	Individuals

7,238

Number of Catholics Registered
with our Parish Family



From the Executive Director

Carl Whittenburg



Overall, both churches are on solid financial footing. Some reserves have been spent on much need projects but overall, both churches continue to enjoy healthy reserves. That said, revenue increases lag our needed spending increases. At St. Francis, our Sunday/Holy Day Stewardship has increased by 17% from 2020 to 2025 while expenses have increased by 40%. We have increased school tuition to better reflect the actual educational cost. This has reduced the parish subsidy to the school thus the ability to balance the budget. St. Philip stewardship has increased 12% while expenses have increased 31%. As Father Craig said in his message, as we have added necessary expenses including staff, our costs will continue to rise. So, if you can give the church a “raise” in your contribution, that would be helpful.

St. Francis DeSales

TOTAL INCOME

Fiscal Year
2023-2024
\$2,233,160

Fiscal Year
2024-2025
\$2,390,929

TOTAL EXPENSES

Fiscal Year
2023-2024
\$1,943,992

Fiscal Year
2024-2025
\$2,626,119

INCOME - EXPENSES

Fiscal Year
2023-2024
\$289,168

Fiscal Year
2024-2025
\$(235,190)

St. Philip the Apostle

TOTAL INCOME

Fiscal Year
2023-2024
\$825,280

Fiscal Year
2024-2025
\$950,357

TOTAL EXPENSES

Fiscal Year
2023-2024
\$908,166

Fiscal Year
2024-2025
\$1,058,109

INCOME - EXPENSES

Fiscal Year
2023-2024
(\$82,886)

Fiscal Year
2024-2025
(\$107,752)



Financial Activities

St. Francis DeSales Parish

Income	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Stewardship	\$938,382	\$876,628
CMA Rebate	\$17,244	\$21,664
Fee Income	\$5,563	\$5,300
School Income	\$1,193,155	\$1,118,943
Interest & Dividends	\$6,070	\$38,106
Other Income	\$230,515	\$172,519
Total Income	\$2,390,929	\$2,233,160

Expense	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,261,081	\$1,167,406
Taxes & Insurance	\$28,504	\$22,090
Equipment & Services	\$94,102	\$109,667
Utilities	\$90,504	\$90,197
School Subsidy	\$479,454*	\$22,628
Archdiocesan Support	\$99,308	\$100,825
Facility Improvements	\$188,903	\$177,054
All Other	384,263	\$254,125
Total Expense	\$2,626,119	\$1,943,992

Income Over Expense	(\$235,190)	\$289,168
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*Includes Beat the Heat money collected in Fiscal Year 2024



Statement of Financial Position

St. Francis DeSales

Cash & Investments	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Checking	\$496,304	\$680,980
Savings	\$326,640	\$420,673
Investments with AOC	\$755,013	\$780,801
Other Assets	\$134,370	\$285,503
Total Assets	\$1,712,327	\$2,167,957

Liabilities	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
For the Poor	\$3,110	\$1,564
Custodial Obligations	\$2,569	\$5,366
All Other	\$42,859	\$75,392
Total Liabilities	\$48,538	\$82,322

Net Assets	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Parish - Unrestricted	\$1,479,143	\$1,120,497
School - Unrestricted	(\$22,635)	(\$7)
Building & Improvement	\$240,675	\$227,832
Other Net Assets	\$201,796	\$448,146
Net Assets Subtotal	\$1,898,979	\$1,796,468
Current Period Change to Net Assets	(\$235,190)	\$289,167
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$1,663,789	\$2,085,635
Total Liabilities + Net Assets	\$1,712,327	\$2,167,957



Financial Activities

St. Philip the Apostle

Income	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Stewardship	\$670,000	\$639,610
CMA Rebate	\$11,753	\$27,981
Fee Income	\$4,675	\$4,400
Interest & Dividends	\$83,935	\$66,915
Other Income	\$173,335	\$79,205
Seniors	\$6,659	\$7,169
Total Income	\$950,357	\$825,280

Expense	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Salaries & Benefits	\$375,824	\$317,894
Taxes & Insurance	\$14,329	\$10,325
Equipment & Services	\$60,590	\$117,469
Utilities	\$27,473	\$23,376
Archdiocesan Support	\$76,050	\$69,108
Facility Improvements	\$361,694	\$232,426
All Other	\$135,839	\$129,938
Seniors	\$6,310	\$7,630
Total Expense	\$1,058,109	\$908,166

Income Over Expense	(\$107,752)	(\$82,886)
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Statement of Financial Position

St. Philip the Apostle

Cash & Investments	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Checking	\$46,996	\$286,660
Savings	\$251,698	\$241,445
Investments with AOC	\$2,529,376	\$2,451,083
Total Assets	\$2,828,070	\$2,979,188

Liabilities	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
For the Poor	\$810	\$1,200
Custodial Obligations	\$1,422	\$3,725
All Other	(\$949)	\$1,218
Total Liabilities	\$1,283	\$6,143

Net Assets	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
Parish - Unrestricted	\$2,690,681	\$2,468,121
Seniors - Unrestricted	\$3,052	\$2,545
Capital Improvements	\$240,806	\$585,266
Net Asset Subtotal	\$2,934,539	\$3,055,932
Current Period Change to Net Assets	(107,752)	(82,887)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$2,826,787	\$2,973,046
Total Liabilities + Net Assets	\$2,828,070	\$2,979,189



Sacraments Celebrated

	St. Francis DeSales	St. Philip the Apostle
Baptisms	54	20
Marriages	13	4
First Communion*	70	20
Confirmation*	96	23
OCIA (combined)	45	
Funerals	10	16
Formal Hours of Adoration	113 hrs/week	12 hrs/week
Hours of Reconciliation	4 hrs/week	2 hrs/week

* These numbers include those who received the sacraments at the Easter Vigil through OCIA



Development Projects

St. Francis DeSales Completed Projects	St. Philip the Apostle Completed Projects
School Air Conditioning	Resurface parking lot
Remodel of school kitchen	Replaced church and garage roof
Improvements to school security	Purchased elevator equipment
Replace kneeler pads in church	New carpet, cushions, kneelers for church
	Improvements to pond
St. Francis DeSales Potential Future Project	St. Philip the Apostle Planned/In-progress
Repair/Replace parking lot	Install elevator
Upgrade school fire alarm system	Remodeling of church undercroft to add meeting space and improve existing space including kitchen
Add security cameras in and around church	Remodeling of rectory basement to add living space
Replace carpet in church	Improve confessional and upstairs restrooms
Paint church interior	Additional Improvements to pond



St. Francis DeSales School

Catholic Formation

Grades K-8

Number of students - 195

Number of teachers - 15

Number of Masses per week – Every Wednesday plus
a Friday Prayer Service

Service Projects within the Parish & Community

Former students in the Seminary and/or Priesthood



Contact Us

	<i>St. Francis DeSales</i>	<i>St. Philip the Apostle</i>
Phone	513-932-2601	513-899-3601
Email	parishsecretary@olohparishfamily.org	kimstadler@olohparishfamily.org
Website	www.olohparishfamily.org	
Address	20 DeSales Ave. Lebanon, OH 45036	944 E. US 22 & 3 Morrow, OH 45152