



ANNUAL REPORT

2024

THE BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

353 PEACHTREE STREET NE ATLANTA, GA 30308

BY THE NUMBERS



FY22 vs. FY23 vs. FY24

Registered Households

1155 - 1261 - **1368**

New Parish Registrations

62 - 106 - **110**

Infant Baptisms

41 - 25 - **46**

Adult Baptisms

7 - 11 - **14**

First Communions

27 - 29 - **23**

Adult RCIA

(received into full Communion with the Church)

7 - 18 - **16**

Confirmations (High School)

17 - 19 - **11**

Confirmations (Adult)

10 - 10 - **17**

Quinceañeras

9 - 4 - **5**

Marriages

25 - 29 - **21**

Deaths/Funerals

10 - 8 - **5**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Greetings in the Risen Christ!

I am very happy to share with you this fiscal year-end report of your Stewardship. With the cooperation of clergy, staff, lay-ministers volunteers and all parishioners who have participated faithfully in Christian Stewardship, we have been able to be dutiful to the Lord with all that He has entrusted us, while simultaneously maintaining good fiscal responsibility for our community's finances. As you will see herein, we have successfully balanced our offertories and mission-supporting expenditures.

Our parish mission is to *Encounter Christ and Learn to Live as Disciples*, and we deliver on that mission every day through personal devotion to our calling, and by your kind generosity. We have made full use of this year's financial resources to fund our parish's day-to-day worship, ministry, and administrative operations, thus enabling our many ministries that touch the lives of hundreds of parishioners and beyond. In this report, we share some important stories and details from the valuable work our ministries have completed throughout the year.

I also note the steady increase in the number of Parishioners over the past few years, mirroring the population growth of our city. Together, we continue to demonstrate the parish's integral role in the community around us, with our Basilica serving as a spiritual beacon for the Catholic faith in our area. As we move in and out of the Basilica, be it for Mass, ministry participation, or personal prayer time, we witness the ongoing development around us. From the proposed project, The Stitch, that will reconnect neighborhoods above the connector and other nearby residential and office developments, our parish church, now in its 126th year in this very location (and 144th in existence), stands as a testament to the dedicated parishioners it serves and their ability to adapt to the changing environment.

Having reflected on the achievements of the year past, I also look forward to the year ahead as substantial progress has already been made on our interior redecoration project *For Such a Time as This*. Thank you for your patience while the Church undergoes this important work and I look forward to sharing with you the Phase 1A completion this Advent. I thank you for your faithful dedication to our Lord Jesus, your continued prayers, and your support to this parish; please know that I pray for you and your families daily.

Peace to you in Christ Risen,

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

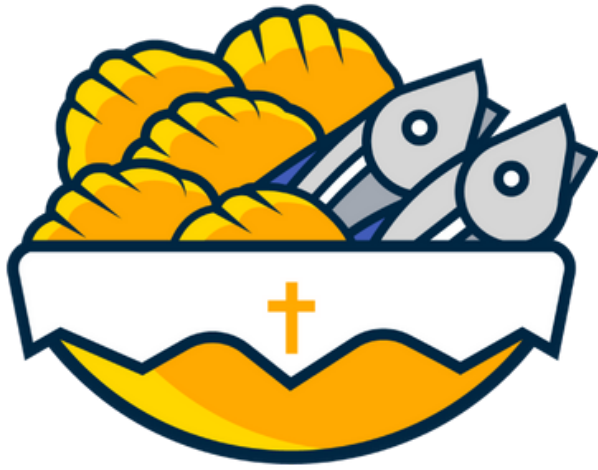
Very Rev. John T. Howren V.F.
Rector and Pastor



VISIT US: WWW.SACREDHEARTATLANTA.ORG

LIVING OUR MISSION





\$9,140 RAISED!

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. 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.

#iGIVECATHOLIC



NIGHT SHELTER MINISTRY

The parishioners of Sacred Heart have been personally serving unhoused men in Atlanta for over 35 years.

Men, women and teenagers of our parish volunteer for this personal ministry and receive a calendar and notices by email of the designated evenings that Sacred Heart will staff the Bashor Men's Homeless Shelter at the Central Presbyterian and the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Churches, across from the State Capital.

Typically once each month from November to March, Basilica volunteers arrive at 6:00 PM to serve a hot evening meal, funded by the parish, to 65 men at the Bashor Shelter. These same volunteers also pack 65 sack breakfasts, and 65 sack lunches for the men of the Shelter to take with them the next day as they leave the Shelter at 6:30 AM.

Four or five Sacred Heart volunteers stay the night at the Shelter acting in shifts as hosts to the men, ministering to their needs and responding to requests for aspirin, cough drops, snacks, etc. while keeping a pot of decaf coffee available throughout the night. If you would like to participate in this friendly ministry please contact Bob Balke at rrbalke@gmail.com.

FUNDING OUR MISSION

Comparative Income Statements for the Fiscal Years
ending June 30, 2025, and ended 2024 and 2023

Description	Budget		Actual	
	Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025	Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024	Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023	
Operating Income:				
Offertory/Interest	\$ 1,070,000	\$ 1,066,157	\$ 1,056,199	
Liturgy and Worship	\$ 31,000	\$ 37,150	\$ 46,841	
Religious Education	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,591	\$ 4,860	
Parish Ministries	\$ 7,000	\$ 31,142	\$ 31,035	
Facilities	\$ -	\$ 1,400	\$ 4,155	
Georgia Bulletin	\$ 1,000	\$ 718	\$ 809	
Total	\$ 1,114,000	\$ 1,141,158	\$ 1,143,899	
Operating Expenses:				
Liturgy and Worship	\$ 194,550	\$ 205,200	\$ 211,693	
Religious Education	\$ 26,450	\$ 21,702	\$ 7,728	
Parish Ministries	\$ 107,200	\$ 103,706	\$ 112,577	
General and Administration	\$ 293,600	\$ 312,759	\$ 323,525	
Facilities	\$ 316,250	\$ 315,451	\$ 304,648	
Archdiocesan Assessments	\$ 175,900	\$ 181,954	\$ 182,226	
Total	\$ 1,113,950	\$ 1,140,772	\$ 1,142,397	
Operating Surplus	\$ 50	\$ 386	\$ 1,502	
Non-Operating Income:				
Investment	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,288	\$ 6,421	
Restoration	\$ 35,300	\$ 36,293	\$ 45,353	
Refund on Annual Appeal	\$ -	\$ 7,526	\$ 17,754	
Capital Campaign	\$ -	\$ 835,758	\$ 54,368	
Total	\$ 43,300	\$ 891,865	\$ 123,896	
Non-Operating Expenses:				
Restoration	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,897	\$ 18,903	
Capital Campaign	\$ -	\$ 16,661	\$ 47,773	
Total	\$ 7,000	\$ 21,558	\$ 66,676	
Non-Operating Surplus	\$ 36,300	\$ 870,307	\$ 57,220	

NOTES

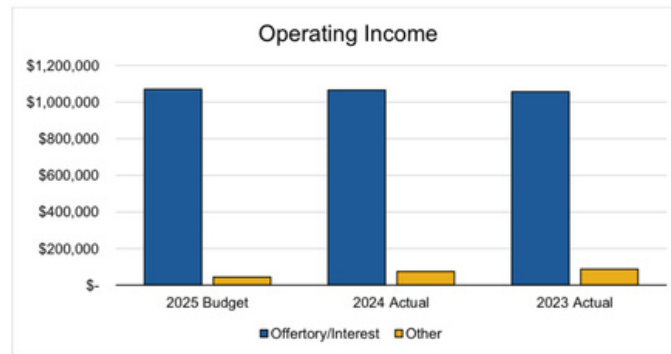
Operating Income: Liturgy and Worship are monies received from Weddings, Quinceañeras, Christmas and Easter flowers and Mass Intentions. Parish Ministries are monies received from donations to Outreach ministries. Facilities is income from the rental of the space to interested parties.

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

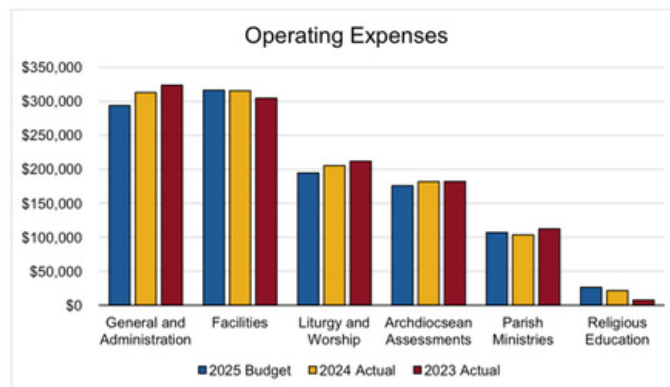
Non-Operating Income: Capital Campaign amounts are monies parishioners have donated to *For Such a Time as This* and to Save the Spires in fiscal years 2024 and 2023, respectively.

Non-Operating Expenses: Capital Campaign amounts represent expenditures that are part of two capital campaigns. Expenditures in fiscal year 2023 are final payments for Save the Spires work. Expenditures in fiscal year 2024 are primarily for the initial *For Such a Time as This* work. Capital Campaign amounts are not budgeted with the operating budget.

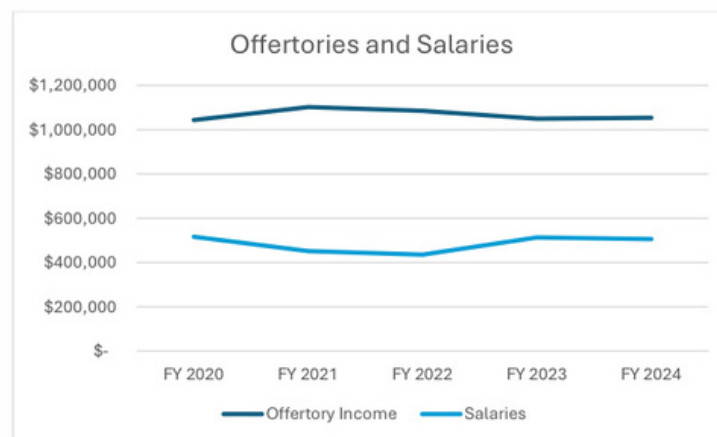
A CLOSER LOOK AT THE NUMBERS



Operating Income, which consists of primarily offertory collections, has remained consistent between the fiscal years, 2024 and 2023. We are anticipating this will be the case in fiscal year 2025 budget. I continue to be prayerfully thankful to God and to you the members of our parish community for your continuing generosity. Your deep love for this parish and devotion to its mission is always on display.



Operating Expenses continue to be managed closely. The staff and I fully appreciate the trust you have placed in us to be prudent stewards of your treasure entrusted to us. Liturgy and Worship expenditures are trending down as a result of the need for fewer flower arrangements and other decorations during the redecoration. General and Administrative expenses are trending down and reflect changes made to the mix of staff employees and volunteers. Facilities expenditures are up in fiscal year 2024, reflecting repairs to the HVAC systems other than the one replaced in the Save the Spires campaign. The fiscal year 2025 budget anticipates several upgrades in certain of these systems.



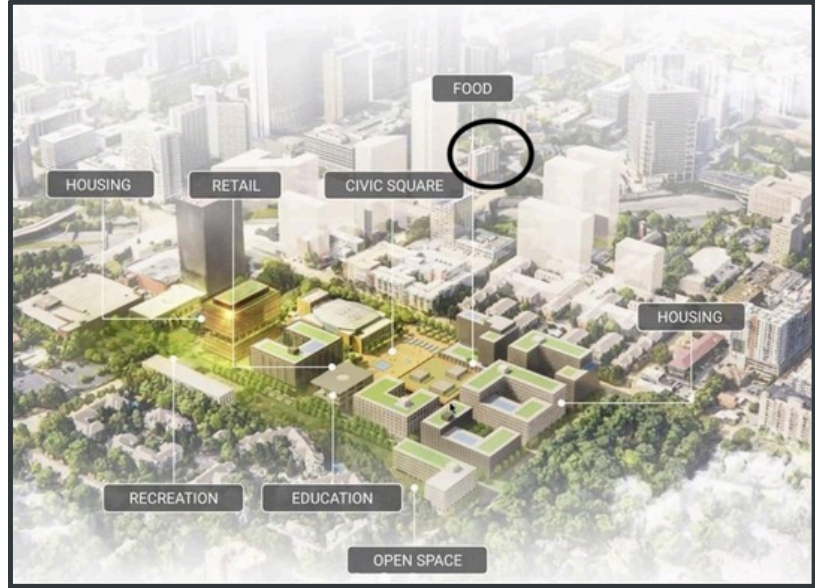
Non-Operating Income - Capital Campaign in fiscal year 2024 are monies received in the Silent Campaign segment of the *For Such a Time as This* capital campaign. The Silent Campaign has been underway since the middle of fiscal year 2024 and is receiving wide and very generous support. We had a goal for this segment of the *For Such a Time as This* capital campaign of \$1 million. We are currently at about \$1.7 million in pledges of which about 50% has been collected. Thank You!

OUR ~~CHANGING~~ IMPROVING NEIGHBORHOOD

NEW HOUSING, MORE OFFICES AND PARKS
AND...MORE PEOPLE AND NEW NEEDS



The Stitch



Civic Center Redevelopment



Atlanta First United Methodist Housing