

INSIDE

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS A PRIEST

Father Christopher Burke marks 40th anniversary of ordainment to priesthood
Page 4

BYZANTINE ALTAR BOY CAMP

St. Basil the Great in Irving, Texas brings fathers and sons together for a weekend
Page 9

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ARCHEPARCHY

Audited financial statements for 2025
Pages 14 to 23

A journey to the altar of Christ fulfilled

FATHER NICHOLAS KRIVACS, FATHER MARK LEROY ORDAINED TO PRIESTHOOD AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL IN MUNHALL, PA.



Father Nicholas Krivacs and Father Mark LeRoy were ordained to the priesthood by Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla June 7 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, Pa. At right is Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich, Protosyncellus and rector of the Cathedral. Photo by Nick Havrilla Sr. For more photos, see page 3.

By *The Byzantine Catholic World*

Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla ordained Father Nicholas Krivacs and Father Mark LeRoy to the priesthood on Sunday, June 7 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, Pa.

Concelebrants were: Bishop Robert Pipta of the Eparchy of Parma; Very Rev. Ron Barusefski, rector of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, Pa.; Very Rev. Kevin E. Marks, Vocations Director and pastor of St. Michael in Hermitage, Pa. and St. Michael in Campbell, Ohio; Archpriest Dennis M. Hrubiak; Father Anthony Costantino; Father Tim Kennedy; and Father Vasy Sokolovych.

Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich, Protosyncellus and rector of the Cathedral, was Master of Ceremonies and Corrie

Poklembo was cantor.

Father Nicholas and Father Mark are graduates of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary.

Father Nicholas is originally from Parma, Ohio. He considers Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Toms River N.J., which he attended from high school through college, his home parish.

Father Mark's original parish is the Saint Petros Oros Byzantine Catholic Mission in Fort Mill, S.C.

"Most of my life was spent in that town. I was a cantor at the mission for five-plus years before coming to the Seminary," he said.

During last year's St. Nicholas Dinner at the Cathedral to benefit the Seminary, then-Deacon Nicholas discussed Human, Spiritual, Academic and Pastoral formation

"Each of these dimensions of formation has guided me toward growing as a person and specifically, growing as a follower of Christ,"

he said.

He was assigned to a program visiting sick and suffering and offering spiritual guidance with then-Deacon Mark.

"It was this experience that truly cemented my vocation to the priesthood."

Deacon Mark said last December others were aware of his calling to the priesthood before himself.

"Before I ever perceived my calling, it was seen by those around me; first my wife, then friends, family, and parishioners. This came as a surprise to me as a convert; I felt I knew very little about the faith in comparison to those who were born into it," he said.

"Then I remembered that God has done much crazier things. After all, he brought the Gospel to the ends of the Earth through young fishermen." ■

"The future belongs to God"

BISHOPS' SPRING MEETING CULMINATES WITH CONSECRATION TO SACRED HEART

By *OSV News*

ORLANDO, FLA. — The second day of public sessions at the U.S. bishops' spring plenary culminated with the much anticipated consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus during a late afternoon Mass June 11 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe.

After concluding their public session agenda, the bishops left the Omni Resort in ChampionsGate for a half-hour drive up Interstate 4 to the spiritual refuge that is the shrine.

The Mass was a momentous one as it served to formally consecrate the United States to

Story continued on page 2

Sisters of St. Basil the Great elect new leadership

At the recent Chapter/Synaxis of the Sisters of St. Basil, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Province, the Sisters met to elect leadership for the next five years.

Sister Susan Sisko was re-elected Provincial, and Sister Carol Petrasovich, Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, and Sister Margaret Ann Andrako were elected to the Provincial Council. Sister Carol was also re-elected Vicar/Assistant Provincial.

The Chapter/Synaxis was held on Saturday, June 13 to Sunday, June 14 following the regular liturgical prayer.

The Chapter/Synaxis concluded on Sunday with a celebratory dinner.

The newly elected leadership

Story continued on page 2

WORLD

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MISSION

The mission of *The Byzantine Catholic World* is to spread the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Byzantine Catholic Church; to encourage faithful to reflect the image of Christ in everyday activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Byzantine Catholics in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, throughout the Metropolitan Church in America, and around the world.

Sisters of St. Basil the Great elect new leadership team

Story continued from page 1

team requests your prayers for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as they embark on the next five years of service to the Province, the Order, and our Church.

A very special thank you goes to Sister Valentina Hadarau, our Chapter/Synaxis facilitator.

Congratulations to our new leadership team! ■

RIGHT: Sister Carol Petrasovich; Sister Susan Sisko, Provincial; Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick; and Sister Margaret Ann Andrako .



“The future belongs to God”

Story continued from page 1

the Sacred Heart of Jesus, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The relics of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque — the French Visitation sister who experienced visions of Jesus revealing his Sacred Heart — were also present at the Mass, on loan from the Knights of Columbus for the consecration.

“The future belongs to God”

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, incensed the altar after processing in from the thick humidity and cloudy skies of a typical Orlando afternoon outside the shrine. “Clothe us, Lord God, with the virtues of the heart of your son, and set us aflame with his love,” he prayed in opening the Mass.

The Sacred Heart reconciles divisions and transforms hardened hearts, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore said in his homily. He described consecration as an act of faith and acknowledgment of the need for God’s mercy, wisdom and guidance, and also an act of hope.

“To consecrate ourselves to the Sacred Heart is ultimately to accept Christ’s invitation to remain in His love and to allow that love to shape every aspect of our lives, public and private,” Archbishop Lori said. “It is a declaration that the future does not belong merely to political movements, economic forces, or human plans. The future belongs to God.”

Anchored in prayer

Like the previous day, the June 11 public session began with prayer, followed by Archbishop Coakley congratulating two prelates on the anniversaries of



A clergyman swings a censer near a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as U.S. Catholic bishops consecrate the country to the Sacred Heart at the Basilica of Mary Queen of the Universe in Orlando, Fla., June 11, 2026, during their spring plenary assembly. OSV News photo/Bob Roller.

their priestly ordinations:

■ Archbishop Gabriele G. Caccia, the Italian-born apostolic nuncio to the U.S., who was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Milan on June 11, 1983.

■ Retired Bishop James A. Tamayo, first bishop of Laredo, Texas (2000-2026), who was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Corpus Christi, Texas, on June 11, 1976.

Archbishop Coakley also noted the day marked the 75th anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Venerable Fulton J. Sheen, who is “soon to be Blessed Fulton Sheen.” Appointed an auxiliary bishop for New York, he was ordained a bishop in Rome on June 11, 1951. Archbishop Sheen will be beatified Sept. 24 at a Mass in St. Louis.

In their first votes of the day, the bishops approved portions of two texts: a new edition of the Lectionary for Mass, which provides the Scripture readings and psalm for each day’s liturgy; and the 2025 Roman Missal-Liturgy of the Hours Supplement.

Updates to Dallas Charter

The bishops then approved several updates to their landmark document on protection policies for children and minors, seeking to define key terms while balancing care for victim-survivors with accused clergy’s right to a presumption of innocence until proven otherwise.

The revisions, preliminarily introduced June 10 during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ spring plenary assembly in Orlando, passed by a two-thirds vote June 11 after a period of debate.

The changes will keep the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People” focused “exclusively” on clergy abuse of minors, with a new document being developed to address abuse involving vulnerable adults, said Bishop Barry C. Knestout of Richmond, Virginia, chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, in

Story continued on page 23

A journey to the altar of Christ fulfilled

FATHER NICHOLAS KRIVACS, FATHER MARK LEROY ORDAINED TO PRIESTHOOD
AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL IN MUNHALL, PA. *see story on Page 1*



Photos by Nick Havrilla Sr.

PARISH NEWS



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION IN CLAIRTON, PA.

Celebrating 40 years a priest

*By Trish Roberts
Church of the Ascension, Clairton, Pa.*

Father Christopher Burke celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordainment to the priesthood on May 24, Pentecost Sunday, at Ascension Byzantine Church in Clairton, Pa.

Father Donald Voss from St. Nicholas Byzantine Church in McKeesport, Pa. concelebrated the Liturgy with Father Christopher.

Altar servers were Luke Padezan, Braden Hudson and William Kerr. Cantors were John Glegyak, Christopher Dufalla and Michael Mina.

Guests attended from St. Nicholas Church in Brownsville, Pa.; St. Mary Church in New Salem, Pa.; St. Nicholas Church in McKeesport; and Ascension Church.

Following the Divine Liturgy everyone was invited to attend a catered dinner at the Ascension Hall. Father Donald gave the Invocation. Father Paul J. Zywan of Triumph of the Holy Cross Parish gave the Benediction and Father Chris closed the program offering remarks and thanks to all who attended.

Father Christopher graduated from La Roche University in 1986 and was ordained on May 18, 1986 at St. John Cathedral in Parma, Ohio by Bishop Andrew Pataki.

Father Christopher was previously the pastor at St. Nicholas Church in Brownsville and St. Mary Church in New Salem, Pa. before coming to Ascension Church.

He has served the people at Ascension Church since February 2, 2025.

On October 17, 2025, he began co-serving at St. Nicholas Church in McKeesport with Father Donald. ■



Father Donald Voss, Father Christopher Burke, and William Kerr (front row), altar servers Luke Padezan and Braden Hudson, Michael Mina, Christopher Dufalla, and John Glegyak (back row).



Father Christopher Burke with brothers Kerry, David, and Bill and nephew Ricky.





First Reconciliation

SS. PETER AND PAUL IN TARENTUM, PA.

*By Father Vasyl Polyak
SS. Peter and Paul, Tarentum, Pa.*

On Sunday, May 3, our parish family at SS. Peter and Paul joyfully witnessed an important spiritual milestone in the life of our young parishioner Amelia Gagen, who received her first Holy Reconciliation.

Our Lord Jesus Christ calls people in many different ways throughout their lives. Some are called to the vocation of marriage, others to the priesthood, monastic life, or various forms of Christian service. Yet before any particular vocation can fully blossom, every Christian is first called to a life in Christ through the holy mysteries of initiation and ongoing communion with God.

In the earliest years of a child's spiritual life, parents and sponsors play a special role. Through their faith, prayers, and example, they guide the child toward Christ and help nurture the gift received at Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist. However, the time of the first Holy Reconciliation marks a new and beautiful stage of spiritual maturity. The child begins to recognize more personally the voice of conscience and the responsibility of Christian life.

For this reason, the first Holy Reconciliation is not simply a ceremony or family tradition. It is a sacred encounter with the loving mercy of God. Through repentance and forgiveness, the young Christian learns to approach Christ with humility, honesty, and trust. Then, in receiving the Holy Eucharist, the faithful soul is united more deeply with our Savior, who nourishes and strengthens us for the journey of life.



Father Vasyl Polyak and Amelia Gagen

This joyful event is important not only for Amelia and her family — the domestic church — but also for the entire parish community. The Church herself is made up of many families united together in faith, prayer, and love. Therefore, whenever one of our children takes such an important spiritual step, the whole congregation rejoices together and renews its own commitment to live faithfully as disciples of Christ.

We also express our sincere gratitude to our ECF teachers for their faithful service and dedication in helping form the spiritual lives of our children. Their work is an important ministry within the Church, assisting parents and the parish community in teaching the faith, preparing young people for the holy mysteries, and encouraging them to grow closer to Christ. Through their patience, care, and commitment, they help plant the seeds of faith that continue to grow throughout a lifetime.

We congratulate Amelia and her family on this blessed occasion. May our Lord continue to guide her in wisdom, faith, and love, and may the Most Holy Eucharist always remain the center of her Christian life. ■



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN PITTSBURGH, PA.

*By Elizabeth Harbist
St. John Chrysostom, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

Following a year of preparation, John David (JD) Basl, Daniel Hartung, Anna Rodrigues, Nicholas Rodrigues, and Theresa Schultz made their First Solemn Reconciliation on Sunday, May 31 at St. John Chrysostom in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The children demonstrated their understanding of sin and reconciliation through a discussion with Father Tyler Wisniewski. The children were asked to use their own words to explain the Ten Commandments and why reconciliation is so important.

Father Tyler praised the children and their parents for their hard work preparing for this Mystery

of the Church.

On Sunday before Divine Liturgy, the children and their parents received the Mystery of Reconciliation. JD, Daniel and Nicholas are among the many altar servers for Divine Liturgy. Anna and Theresa sing in the choir and serve in the Epistle Reader rotation.

Following Divine Liturgy our parish family celebrated this important milestone in their faith journeys with a light lunch in the social hall. Parents, grandparents, godparents, siblings and cousins shared in the joy and celebration.

May God grant JD, Daniel, Anna, Nicholas and Theresa many happy, healthy, and blessed years!



SS. PETER AND PAUL IN PORTAGE, PA.

*By Very Rev. James Spontak
SS. Peter and Paul, Portage, Pa.*

Four students were prepared for their First Reconciliation during the 2025-26 Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) year.

A parish celebration of their First Penance took place at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 17.

The students are shown with their Catechist, Julie Brenna.

Concelebrating the Divine Liturgy were Father Edward Pyo; Very Rev. James Spontak, pastor; and Deacon Daniel Perich. Dane Nesbella and Bryce Harrington were the altar servers. ■





HOLY PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
IN MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

Byzantine Outreach established

*By Patricia Johnson
Holy Protection of the Mother of God
Morgantown, W. Va.*

Father Kyprian Wojciechowski celebrated the first Divine Liturgy for the newly established Byzantine Catholic Outreach in Charleston, W. Va on Sunday, June 14.

About 100 people came for Liturgy, which was held at St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church.

Afterwards, the faithful enjoyed a light meal and fellowship on the beautiful grounds of St. Agnes.

The Outreach would like to thank Father Phillip Szabo, pastor of St. Agnes, and the parishioners of St. Agnes for their gracious welcome.

Divine Liturgy is scheduled for the second Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Father Kyprian also serves the parishes of St. John the Baptist in Uniontown, Pa. and St. Mary's Holy Protection in Morgantown, W. Va.

Please pray for the future growth and success of this newly established Outreach! ■



Chrismation

On Sunday, June 14, parishioner Kevin Slavic of St. Mary's Holy Protection in Morgantown, W. Va. was Chrismated and entered into the fullness of the Faith. May he continue to grow in knowledge and love of Our Lord and His precepts! May God bless his parents, Richard & Katherine Slavic, and his sponsor, Nevin Moore. Mnohaja lita! ■



HOLY GHOST IN MCKEES ROCKS, PA.

Feast Day celebration

*By Maria Iyengar
Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks, Pa.*

On Pentecost Sunday, the parishes of Holy Ghost in McKees Rocks, Pa. and Holy Ghost in Pittsburgh (North Side), Pa. gathered together to celebrate their Feast Day, Very Rev. Frank Firko's birthday and their college and high school graduates.

The celebration began with the kneeling prayers at both parishes and continued with a luncheon

at Holy Ghost McKees Rocks' parish hall.

The college graduate Madelyn Nazak and the high school graduate Thomas Rubish were recognized.

"God Grant Him Many Years" was sung for Father Frank led by the parish's vocation Father Luke Iyengar, who came to celebrate with his home parish. Food and fellowship followed. ■





ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL IN MUNHALL, PA.

Rummage, Bake Sale

A Rummage/Bake Sale took place May 29 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, Pa. Thanks to the leadership of Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich and a crew of hardworking parishioners, the two-day event was a successful fund raising parish affair. ■



Photos by Nick Hvrilla Sr.

ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

Vacation Church School 2026

All stories by Father Valerian Michlik, St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

Day 1, Monday, June 15: The first day of this fun event began with the prayer of the Third Hour.

As part of the program, each day the children are presented with the life of the Saint of the Day. Today it was St. Dominic Savio who was a 19th-century Italian teenager and a student of St. John Bosco. Especially for young people nowadays this “young saint” is a great example on how to display “heroic virtue” in our daily lives.

Afterwards the children were divided into two groups to begin their classes. This year we are following the program “Cathletics” where kids train to become Champions for Christ! This high-energy, Olympic-themed adventure inspires children to aim high, grow strong in God’s Word, and go for the gold in their faith.

It was a wonderful day of learning, music, crafts and games. ■



Day 2, Tuesday, June 16: The second day of the St. Gregory’s Vacation Church School was dedicated to the Ten Commandments. As part of the curriculum our children learned that the commandments are not just rules but guidelines for living safely, kindly, and with love for God and others.

In class we discussed practical examples, like sharing, telling the truth, and respecting

family, to help them relate the commandments to daily life.

The Saint of the Day was St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta. The children enjoyed learning about this beloved saint who was a kind and caring nun who spent her life helping the poor and sick people in India and around the world.

Throughout the day our children enjoyed lessons, games, music, and crafts. ■



Day 3, Wednesday, June 16:

The third day of our Vacation Church School was dedicated to the Beatitudes. The word itself “Beatitude” comes from the Latin *beatus*, meaning “blessed” or “happy”. The Beatitudes appear in the Gospel of Matthew 5:3-12 during Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, where He taught a crowd about the qualities that lead to true spiritual fulfillment and God’s favor.

Following the Prayer of the Third Hour we learned about our Byzantine Catholic Bishop Martyr Theodore Romza. The “Saint of the Day”, Blessed Theodore led his flock through severe Soviet persecution from 1944 until his

martyrdom in 1947. As a good shepherd/father to his people, Bishop Theodore embraced the Beatitudes which requires an active, daily commitment to practicing Christ-like virtues. Refusing to break communion with Rome, he traveled by horse to minister under threat, famously declaring “I would rather die than betray my Church.” Injured in a staged vehicle attack, he was later murdered by NKVD agents. This young bishop martyr was beatified in the year 2001.

The Beatitudes was the major theme for our faith formation classes, music classes, crafts, and games. ■



Day 4, Thursday, June 18: The final day of our Vacation Church School 2026 began with the Prayer of the Third Hour. Afterwards, we were ready for our field trip to Simmons Farm in McMurray, Pa. Our children very much enjoyed

the hayride, picking vegetables, learning how the vegetables grow, planting tomatoes, and especially time at the petting zoo.

Our day concluded with great food and fellowship at Grande Restaurant in McMurray. ■



ST. BASIL THE GREAT IN IRVING, TEXAS

Byzantine Altar Boy Camp

*By Hank Tritchka
St. Basil the Great, Irving, Texas*

The second Byzantine Altar Boy Camp of Texas, held June 5 to 7 and sponsored by Father Elias Rafaj of St. Basil the Great Byzantine Catholic Church of Irving, Texas, brought together Byzantine Catholic fathers and sons for a weekend of faith, fellowship, learning, and outdoor adventure.

The rugged Lone Oak Ranch and Retreat of Gainesville, Texas again played host to the event.

This year's camp was attended by 11 fathers and 26 sons. Participants enjoyed a variety of activities, including BB gun target practice, hiking, fishing, swimming, giant Nerf battles, ball games and a Texas-sized bonfire with S'mores.

The Western-themed venue featured bunk houses made of logs and rustic amenities, with a feeling as close to outdoor camping as one can get without the tents.

The mercurial Texas weather struck on both nights with late evening thunder and downpours. Yet spirits remained high throughout the deluge, with enthusiastic games and conversations continuing into the night under the protection of the giant outdoor covered arena.

Father Deacon Craig Anderson, who also stayed for the weekend, offered several engaging talks and lessons for the altar servers and was on hand for personal spiritual conversations with the dads. His presentations helped deepen the boys' understanding of their important role as servers and encouraged them to grow in their faith.

Father Elias Rafaj visited late Saturday afternoon to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for everyone present.

The camp was coordinated by St. Basil parishioner Hank Tritchka with the assistance of Justin Strawhand.

Building upon the success of the inaugural event, this year's camp continued their mission to bond, strengthen and inspire the Byzantine Catholic fathers and sons of the Lone Star State. Commemorative patches were awarded to all participants.

Sponsors and organizers look forward to continuing this budding tradition and welcoming even more fathers and sons to future camps. ■



Michael Tenney preps marshmallows for the bonfire.



Damien Van Der Putten talks with his boys. Father Deacon Craig Anderson gives spiritual guidance.

ST. NICHOLAS IN GREENSBURG, PA.

Dual celebrations

By John Gomolak
St. Nicholas, Greensburg, Pa.

A dual celebration was held Sunday, May 31 at Saint Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Greensburg, Pa.

The first celebration was for Father Vasyly Banyk on the 15th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Congratulations, Father Vasyly! A luncheon was served in the church hall.

The second was the baptism of Adam Russick, son of Jonathan and Brooke Russick.



Congratulations, Adam and welcome to our Saint Nicholas Parish! ■



ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

Celebrating Flag Day

By Father Valerian Michlik
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 14, St. Gregory's faithful offered prayerful supplications for our nation under God as we celebrated Flag Day.

Afterwards, we gathered in our Church Hall for an Ice Cream

Party sponsored by the GCU Pittsburgh South Regional Lodge.

This was a wonderful celebration as we honored the flag of the United States which represents freedom and has always been an enduring symbol of our country's ideals since its early days. ■



ST. ELIAS IN MUNHALL, PA.

Welcome, Bishop Robert!

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

St. Elias parish in Munhall, Pa. was blessed to have the Most Reverend Bishop Robert Pipta of the Eparchy of Parma celebrate liturgy with Father Vitalii Stashkevych on June 7.

We also celebrated the 60th wedding anniversary of Donald and Diane Slekar.

A small reception with the parish family was held after liturgy.

Bishop Robert was a frequent visitor to St. Elias when he was the Seminary rector. He is always welcome to visit us when he is in the area. We hope he considers St. Elias his second home and will keep us in his prayers as we keep him in ours. ■



"Built on pride"

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

Saturday, June 13 was a beautiful day for Munhall's 125th anniversary! St. Elias was there selling their famous potato cheese

pirohi and haluska! The day ended with a fabulous drone show!

Congratulations to the Munhall community! "Forged in steel, built on pride!" ■

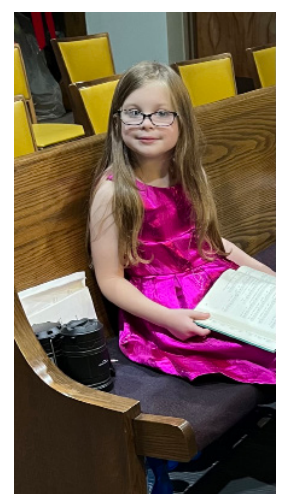


Raising her voice

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

As the Whitney Houston song goes: "I believe the children are our future/Teach them well and let them lead the way," so are our children the future of our church.

Luckily, St. Elias in Munhall, Pa. has a growing number of children in the parish. Miss Aubrey loves to sing and recently joined the cantor at liturgy. She has a beautiful voice and knows much of the liturgy by heart! She is welcome to assist the cantor anytime! Thank you, Aubrey! ■



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN UNIONTOWN, PA.

End-of-Year ECF Party

By Julia Pillar and Bonnie Balas
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

After the evening Divine Liturgy on Saturday May 30, the end-of-year ECF party was held at St. John the Baptist in Uniontown, Pa.

St. John Social Ministry and the ECF teachers provided pizza, chicken strips, treats, and an ice cream sundae bar for the students, families, ECF staff, and Father Kyprian Wojciechowski and his wife, Emily. Also the children who recently received their sacramental mysteries were recognized. ■



CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION IN MONROEVILLE, PA.

Happy Father's Day!

Church of the Resurrection in Monroeville, Pa. sponsored a Father's Day Breakfast on Sunday, June 21. Father Don Bolls is pastor.



Celebrating Pentecost

By Julia Pillar and Bonnie Balas
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

For the Feast of Pentecost, St. John Church in Uniontown, Pa. was decorated with greenery which included Linden branches and other plants growing on the church grounds.

Weekend Divine Liturgies

concluded with the kneeling prayers.

On Pentecost Monday, the morning Divine Liturgy included a procession around the church at which Father Kyprian Wojciechowski read the Four Gospel readings at each corner of the church. ■



Helping Hands Day

By Julia Pillar and Bonnie Balas
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

Rest assured, St. John parishioners each year participate in the annual Spring Helping Hands Day at Mount St. Macrina, held on Saturday, May 30.

Weeding, trimming bushes and trees, general clean up, and planting flowers were done to

prepare for the upcoming Labor Day weekend Pilgrimage.

The Sisters offered a delicious lunch and much hospitality in appreciation for the many helpers who were there that day. More assistance is needed to prepare for the Pilgrimage. Please contact the Sisters of St. Basil to see how you can help. ■





THOUGHTS FOR OUR DAY

By Archpriest David M. Petras

THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF A CHRISTIAN



We have meditated on the seven rites of the Church that are called sacramental mysteries. All these services of worship bring us closer to God, and mark passages in the story of our lives. Two of them, Holy Communion and the Penance or Reconciliation, which we usually call confession, are repeated often, and may not be distinct passages, though each of them is a renewal of our baptism, our initiation in the life of the Trinity as the Body of Christ, the Church. Baptism marks our passage into the new life in Christ we receive after birth, and marriage is the beginning of a new life with a beloved person. These are the two rites of passage that are important to us as Christians, but there is also a third rite of passage that is very significant, the rite of the funeral, Christian burial, which marks our passage into the fullness of God's presence in eternal life. We do not count Christian burial as a sacramental mystery now, because the individual person has already left the passing life of this world to enter the life of the world to come.

At times in the history of the Church, funerals have at times been considered by some fathers as a mystery of the Church. The sixth-century Syrian theologian who took the name of Dionysius considered it a sacrament, as well as the Byzantine Father Theodore the Studite. Today the rite of the funeral is simply a development of the Office of Matins with an absolution at the end. We cannot go into the whole situation here,

but there was one sacramental sign given at funerals, and though not always done, is still preserved in the books: the last anointing. The final act before burial is the pouring of oil on the body of the departed. This is still done for presbyters, though usually omitted for lay persons. It is probably because of this anointing that the funeral was considered as a sacramental mystery, a sign of being like Christ, the "Anointed One." In the Middle Ages, there was an elaborate funeral rite of seven anointings that paralleled the anointing of the sick. This seven fold anointing quickly died out, probably because the

At times in the history of the Church, funerals have at times been considered by some fathers as a mystery of the Church.

authorities thought that it was an imitation of the anointing of the sick. It would make it seem that the sacramental anointing of the sick was insufficient.

Besides anointing, another ceremony specifically connected with burial was the last farewell. The departed was once kissed on the lips, because of the belief that the soul departed through the mouth, and the last absolution. Today, people pay their last respects and kiss the Cross, the

hope of our salvation. The rite of a Christian death is connected with the eucharist. The early Church had a great zeal for the viaticum (Latin for "on the way"). Sometimes as a person was dying, communion was given many times, so that it would be in the person's mouth when they died. The Church had to forbid the giving of Communion after death. The zeal was commendable, and viaticum is the last rite of the Church, but it is a faith response to the pagan belief that the departed needed a coin to pay the ferryman Charon over the River Styx. Instead of a useless coin, the Christian had Communion, the body of Christ, as the guide to heaven.

The operation of the Holy Spirit is signified in the anointing with oil, blessed by the Holy Spirit, a material element used as a sign of Christian salvation. It is a representation of the paschal mystery, for death is considered the perfection of Christian life, and the rebirth into eternal life. However, the difficulty with funerals is whether there is an individual participation in the rite. Is the body a "person," or has the soul already attained union with Christ, and, therefore, beyond the necessity of the Church's incarnational system. All of the sacramental mysteries are expressions of Christ's incarnation, his taking of the human nature, body and soul, for life in this world, to be fulfilled in the next world. Thus the funeral has a meaning as helping the departed soul to its destiny with God. The meaning of anointing is identification with Jesus Christ, the Savior, in whom is our ultimate hope, and this is the

meaning of final absolution, to completely free the soul from any sin that would keep it from God.

Our concept of death is different now. It is complete and final from the moment of brain death. If a living faithful is necessary as a recipient of a sacramental mystery, then funerals cannot be considered a sacramental mystery. We have de-emphasized the idea of a funeral as assisting a soul to heaven. It has become less an act of faith than an eulogy of the departed person.. It is not really celebrated as a mystery, but its main goal is the comfort of the bereaved. Our own attitudes toward death are often not really Christian, and we must deal with an entirely different cultural attitude toward death. My opinion is that sacramental mysteries are real signs of the paschal mystery, and cease with the death of the faithful. However, some of the Fathers and theologians have considered funerals to be sacraments.

Our funeral is now an act of faith, as is said in the introduction to the funeral rite in our liturgical books: We express our faith in the Creed, "I expect the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen." Our faith is in Christ who promised, "whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not come to condemnation, but has passed from death to life" (John 5:24). Our faith, when one dies, is that they have "fallen asleep in the Lord," as our Lord said of his friend Lazarus when he was about to raise him from the tomb after four days, "our friend, Lazarus, is asleep" (John 11:11). ■



PARISH LITURGIES BROADCAST VIA INTERNET

Here is the most current list of parishes broadcasting Sunday Divine Liturgies and other services to the Faithful via their websites and social media sites such as Facebook.

For changes or to be listed, send information to bcw@archpitt.org.

**St. John the Baptist Cathedral
Munhall, Pa.**
www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com

**Holy Ghost
McKee Rocks, Pa.**
www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org
www.youtube.com, then type Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

**St. John Chrysostom
Pittsburgh, Pa.**
www.sjcbcc.com

**St. Gregory
Upper St. Clair, Pa.**
www.facebook.com/stgregoryusc

**St. Michael
Campbell, Ohio**
www.facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.campbell

**St. Elias
Munhall, Pa.**
www.facebook.com/StEliasByzantineCatholicChurch/

**SS. Peter and Paul
Braddock, Pa.**
<https://www.facebook.com/SSPeterPaulBraddock/>

**St. Michael
Hermitage, Pa.**
<https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelbyz.hermitage>

**St. Mary
Windber, Pa.**
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryDormition>

**St. Mary
Bradenville, Pa.**
Go to [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and type in "St. Mary's Byzantine Media"



ECHOES EAST AND WEST: LISTEN, TEACH, SEND

A weekend of prayer, community, and formation

Eastern and Western Churches forming young people as disciples of Christ

Echoes East and West: Listen, Teach, Send

Rooted in the pastoral vision of the USCCB Framework for Ministries with Youth and with Young Adults: Listen, Teach, Send, this weekend retreat gathers members of the Eastern and Western Catholic Churches ministering to young people and families for a time of prayer, reflection, and shared mission rooted in Christ. Through keynote talks, the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, communal prayer, and opportunities for fellowship, participants will encounter the beauty of the Church's diverse traditions while deepening their commitment to Christ's call for their lives. By actively listening to one another, receiving the wisdom of the Church, and strengthening bonds of community, this retreat seeks to renew participants to be sent forth as joyful witnesses of the Gospel. All those serving in the church's ministries as youth ministers, young adult ministers, catechists, pastors, family life directors, coaches, campus ministers, scout leaders, and parents are invited to attend.

Who is this conference for?

- Ministers working with
- Youth & Young Adults
- Campus Ministers
- Catechists
- Priests, seminarians, and religious
- Ministry leaders who seek to engage young people, families, and parents

CONFERENCE DETAILS:

DATES:

Friday, Oct. 23, 2026 - Sunday, Oct. 25, 2026

■ **Beginning on Oct. 23 (Friday) at 4:30 p.m.** with Welcome & Check-in, followed by the 6:30 pm Divine Liturgy (Maronite) at St. Sharbel Spirituality Center, and Dinner Buffet and Social.

■ **Continues Oct. 24 (Saturday) at 9:00 a.m.** with Morning Prayer (Ruthenian) and Sessions on Listening and Teaching, with interactive small-group discussions. In the afternoon, visiting St. Anthony's chapel, followed by dinner and bowling.

■ **Oct. 25 (Sunday) at 9:00 a.m.:** Session on Sending, and the conference concludes with the Divine Liturgy (Maronite) at 11:00 am.

LOCATION:

Our Lady of Victory Maronite Catholic Church, 1000 Tropical Ave, Pittsburgh, PA.. 15216

CONFERENCE FEE:

\$50 per person

Includes materials, snacks, meals (Friday dinner, Saturday lunch & dinner), a tour of St. Anthony's Chapel, and bowling

Payment Instructions:

Payments can be submitted online at the end of the registration form.

Recommended Hotels (for out-of-town attendees):

- Comfort Inn and Suites Pittsburgh South
- Days Inn by Wyndham Pittsburgh
- Holiday Inn Express and Suites Pittsburgh West
- Hampton Inn Pittsburgh/Greentree

To REGISTER, please fill in the form available at archpitt.org.



ECHOES EAST AND WEST: LISTEN, TEACH, SEND

A weekend of prayer, community, and formation



SCAN ME

OCT 23-25

OUR LADY OF VICTORY MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
1000 Tropical Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Event Theme:

Eastern and Western Churches forming young people as disciples of Christ



Highlights of the Weekend:

- Divine Liturgy
- Testimonies of Faith
- Keynote Talks
- Meals and Fellowship
- Small Group Discussions
- Prayer, Encounter, and Dialogue



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

[Register Here](#)

[Explore More Online Here](#)



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS 2026

& more to come

JULY 9-12

4 DAYS / TEENS

BYZANTEEN RALLY

John Carroll University, Cleveland, OH
Eparchy of Parma

AUG 2-4

FRI-SAT / COLLEGE STUDENTS

WORKING RETREAT

Mt. Macrina, Uniontown, PA

AUG 8

SATURDAY / TEENS

2026 BYZANTEEN SPLASH BASH & MORE AND BYZANTEEN RALLY REUNION

St. Nicholas Chapel, Beaver & Seven Oaks Country Club Swimming Pool, PA

SEP 12

SATURDAY / TEENS

2026 FALL BYZANTEEN HIKE & COOKOUT

Riverview Park and the Chancery, Pittsburgh, PA

OCT 3

SATURDAY / YOUNG ADULTS

2026 ARCHEPARCHIAL YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE

Basilica and Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon, North Jackson, OH

OCT 23-25

FRI-SUN

/ MINISTRY LEADERS WHO SEEK TO ENGAGE YOUNG PEOPLE, FAMILIES, AND PARENTS

ECHOES EAST AND WEST: LISTEN, TEACH, SEND

Our Lady of Victory Maronite Catholic Church, PITTSBURGH, PA

NOV&DEC

MONDAYS / YOUNG ADULTS

PHILIP'S FAST BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN

7:00 pm via Zoom

AND MORE

VISIT WWW.ARCHPITT.ORG

SCAN THE QR CODE AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO STAY CONNECTED!



The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

youth@archpitt.org



THE FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH

July 2026
A special supplement to
The Byzantine Catholic World



Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Office of the Metropolitan Archbishop

June 23, 2026

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

FINANCE COUNCIL OF THE ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH

66 Riverview Ave. | Pittsburgh, Pa. 15214

Archbishop William C. Skurla
President

Daniel J. Johnson
Finance Officer

Very Reverend Andrew J. Deskevich

Cathy A. Chromulak, Esq.

George Serechin

To the Clergy and Laity of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh:

The following nine (9) pages of this issue present to you the Annual Financial Reports of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh for the year 2025, prepared by Daniel J. Johnson, Finance Officer for the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. The reports were reviewed by Hobe & Lucas Certified Public Accountants Inc. They include the reports for the Chancery for the calendar year 2025 and the Seminary for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

I thank each of you for generously sharing your contributions as well as your time and talent, in order to provide for the mission, ministry and work of our Church to continue. The numbers before us on these pages demonstrate your goodness. We all have a part in the continued growth and spiritual advancement of the Archeparchy, and your commitment, along with our prudent financial management, are the means by which we go forward to the future.

May our Lord always bless you most abundantly in every way

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D.D.
Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh



Central Archeparchial
Administration Fund
pages 15 to 18

Byzantine Catholic Seminary
of SS. Cyril and Methodius
pages 19 to 23

Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Central Administration Fund

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Hobe & Lucas

Certified Public Accountants, Inc.

6000 Freedom Square Drive, Suite 550 Tel: (216) 524-8900
Independence, Ohio 44131 Fax: (216) 524-8777
www.hobe.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board and Management of the
Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Central Administration Fund, which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Organization as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Management Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' opinion report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Hobe & Lucas
Certified Public Accountants, Inc.

March 18, 2026



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION FUND

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION - DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>ASSETS</u>		<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
<u>Current Assets</u>			<u>Current Liabilities</u>	
Cash - general	\$ 200,075	\$ 34,286	Trade payables	\$ 27,307
Cash - special collections	73,411	71,258	Special collections payable	221,194
Investments - restricted	1,941,273	178,034	Hospitalization fund payable	493,880
Investments - unrestricted	1,508,065	1,488,609	Total Current Liabilities	740,881
Catharticum receivable - net of allowance of \$580,500 for 2025 and \$580,500 for 2024	962,877	1,009,394	<u>Net Assets</u>	
Other receivable - net of allowance of \$10,996 for 2025 and \$10,996 for 2024	318,631	286,369	Without donor restrictions	3,136,272
Estate and contribution receivable	-	350	With donor restrictions	1,972,818
Prepaid expenses	11,087	10,655	Total Net Assets	5,109,090
Total Current Assets	5,015,419	3,078,955	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 5,849,971
<u>Property, Plant and Equipment, Net</u>	553,060	567,836		\$ 4,026,569
<u>Other Assets</u>				
Note receivable - net of allowance of \$73,000 for 2025 and \$73,000 for 2024	265,516	339,216		
Inventory - books and other collections	2,250	26,836		
Cash surrender value of life insurance	13,726	13,726		
Total Other Assets	281,492	379,778		
Total Assets	\$ 5,849,971	\$ 4,026,569		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION FUND

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2025			2024		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenues						
Cathedraticum	\$ 543,831	\$ -	\$ 543,831	\$ 605,841	\$ -	\$ 605,841
Investment income	46,609	14,739	61,348	44,044	4,373	48,417
Grants, donations, subsidies and sales	584,230	1,866,565	2,450,795	12,260	100,190	112,450
Other	14,640	-	14,640	380	-	380
	<u>1,189,310</u>	<u>1,881,304</u>	<u>3,070,614</u>	<u>662,525</u>	<u>104,563</u>	<u>767,088</u>
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	<u>117,400</u>	<u>(117,400)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,600</u>	<u>(105,600)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues and Other Support	<u>1,306,710</u>	<u>1,763,904</u>	<u>3,070,614</u>	<u>768,125</u>	<u>(1,037)</u>	<u>767,088</u>
Expenses						
Chancery operations	626,870	-	626,870	654,076	-	654,076
Offices and departments	186,674	-	186,674	179,329	-	179,329
Activities and subsidies	210,973	-	210,973	89,379	-	89,379
Dues and assessments	19,102	-	19,102	27,181	-	27,181
Property management and expense	150,374	-	150,374	122,115	-	122,115
Total Expenses	<u>1,193,993</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,193,993</u>	<u>1,072,080</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,072,080</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	112,717	1,763,904	1,876,621	(303,955)	(1,037)	(304,992)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	3,023,555	208,914	3,232,469	3,327,510	209,951	3,537,461
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 3,136,272</u>	<u>\$ 1,972,818</u>	<u>\$ 5,109,090</u>	<u>\$ 3,023,555</u>	<u>\$ 208,914</u>	<u>\$ 3,232,469</u>

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION FUND

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2025	2024
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 1,876,621	\$ (304,992)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation	39,741	37,033
Investment income	(61,348)	(48,417)
Restricted contributions received	(1,866,565)	(100,190)
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in cathedraticum receivable	46,517	(8,703)
(Increase) decrease in other receivable	41,438	6,811
(Increase) decrease in contribution receivable	350	9,650
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(432)	413
(Increase) decrease in other assets	24,586	-
Increase (decrease) in payables	(51,719)	109,778
Increase (decrease) in other liabilities	(1,500)	-
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>47,689</u>	<u>(298,617)</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(24,965)	(94,394)
(Deposit to) withdrawal from investment accounts	(1,721,347)	281,798
(Increase) decrease in cash surrender value of life insurance	-	(1,176)
Net Cash Provided By (Used in) Investing Activities	<u>(1,746,312)</u>	<u>186,228</u>
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Contribution received for restricted purposes	1,866,565	100,190
Net Cash Provided By Financing Activities	<u>1,866,565</u>	<u>100,190</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	167,942	(12,199)
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year	<u>105,544</u>	<u>117,743</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Year	<u>\$ 273,486</u>	<u>\$ 105,544</u>
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information		
Interest paid	\$ -	\$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



**BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
METROPOLITAN ARCHEPARCHY
OF PITTSBURGH
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
FUND**

STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2025	2024
Chancery Operations		
Salaries and subsidies	\$ 269,381	\$ 187,018
Benefits	68,223	49,833
General office and building	54,326	52,155
Maintenance	15,341	62,375
Legal and professional	174,027	258,679
Conference, travel and lodgings	22,968	18,603
External payroll preparation fees	614	5,551
Depreciation	21,990	19,862
	<u>626,870</u>	<u>654,076</u>
Offices and Departments		
Office of religious education	25,942	34,800
Communications	131,060	104,453
Youth and young adult	14,076	21,347
Campus ministry	108	849
Other offices and departments	15,488	17,880
	<u>186,674</u>	<u>179,329</u>
Activities and Subsidies		
Cantor school and choir	5,894	6,209
Special collections	18,260	11,066
Subsidies to parishes, missions and clergy	164,697	41,926
Other subsidies	-	10,350
Other activities	22,122	19,828
	<u>210,973</u>	<u>89,379</u>
Dues and Assessments		
	<u>19,102</u>	<u>27,181</u>
Property Management and Expense		
Episcopal residence	37,543	45,062
Convent	17,896	13,604
Archives building	27,711	1,390
General property expense	49,473	44,888
Depreciation	17,751	17,171
	<u>150,374</u>	<u>122,115</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 1,193,993	\$ 1,072,080

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Byzantine Catholic

Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization

The Central Administration Fund (Chancery) of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh provides planning, policies and direction in the administration of pastoral, vocational, educational and other administrative services to the parishes within the geographical area under its jurisdiction. The Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh is listed in the Official Catholic Directory (OCD).

Related Entities

The following funds and related entities are not included in the accompanying audited financial statements:

- a) Priests' Pension Plan – The plan provides retirement benefits for all eligible priests of the Archeparchy.
- b) Priests' Hospitalization Fund – This fund provides group benefits for the Archeparchy's eligible clergy and full-time lay employees.
- c) Byzantine Catholic Press – The Archeparchy's bookstore, which sells religious books and articles.
- d) Byzantine Catholic Press Associates – Publishers of the Byzantine Catholic World, the Archeparchy's semi-monthly newspaper.
- e) Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius – The Seminary primarily provides education information for qualified candidates seeking priestly ordination in the Byzantine Catholic Church.
- f) Byzantine Catholic Seminary Endowment Fund – This fund is a permanent endowment fund. The income generated by this fund's investments provide tuition, books, room and board for the Archeparchy's seminarians, provides continuing education for the Archeparchy's clergy and subsidizes the operations of the seminary.
- g) Parish Savings and Share Fund – This fund enables parishes of the Archeparchy to earn competitive interest rates on their invested funds and help other parishes of the Archeparchy by making funds available for lending purposes.

The accompanying financial statements are not intended to present all funds and related entities of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh at December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, and thus do not represent a comprehensive financial report. This report includes only the financial statements of the Central Administration Fund.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Chancery have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Income Taxes

The Chancery is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Presentation

The Chancery reports net asset balances and transactions based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and changes therein are classified as follows:

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: Net assets that are free of donor-imposed restrictions. This class of net assets includes board designated assets and assets released from restriction.

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may be permanent or temporary.

Support and Revenue Recognition

Contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the Chancery that is, in substance, unconditional. Contributions without donor-imposed restrictions are reported as unrestricted support. Contributions with donor-imposed restrictions are reported as restricted support. When a donor-restriction expires, restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Donated Goods and Services

Donated goods and services are recorded at fair value at the time of donation.

Concentration of Risk

Financial instruments which potentially expose the Chancery to concentrations of credit risk include: cash, investments, cathedraticum receivable and notes receivable. As a matter of policy, the Chancery only maintains cash balances with financial institutions having a high credit quality. Concentration of credit risk for investments is mitigated by both the distribution of investment funds among asset managers and the overall diversification of managed investment portfolios. Concentration of credit risk for cathedraticum receivable is generally limited due to the diversification of these balances over a wide creditor base. Certain receivables are secured by real and personal property.

Central Administration Fund Notes continued on page XX



Central Administration Fund Notes *continued from page 10***NOTE B – OTHER RECEIVABLES**

Other receivables consist of the following:

	December 31,	
	2025	2024
Insurance premiums	\$ 317,131	\$ 284,869
Due from parishes and other receivables	12,496	12,496
Less: Reserve for credit losses	(10,996)	(10,996)
	<u>\$ 318,631</u>	<u>\$ 286,369</u>

The reserve for uncollectible accounts is determined based on the payment history of individual parishes and knowledge of the parish finances.

NOTE C – NOTES RECEIVABLE

	December 31,	
	2025	2024
Principal balance	\$ 338,516	\$ 412,216
Less: Unamortized discount	-	-
Reserve for credit losses	(73,000)	(73,000)
	<u>\$ 265,516</u>	<u>\$ 339,216</u>

Certain notes are noninterest bearing, which are discounted to reflect imputed interest at rates of 5.5% and 6.0%. These rates have various repayment amounts and terms extending into 2041. Certain notes are secured by real and personal property. Due to the uncertainty of repayment of certain notes receivable, an allowance for credit losses was established, based upon payment history and knowledge of individual parish finances.

NOTE D - RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED NET ASSETS

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following activities:

	December 31,	
	2025	2024
Preservation of arts and liturgical Items	\$ 52,872	\$ 52,821
Byzantine Catholic museum	53,983	52,400
Weekly radio liturgy	83,275	85,526
Slovak humanitarian aid	1,759,405	-
Cemetery care	23,283	18,167
	<u>\$ 1,972,818</u>	<u>\$ 208,914</u>

NOTE E - INVESTMENTS

The Chancery invests in the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Parish Savings and Share fund, a fund established by the Archeparchy to enable parishes to earn competitive interest rates on their invested funds and to make funds available for lending purposes. The fund currently consists of fixed income and equity securities as well as loans to participating parishes. Deposits by participating parishes earned interest at a rate of 2.5% to 3.0% for 2025 and 2024. The Chancery's investment income consists of fund earnings from investments after payment of fund expenses. The market value of the Chancery's investments in the Parish Savings and Share Fund was \$3,449,338 at December 31, 2025 and \$1,666,643 at December 31, 2024.

The fair market values of investments are determined in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820 *Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure* which establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1 - inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Organization has the ability to access.

Level 2 - inputs to the valuation methodology include; quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in active markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liabilities, and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or by other means.

Level 3 - inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for the Fund's investments measured at fair value.

PS&S funds: Investments held in the Parish Savings & Share Fund are in diversified portfolios consisting of money markets, bonds and mutual funds. PS&S investments are valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual funds are traded.

NOTE E - INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following tables sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Organization's Investments at fair value:

Investments at fair value as of December 31, 2025:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investment in the Parish Savings & Share Fund	\$ 3,449,338	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,449,338

Investments at fair value as of December 31, 2024:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investment in the Parish Savings & Share Fund	\$ 1,666,643	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,666,643

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Chancery's investments in the Parish Savings & Share fund for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024:

	2025		2024	
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted
Beginning balance, January 1	\$ 178,034	\$ 1,488,609	\$ 173,660	\$ 1,726,364
Fixed interest	14,739	44,456	4,374	42,284
Deposits	1,750,000	-	-	30,247
Withdrawals	(1,500)	(25,000)	-	(310,286)
Ending balance, December 31	<u>\$ 1,941,273</u>	<u>\$ 1,508,065</u>	<u>\$ 178,034</u>	<u>\$ 1,488,609</u>

NOTE F – PARISH SAVINGS AND SHARE FUND DEPOSITS

The Archeparchy's Parish Savings and Share Fund bylaws provide that the non-Chancery participants' deposits be guaranteed by the Archeparchy. Investment earnings in the Parish Savings and Share Fund exceeded participants' deposits. The Chancery's guaranteed liability was \$0 as of December 31, 2025 and 2024.

NOTE G - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost. Maintenance and repair costs are expensed as incurred. Renewals and betterments, which extend the physical or economic life of an asset, are capitalized. Donated rare books are considered collections and are not capitalized. Depreciation is computed over the following estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line method:

	Years
Land improvements	20
Building and improvements	15 - 40
Equipment, furniture & fixtures	5 - 10
Automobiles	3

Property, plant and equipment consist of the following:

	December 31,	
	2025	2024
Land	\$ 16,132	\$ 16,132
Land improvements	105,714	105,714
Building and improvements	1,141,192	1,147,292
Equipment, furniture & fixtures	398,960	367,938
Automobiles	51,532	51,532
	1,713,530	1,688,608
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,160,470)	(1,120,772)
	<u>\$ 553,060</u>	<u>\$ 567,836</u>

Depreciation and amortization expense amounted to \$39,741 for 2025 and \$37,033 for 2024.

NOTE H – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES

The following reflects the Organization's financial assets as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, available for general use within one year:

	2025	2024
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 273,486	\$ 105,544
Investments	3,449,338	1,666,643
	3,722,824	1,772,187
Less: donor-imposed restrictions	(1,972,818)	(208,914)
Less: board designation for long-term investing	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
Total financial assets available to meet cash	-	-
Needs for expenditure within one year	<u>\$ 750,006</u>	<u>\$ 563,273</u>

The Organization has a goal to maintain financial assets, which consist of cash and accounts receivable on hand to meet normal operating expenses. The Organization does not have a Board mandated liquidity policy, but it is the policy of the Board of Directors to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due.

NOTE I – RECLASSIFICATION

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified for consistency with the current year presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on the reported results of activities or net assets.

NOTE J – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Chancery has evaluated all subsequent events through March 18, 2026, the available date of issuance of the financial statements.

There were no subsequent events to report as of March 18, 2026.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Hobe & Lucas

Certified Public Accountants, Inc.

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 Independence, Ohio 44131 Fax: (216) 524.8777
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors
 Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius, which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Organization as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Management Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' opinion report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Hobe & Lucas
 Certified Public Accountants, Inc.

Independence, Ohio
 December 8, 2025

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BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION - JUNE 30, 2025 AND JUNE 30, 2024

		<u>ASSETS</u>				<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	
		<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>			<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Current Assets				Current Liabilities			
Cash	\$	41,941	\$ 56,035	Accounts payable	\$	77,738	\$ 67,928
Accounts receivable		34,880	45,150	Total Liabilities		77,738	67,928
Contributions receivable		75,000	137,500				
Prepaid expenses		42,200	40,178	Net Assets			
Investments		9,529,853	8,764,196	Without donor restrictions		9,921,178	9,304,375
Total Current Assets		9,723,874	9,043,059	With donor restrictions		392,448	386,722
				Total Net Assets		10,313,626	9,691,097
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net		667,490	715,966				
Total Assets	\$	10,391,364	\$ 9,759,025	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	10,391,364	\$ 9,759,025

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 AND JUNE 30, 2024

Revenues			
Tuition, room & board	\$ 229,029	\$ -	\$ 229,029
Deaconate program	34,100	-	34,100
Contributions	493,116	19,541	512,657
Investment income	207,322	14,945	222,267
Realized gain on sales of investments	342,488	-	342,488
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	432,633	3,556	436,189
Other	881	-	881
	<u>1,739,569</u>	<u>38,042</u>	<u>1,777,611</u>
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	<u>32,316</u>	<u>(32,316)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues and Other Support	<u>1,771,885</u>	<u>5,726</u>	<u>1,777,611</u>
Expenses			
Instructional	195,754	-	195,754
Auxiliary	161,291	-	161,291
Plant	314,350	-	314,350
Library	108,419	-	108,419
General and administrative	318,475	-	318,475
Fund raising	56,793	-	56,793
Total Expenses	<u>1,155,082</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,155,082</u>
Change in Net Assets	616,803	5,726	622,529
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	9,304,375	386,722	9,691,097
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 9,921,178</u>	<u>\$ 392,448</u>	<u>\$ 10,313,626</u>
2024			
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenues			
Tuition, room & board	\$ 264,961	\$ -	\$ 264,961
Deaconate program	43,676	-	43,676
Contributions	346,092	500	346,592
Investment income	223,060	7,439	230,499
Realized gain on sales of investments	146,949	-	146,949
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	602,760	329	603,089
Other	1,382	-	1,382
	<u>1,628,880</u>	<u>8,268</u>	<u>1,637,148</u>
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	<u>8,859</u>	<u>(8,859)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues and Other Support	<u>1,637,739</u>	<u>(591)</u>	<u>1,637,148</u>
Expenses			
Instructional	215,164	-	215,164
Auxiliary	160,462	-	160,462
Plant	274,954	-	274,954
Library	102,143	-	102,143
General and administrative	257,671	-	257,671
Fund raising	56,700	-	56,700
Total Expenses	<u>1,067,094</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,067,094</u>
Change in Net Assets	570,645	(591)	570,054
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	8,733,730	387,313	9,121,043
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 9,304,375</u>	<u>\$ 386,722</u>	<u>\$ 9,691,097</u>

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 AND JUNE 30, 2024

	2025	2024
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 622,529	\$ 570,054
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation	71,633	78,614
Unrealized (gain)/loss on investments	(436,189)	(603,089)
Restricted contributions received	(19,541)	(500)
Change in assets and liabilities:		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	10,270	1,850
Decrease (increase) in contributions receivable	62,500	(12,500)
(Increase) in prepayments	(2,022)	(2,243)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	9,810	(21,782)
Increase (decrease) in deferred tuition	-	-
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u>318,990</u>	<u>10,404</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(23,157)	(6,259)
Proceeds from sale of investments	325,000	350,000
Investment purchases	(654,468)	(367,834)
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities	<u>(352,625)</u>	<u>(24,093)</u>
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Contribution received for restricted purposes	19,541	500
Net Cash Provided By Financing Activities	<u>19,541</u>	<u>500</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(14,094)	(13,189)
Cash - Beginning of Year	<u>56,035</u>	<u>69,224</u>
Cash - End of Year	<u>\$ 41,941</u>	<u>\$ 56,035</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS
STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL: EXPENSES - JUNE 30, 2025

	<u>Instructional</u>	<u>Auxiliary</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
Expenses							
Staff compensation & benefits	169,170	-	-	53,493	225,829	56,793	505,285
Staff training & education	-	-	-	-	1,826	-	1,826
Office supplies & expense	-	2,182	-	-	21,836	-	24,018
Telephone, fax & internet	-	-	-	-	2,314	-	2,314
Legal & accounting fees	-	-	-	-	19,300	-	19,300
Seminary newsletter	-	-	-	-	34,506	-	34,506
Advisory board & accreditation expense	-	-	-	-	9,411	-	9,411
Library supplies & expense	-	-	-	46,678	-	-	46,678
Chapel expenses	-	-	-	-	3,453	-	3,453
Diaconate program expenses	(100)	-	-	-	-	-	(100)
Instructional, lectures & retreat - net of revenue	9,189	-	-	-	-	-	9,189
Food service	-	159,109	-	-	-	-	159,109
Student & living expenses	17,495	-	-	-	-	-	17,495
Insurance	-	-	41,966	-	-	-	41,966
Utilities	-	-	74,853	-	-	-	74,853
Ground maintenance & upkeep	-	-	39,215	-	-	-	39,215
Repairs & maintenance	-	-	94,931	-	-	-	94,931
Depreciation	-	-	63,385	8,248	-	-	71,633
Total Expenses	195,754	161,291	314,350	108,419	318,475	56,793	1,155,082

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS
STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL: EXPENSES - JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Instructional</u>	<u>Auxiliary</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
Expenses							
Staff compensation & benefits	173,572	-	-	52,157	182,482	56,700	464,911
Staff training & education	-	-	-	-	8,115	-	8,115
Office supplies & expense	-	1,979	-	-	20,384	-	22,363
Telephone, fax & internet	-	-	-	-	2,674	-	2,674
Legal & accounting fees	-	-	-	-	16,170	-	16,170
Seminary newsletter	-	-	-	-	13,161	-	13,161
Advisory board & accreditation expense	-	-	-	-	11,114	-	11,114
Library supplies & expense	-	-	-	41,238	-	-	41,238
Chapel expenses	-	-	-	-	3,571	-	3,571
Diaconate program expenses	14,038	-	-	-	-	-	14,038
Instructional, lectures & retreat - net of revenue	14,567	-	-	-	-	-	14,567
Food service	-	158,483	-	-	-	-	158,483
Student & living expenses	12,987	-	-	-	-	-	12,987
Insurance	-	-	39,657	-	-	-	39,657
Utilities	-	-	58,126	-	-	-	58,126
Ground maintenance & upkeep	-	-	23,990	-	-	-	23,990
Repairs & maintenance	-	-	83,315	-	-	-	83,315
Depreciation	-	-	69,866	8,748	-	-	78,614
Total Expenses	215,164	160,462	274,954	102,143	257,671	56,700	1,067,094



Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — JUNE 30, 2025 AND JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius (the Seminary) was incorporated in 1950. The Seminary primarily provides education and formation for qualified candidates seeking priestly ordination in the Byzantine Catholic Church and also serves as a center of learning for the Byzantine Catholic Church in North America. In 2013, the Association of Theological Schools renewed the accreditation of the Master of Arts in Theology degree and the Master of Divinity degree for seven years. In 2013, the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania gave permanent degree granting authority after a previous provisional grant.

Basis of Presentation

The Seminary reports net asset balances and transactions based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and changes therein are classified as follows:

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: Net assets without donor restrictions are either not subject to donor-imposed stipulations or are subject to such restrictions but those restrictions have been met in the same fiscal period that the revenue is recorded. This class of net assets includes board designated assets.

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: Net assets with donor restrictions are subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may be permanent or temporary.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Seminary have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Related Entities

The Seminary is related to the Central Administration Fund of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh (Chancery) through common management. However the Seminary operates independently. The Seminary receives tuition from the Chancery and maintains an investment account with the Parish Savings and Share Fund. The accompanying financial statement are not intended to present all related entities, this report includes only the financial statements of the Seminary.

Concentration of Risk

The Seminary maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts which at times exceed federally insured limits. The Seminary has not experienced any loss in such accounts and does not believe it is exposed to any significant credit risk on cash.

Donated Goods and Services

Donated goods and services are recorded at fair value at the time of donation.

Income Taxes

The Seminary is exempt from federal income tax under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis. Accordingly, certain costs, such as payroll and depreciation, have been allocated between programs. Management reviews the allocations periodically. Allocations are figured upon a variety of factors that are based on management's best knowledge of the purpose of the expenses.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Seminary considers all highly liquid investment with maturities of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. The Organization maintains its cash accounts at financial institutions and at times may exceed federally insured limits.

Support and Revenue Recognition

Contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the Seminary that is, in substance, unconditional. Contributions without donor-imposed restrictions are reported as unrestricted support. Contributions with donor-imposed restrictions are reported as restricted support. When a donor-restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Unconditional promises to give (pledges) are included in the financial statements as contributions receivable and revenue of the appropriate net asset category. Contributions receivable are expected to be realized in subsequent years. The receivables are fully collectible; the Seminary does not record an allowance for uncollectible accounts.

Tuition and other program revenue are recognized in the fiscal year in which the academic programs are delivered. Payments for tuition are typically received before the end of the semester.

Investments

Investments are stated at fair value in accordance with the Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures topic of the ASC, which establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). Net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of investments, is included in the statement of activities. Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is accrued when earned and dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE B - INVESTMENTS

Investments consist of the following:

	June 30, 2025		
	Fair Market Value	Cost	Unrealized Gain (Loss)
Equities	\$5,547,764	\$3,647,248	\$1,900,516
Fixed Income	3,982,089	4,184,088	(201,999)
Total	<u>\$9,529,853</u>	<u>\$7,831,336</u>	<u>\$1,698,517</u>

	June 30, 2024		
	Fair Market Value	Cost	Unrealized Gain (Loss)
Equities	\$5,009,135	\$3,469,792	\$1,539,343
Fixed Income	3,755,061	4,033,267	(278,206)
Total	<u>\$8,764,196</u>	<u>\$7,503,059</u>	<u>\$1,261,137</u>

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The Seminary also invests in the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Parish Savings and Share fund, a fund established by the Archeparchy to enable parishes to earn competitive interest rates on their invested funds and to make funds available for lending purposes. The fund currently consists of fixed income and equity securities as well as loans to participating parishes. Deposits by participating parishes earned interest at a rate of 2.25% to 3.0%.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for the Seminary's investments measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at June 30, 2025.

Money market funds: Valued at cost which approximates fair value (\$1 per share).

Government securities, mutual funds and fixed income funds: Valued at the closing price reported in the active market in which the individual securities are traded.

Corporate bonds: Valued at the closing price reported in the active market in which the bond is traded.

Common and preferred stocks: Valued at the quoted market price reported in the active market in which the individual stocks are traded.

Parish Savings & Share: Investments held in the Parish Savings & Share Fund are in diversified portfolios consisting of money markets, bonds and mutual funds. PS&S investments are valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual funds are traded.

The preceding methods may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future values. Furthermore, although the Seminary believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine fair value of certain financial instruments could result in different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

A framework for measuring fair value has been established. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

The fair value hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three broad levels:

Level 1 - inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities active markets that the Organization has the ability to access.

Level 2 - inputs to the valuation methodology include; quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in active markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liabilities, and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or by other means.

Level 3 - inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The Seminary values its investments based upon quoted prices in active markets.

The following tables sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Organization's Investments at fair value as of June 30, 2025:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Money market funds	\$ 36,243	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,243
U.S. Government Securities	212,533	-	-	212,533
Corporate Bonds	254,769	-	-	254,769
Fixed Income Funds	5,606,943	-	-	5,606,943
Equity Mutual Funds	3,130,109	-	-	3,130,109
Parish Savings & Share	289,256	-	-	289,256
Total Assets at Fair Value	<u>\$9,529,853</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$9,529,853</u>

Investments at fair value as of June 30, 2024:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Money market funds	\$ 169,082	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 169,082
U.S. Government Securities	296,024	-	-	296,024
Corporate Bonds	454,163	-	-	454,163
Fixed Income Funds	4,968,554	-	-	4,968,554
Equity Mutual Funds	2,688,256	-	-	2,688,256
Parish Savings & Share	188,117	-	-	188,117
Total Assets at Fair Value	<u>\$8,764,196</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$8,764,196</u>

The investments are segregated in net asset classes at June 30, 2025 and 2024 as follow:

	2025	2024
Without donor restrictions	\$9,137,405	\$8,377,474
With donor restrictions	392,448	386,722
	<u>\$9,529,853</u>	<u>\$8,764,196</u>

Investment income totaling \$222,267 for 2025 and \$230,499 for 2024, consists of interest and dividends and has been reduced by investment fees of \$34,081 for 2025 and \$30,790 for 2024.

Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius continued on page XX



Byzantine Catholic Seminary Notes continued from page XX

NOTE C - RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED NET ASSETS

Net assets with donor restrictions at June 30, 2025 and 2024 are restricted for the following activities:

	2025	2024
Designated for increasing seminarian enrollment	\$ 551	\$ 535
Donations for the library and rare book renovations	4,802	4,661
Donations for future lectures and symposiums	3,072	7,415
Scholarship fund	203,193	198,604
Endowment	180,830	175,507
Total	<u>\$ 392,448</u>	<u>\$ 386,722</u>

NOTE D – ENDOWMENT

Donor restricted endowment funds represent investments in perpetuity, the income from which is expendable for the religious education of needy and worthy seminarians of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. The Seminary records permanent gifts at historic dollar value. Investment returns on donor-restricted funds are included in net assets released from restrictions.

Changes in endowment donor restricted net assets and related earnings for the years ended June 30:

	2025	2024
Net assets beginning of year	\$ 175,507	170,774
Restricted endowment donations	-	1,257
Investment return	5,323	3,476
Appropriation for expenditures	-	-
Net assets end of year	<u>\$ 180,830</u>	<u>\$ 175,507</u>

NOTE E – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES

The following reflects the Organization’s financial assets as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, available for general use within one year:

	2025	2024
Cash and cash equivalents	41,941	56,035
Receivables	109,880	182,650
Investments	9,529,853	8,764,196
	<u>9,681,674</u>	<u>9,002,881</u>
Less: donor imposed restrictions	(392,448)	(386,722)
Less: board designation for long-term investing	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)
Total Financial assets available to meet cash needs for expenditure within one year	<u>\$4,289,226</u>	<u>\$3,616,159</u>

The Organization has a goal to maintain financial assets, which consist of cash and accounts receivable on hand to meet normal operating expenses. The Organization does not have a Board mandated liquidity policy, but it is the policy of the Board of Directors to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due.

NOTE F - PROTECTIVE ENDOWMENT

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania statutes governing institutions of higher education which include seminaries provides that these institutions must maintain a minimum of \$500,000 protective endowment in excess of net property, plant and equipment and liabilities. This protective endowment is included in net assets without donor restrictions at June 30, 2025 and June 30, 2024.

NOTE G - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost. Maintenance and repair costs are expensed as incurred. Renewals and betterments, which extend the physical or economic life of an asset, are capitalized. Donated rare books are considered collections and are not capitalized. Depreciation is computed over the following estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line method:

	Years
Land improvements	30 - 45
Building and improvements	20 - 45
Equipment, furniture & fixtures	7 - 30
Library books	10

Property, plant and equipment at June 30, 2025 and 2024 consisted of the following:

	2025	2024
Land	\$ 43,209	\$ 43,209
Land improvements	363,064	344,795
Building and improvements	2,678,852	2,678,852
Equipment, furniture and fixtures	361,987	361,987
Library books	290,269	285,381
	<u>3,737,381</u>	<u>3,714,224</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(3,069,891)	(2,998,258)
Total	<u>\$ 667,490</u>	<u>\$ 715,966</u>

Depreciation and amortization expense amounted to \$71,633 for 2025 and \$78,614 for 2024.

NOTE H - RECLASSIFICATION

Certain prior period financial statement accounts have been reclassified to conform to current period presentation.

NOTE I - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Seminary has evaluated all subsequent events through December 8, 2025 the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There are no subsequent events to report.

“The future belongs to God”

Story continued from page 2

presenting the proposed revisions June 10.

Intercontinental Guadalupan Novena

Next, Bishop Oscar Cantú of San Jose, California, chairman of the bishops’ Subcommittee on Hispanic/Latino Affairs, addressed his fellow bishops about preparations for the 500th anniversary of Our Lady of Guadalupe’s appearance to St. Juan Diego in five years. U.S. dioceses will be participating in the Novena Intercontinental Guadalupana (Intercontinental Guadalupan Novena).

Four years ago, the Mexican Episcopal Conference began a “Novena of Years” in anticipation of the quincentennial, and they have invited all dioceses throughout the Americas to join them for the remaining five years leading to the quincentennial.

Catechetical materials already being used in Mexico are in the process of being translated into English for use in the United States, Bishop Cantú said.

Calls to engage in prison ministry

Bishop William A. Wack of Pensacola-Tallahassee gave a presentation to the bishops on the Catholic Prison Ministry Coalition, urging his brother bishops to deepen their commitment to prison ministry. Joining him in the presentation was executive director Robert Cunningham, who highlighted the coalition’s mission to support ministry for people affected by incarceration and detention.

Bishop Wack said his own involvement in prison ministry began during seminary formation as a Holy Cross priest, even though the work initially intimidated him. He started in youth detention facilities, later serving in jails and prisons and

completing clinical pastoral education at a federal prison in California. Those experiences, he said, helped confirm his vocation to religious life and the priesthood.

As a bishop, administrative demands gradually reduced his prison visits. But a letter from a local prison prompted a change. The inmate wrote, “We need a shepherd,” reminding him that incarcerated people remain part of the Church’s flock.

Next phase of synodal path

Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt of Hartford, Connecticut, speaking on behalf of a USCCB task force on the ongoing implementation of synodality in the life of the Church, provided the bishops June 11 with an update on recent consultations on synodality with members of the episcopacy.

Experiences of synodality in dioceses presently include assessments of Mass times, workload of priests, resource allocation (including parish mergers and closures), opportunities for diocesan staff to gather for prayer, reflection and learning, as well as transfer from business-minded ethos to mission.

Looking ahead to the next phase of the synodal path for the universal Church, which includes national, continental and universal synodal assemblies for implementation of the final document of the synods on synodality approved by Pope Francis and made an official part of his magisterium.

In preparation for these assemblies, Bishop Betancourt noted that a delegation from the USCCB will be meeting with officials at the Vatican’s General Secretariat of the Synod. ■

Contributing to this story were Julie Asher, Gina Christian, Jean Gonzalez, Michael R. Heinlein and Tony Gutiérrez.



Bishop Barry C. Knestout of Richmond, Va., chairman of the bishops’ Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, listens as Baltimore Auxiliary Bishop Adam J. Parker asks a question during a June 11, 2026, session of the annual spring meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Orlando, Fla. OSV News photo/Bob Roller.





MADE FOR THE JOURNEY

Working retreat for college students

Led by
Campus ministry priests
of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

August 2 - 4, 2026
ARRIVAL at 3 pm - 5 pm
WELCOME at 5 pm
DINNER 6 pm

SCAN THE QR CODE
AND REGISTER BY
JULY 26, 2026

Mount Macrina
500 West Main Street
Uniontown, PA 15401

COST: \$70
Registration Fee,
Accommodation, Meals

What to expect?

- Talks, small group discussions, and reflection time
- Prayers, time for confession, and spiritual direction
- Work - we will help the Sisters of St. Basil the Great to get ready for the Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- Social activities and much fun
- Join us to meet other college students and our Byzantine Catholic campus ministry priests!

THE OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG
ADULT MINISTRY
THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH

WWW.ARCHPITT.ORG



Thursday, July 23
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Kennywood Amusement Park
4800 Kennywood Blvd.
West Mifflin, Pa. 15122

\$28 – ages 4+ Free – ages 3 and under

ALL tickets bought at this discounted
rate must be used on July 23, 2026
gcuusa.com

AROUND THE ARCHEPARCHY



SUMMER CONCERT AT THE CATHEDRAL — Enjoy some toe-tapping band music by the Eastwinds Symphonic Band for a Summer Concert on Sunday, Aug. 16, from 3-5 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Join us for an afternoon of musical delights.

SS. PETER AND PAUL CHURCH FESTIVAL — SS. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church Festival – Noon- 5 p.m., Sunday, July 12, SS. Peter and Paul, 143 Church Drive (just off of Munster Road/Route 164), Portage, Pa. SS. Peter and Paul Parish hosts this annual event which welcomes friends and patrons from the town and nearby vicinity and throughout the area. The outdoor environment provides a pleasant setting in which to relax and enjoy the live entertainment. The entertainment is free, so bring a lawn chair to enjoy the live band playing throughout the afternoon. • “That Oldies Band” performs from 1-4:30 pm., playing hit songs from past decades. The menu offers homemade ethnic dishes and other popular items as well, which include: • BBQ Chicken, halushki, halupki, pirohi, kielbasa, hot dogs, and hot sausage, along with wing dings, and French fries. • A bake sale with our own homemade Gobs and a variety of baked goods, candy apples and other items; also funnel cakes and ice cream • Soda, bottled water, beer and wine coolers will be available. There will be plenty of things to do for folks of all ages. A Basket Raffle offers some premium selections of baskets as prizes. There is a cash raffle, and other games of chance. Children’s Games with prizes and a Stuffed Animal booth entertain the kids throughout the day. The church building is open throughout the afternoon. A brief guided tour is offered at 3 p.m. to explain the icons and features of the beliefs and practices of our Byzantine Catholic Church. Remember to bring a lawn chair to enjoy the live music throughout the afternoon. We thank all who support us over the many years of hosting our festival. It’s our privilege to welcome friends, neighbors and visitors, from near and far. Visit us at [www. ByzantineCatholic.net](http://www.ByzantineCatholic.net), or like us on Facebook to learn about us and our festival.

ST. GREGORY FLEA MARKET — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, St. Gregory, 2005 Mohawk Road (Brookside Farms), Upper St. Clair, Pa. Kitchen and household items, holiday décor, jewelry, toys, small furniture, sports items, household décor, and much more. For more information and directions, call the parish office at 412-835-7800. www.stgregoryusc.org.

ST. NICHOLAS “HOLY STEALS AND DEALS” INDOOR FLEA MARKET — St. Nicholas, 302 Third Ave., Brownsville, Pa. An array of gently used items for all ages. Special “Holy Deal” prices range from 50 cents to \$5 and various prices on larger items. The “Holy Steal” is all clothing \$1 per item or fill a bag for \$5. All items are sold in “as is” condition. Located on Route 40 before crossing the Lane Bane Bridge. Benefits parish renovations. Sale dates (Subject to change): 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, July 9 and Friday July 10; 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, July 23 and Friday, July 24; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 25; August – 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6 and Friday Aug. 7; and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8. For information, call: 724-892-2587.

DATES TO REMEMBER



JULY 4

Independence Day — National Observance
Chancery closed July 3 in observance

JULY 9 to 12

ByzanTeen Rally
John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio

JULY 20

Feast of St. Elijah Great Prophet

JULY 23

GCU Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park
11 a.m.-9 p.m.
4800 Kennywood Blvd., West Mifflin, Pa.

See more upcoming events at www.archpitt.org

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC WORLD

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