

Mother of God Church

119 West 6th Street, Covington, KY 41011 • Phone: 859.291.2288 • FAX 859.291.2065
 www.mother-of-god.org • Email: motherofgod@mogcov.org

He delivered us from the power of darkness
 and transferred us to the kingdom of his
 beloved Son.

— Colossians 1:13



*Our Lord Jesus Christ,
 King of the Universe*

STAFF

Very Rev. Michael E. Comer V.F., Pastor

Cell: 859.816.3198 Email: mcomer@mogcov.org

Deacon Brian Cox

Cell: 859.663.1822 Email: bcox@mogcov.org

Mary Ann Kelly, Pastoral Assistant

Email: mkelly@mogcov.org

Parish number: 859.291.2288

Ellen Habermehl, Secretary

Victor Canfield, Facilities Manager

Patricia Steinmetz, Business Office

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 9:30 am-4:30 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays:

9:30 am – Traditional Music

11:30 am – Contemporary Ensemble

Cindy Duesing, Director
 (ASL Interpreted)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday – 12:05 pm

PARISH SCHOOL

Prince of Peace Catholic Montessori

625 Pike Street, Covington, KY – 859.431.5153

Please call the Parish Office (859.291.2288) to Register, to inform us of changes in your contact information, to let us know how our parish can serve you, or to inquire about volunteering in the parish.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism of Infants:

Contact
 Ellen Habermehl
 (M, TU, F)

Reconciliation:

Tuesday at 11:00 am
 Saturday at 11:00 am
 in Church

Marriages:

Contact Ellen Habermehl
 at least 9 to 12 months prior
 to the desired wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick:

Communion
 and other home visits:
 Contact Parish Office

Sacraments of Initiation:

For Adults:

Baptism, Confirmation,
 and First Communion:
 Contact Parish Office

For Children:

Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist,
 and Confirmation:
 Contact Parish Office

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH

PURPOSE STATEMENT

We, the people of Mother of God Church, aspire to be instruments of the peace of Jesus Christ by:

- Worshipping God with joy and reverence
- Welcoming the stranger with love and compassion
- Serving those in need with humility and respect.



FROM THE PASTOR

THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

The Solemnity of Christ the King is the final Sunday of the Church year, and it celebrates the final victory of Christ over His enemies (sin and death) and the ultimate victory of the Kingdom of God. All evil will be defeated, and all people will live according to the will of God.

Even though, through His Resurrection, Jesus has already won the war, and we know that the forces of evil will not win in the end, they are still, obviously, present and are capable of bringing about a great deal of chaos and suffering.

At present, the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Darkness both still exist. We must each decide which Kingdom we will be faithful to.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR GAZA

Two weeks ago, the Bishops of the United States met in Baltimore for their annual fall gathering. They discussed a number of issues at that meeting. One decision that they made was that a nationwide special collection should be taken up for the people of Gaza who have suffered so terribly in the war between Israel and Hamas. That collection is this weekend. Please be generous.

THANKSGIVING

Thursday of this week is Thanksgiving, the closest day that our nation has to a Holy Day. The earliest Thanksgiving Day in America was in 1631, when Pilgrims who had come to the New Country and the Native Americans who supported and helped them through the harsh winter, and then had a banner year of crops and hunting, gathered together to celebrate their great harvest, and the fact that they had survived a year in this beautiful and harsh land.

Sadly, this great peace and sharing of Native Americans and Pilgrims would only last for one year. A great war for America would take place over the next 300 + years, up until today.

In 1863, President Lincoln would declare Thanksgiving to be a National Holiday. How strange that it was during the most distressing time in our nation's history, the Civil War, that a holiday dedicated to counting our national and personal blessings was established.

An interesting, but totally irrelevant, Thanksgiving fact, took place in 1953. The Swanson Company dramatically overestimated how much turkey they could sell and ended up with 260 tons of extra turkey. They decided to put together what people could buy, including turkey, dressing, gravy, sweet potatoes and peas. They sold ten million of these the first year, beginning the frozen dinner industry.

ADVENT BEGINS

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent, which begins the new Church year. Advent is four weeks, leading up to Christmas, in which we put ourselves into the position of the Hebrew people, who waited, and planned, and prayed for the coming of the Messiah. We also put ourselves into a sense of waiting and planning and praying for the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time.

The spiritual meaning of this season is – WAIT. Waiting is not something that most of us are really good at. Ours is an instant-gratification culture. We want everything now. Can you imagine waiting for over a thousand years for the fulfillment of the promises made by God to an ancient patriarch, Abraham, and to Moses? One of the prayers in the Psalms that we hear over and over is, "How long, O Lord, how long?" And yet some (not all) waited and kept faith with God throughout Israel's history.

When will Christ return? We do not know, but we wait with expectation, and we prepare ourselves for whenever He does return.

BLESSED MIGUEL AGUSTIN PRO

In the early years of the Twentieth Century, there was a very anti-Catholic revolution in Mexico. This was followed by a very anti-Catholic constitution. Priests were forbidden to wear clerical dress. Other restrictions were put on Catholics and Catholic institutions as well. There was a Mexican priest, Father Miguel Agustin Pro, who was ordained in Europe, and when he returned to Mexico, had to minister in a Church that had gone underground.

A Catholic revolution, known as the Cristeros (Christian) Rebellion, took place, and there was a war between them and the Mexican government. The President of Mexico was assassinated, and those opposing the Catholics used that as an opportunity to go after Miguel Pro, even though he had no connection to the rebellion. Without a trial, Miguel was executed.

Before he was executed by firing squad, Miguel Pro raised his arms, in imitation of Christ, and cried out, "Viva Christo Rey", which means "Long Live Christ the King." As he was carried to his grave 40,000 people lined the streets, and another 20,000 were at his grave site, awaiting the arrival of his body.

In 1988, Pope John Paul II beatified Miguel Agustin Pro. This is why he is called "Blessed." The process for his eventual canonization as a saint continues.

The feast day for Blessed Pro is on November 23. That is today, which is the Solemnity of Christ the King, so that takes precedence over Miguel Pro's feast day. How interesting that we celebrate Miguel Pro's feast day on Christ the King, when his final words were, "Long Live Christ the King."



PARISH NEWS

Today, coffee and donuts are available after both Masses downstairs in the undercroft.

Today – Sunday, Nov 23 – Second Collection For Humanitarian Relief for the People of Gaza

To help meet the most urgent humanitarian needs facing the people in Gaza, these funds will be used to support the activities of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in partnership with the local Church.

Please be generous.

Due to the Thanksgiving holidays, the parish office will be **closed**, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 & 28. The office will reopen on Monday, Dec. 1 at 9:00 am.

Mass on Thanksgiving Day will begin at 10:00 am.

This year, our **Thanksgiving Day Mass Collection** (food and monies) which will be received here at the 10:00 am Mass, will be given to St. Vincent DePaul Society. *Thank you for your generosity!*

St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive

Help our neighbors fight the elements this winter with donations of new or gently used coats, hats and gloves. **Blue bins are located in the back of Church to drop off any of these items.**

Distribution to those in need will take place

Saturday, Dec. 6, 9:00 am until Noon at Newport Intermediate School and Christo Rey in Florence.

THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is in the back of the church. Please **select a tag from the tree and return your unwrapped donation with the tag attached to the church by Sunday Dec. 7.**

Pre-addressed envelopes for financial donations to local service organizations will be available on the Giving Tree from Sunday, Dec. 7 through Sunday, Dec. 28. Please email the envelope to the agency in need.

Questions – Reach out to Bridget

Otto at marybridget.otto@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Reminder!

This afternoon, Sunday, Nov. 23, 1:30-3:00 pm

Advent Wreath and Jesse Tree Making Activity

in the undercroft. Join us in making a wreath and/or Jesse Tree. Bring this beautiful advent tradition to your home.

CHRISTMAS PARTY! Mark your calendar for our **Parish Christmas Party** to be held on **Sunday, Dec. 7 immediately following the 11:30 am Mass.** Please join us downstairs in the undercroft for dinner, fellowship, and Christmas festivity!

If you are interested in contributing cookies or brownies, please contact Cindy Hassan (chassan@fuse.net).

We hope to see you there!



Congratulations to Diane Donathan 40 Years as ASL Interpreter!

This week, on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27, Diane Donathan will celebrate 40 years of serving as an American Sign Language Interpreter. *Thank you, Diane,* for your faithfulness to this ministry!

2024-25 Report to Parish

MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue	FY 2024-25	FY 2023-24	FY 2022-23
Offertory, Donations & Gifts	664,641.00	\$630,994.00	\$549,859.00
Parish Activities (net numbers)	48,009.00	\$27,799.00	\$39,700.00
Other Revenue (interest & Dividends)	6,390.00	\$800.00	\$373.00
Bequests	3,425.00	\$46,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSESSABLE RECEIPTS	\$722,465.00	\$705,593.00	\$589,932.00
EXPENSES			
Salaries & Fringe Benefits			
Pastoral Svc., Admin., & Music Ministries	\$214,573.00	\$207,080.00	\$167,860.00
Other Administrative Expenses	\$83,328.00	\$74,199.00	\$72,459.00
Plant Operations:			
Repairs & Maintenance	\$31,076.00	\$30,212.00	\$30,620.00
Contracted Services	\$5,282.00	\$5,787.00	\$6,115.00
Utilities	\$65,011.00	\$49,564.00	\$53,265.00
Insurance	\$52,696.00	\$45,876.00	\$35,303.00
Supplies	\$5,995.00	\$4,841.00	\$5,310.00
Total Plant Operations	\$160,060.00	\$136,280.00	\$130,613.00
ASSESSMENTS:			
Diocesan Assessment	\$60,453.00	\$46,474.00	\$40,287.00
Secondary School Fund	\$35,280.00	\$29,496.00	\$27,456.00
Alliance for Catholic Urban Education (ACUE)	\$132,840.00	\$127,560.00	\$116,400.00
TOTAL ASSESSMENTS	\$228,573.00	\$203,530.00	\$184,143.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$686,534.00	\$621,089.00	\$555,075.00
REVENUE LESS EXPENSE	\$35,931.00	\$84,504.00	\$34,857.00



Scan this QR Code
to view a video about the
Mother of God Church building!

Sacramental Preparation for Children

Parents, if you have a school-aged child who is seeking First Reconciliation and/or First Communion, we would love to hear from you! You must be a registered parishioner for your child to participate. To register your child / children for the classes, please call the parish office at 859-291-2288 or email mkelly@mogcov.org. Preparation will begin in January.

If your child / children have not been baptized, we can help with that, too. Please call or send us an email

AL-ANON has their Wednesday Noon Meetings at Mother of God Church. Enter through the courtyard and go down the steps to the undercroft of the church. Al-Anon has but one purpose: to help families and friends of alcoholics and addicted ones. Please come for you are welcome.

Notice: If you are giving online or through a bank draft to our church and are still receiving budget envelopes, please let us know if you wish to cancel receiving budget envelopes.

Sunday Collection	November 16, 2025
Total Collection	TBD

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group

In January, we will begin a Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group here at Mother of God for family members and friends of persons who have ended their own lives. Group meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month in the St. Aloysius Conference Room. ***The first meeting will be***

Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026 from 6:30-8:00 pm.

For additional information,
please contact Jeff Duell at 859-801-8213.

Kentucky Refugee Ministry

The Kentucky Refugee Ministry (KRM) is located directly across from Mother of God Church's west parking lot in the alley. They could use MOG volunteers to help vetted refugees who have been settled in Northern Kentucky. Some volunteer opportunities include the following: a ride to doctor appointments and job interviews, teaching them how to use TANK, adult mentoring, English practice partners, and youth mentoring. If you have **questions about volunteering**, email Mini Masih at MMasih@kyrm.org. If you want to sign up for an orientation, go to kyrm.org/registration. Volunteer orientations are held monthly.



DIOCESAN NEWS

"THE JOY IN DISCOVERING WHO I AM"

WOMEN'S RETREAT

All women and teenage girls are invited to a special retreat at **St. Pius X Church in Edgewood**

Saturday, Dec. 6, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Registration begins at 7:30 am.

Includes Mass, Confession, Adoration, three talks, and two meals. **Cost:** \$40.00 (cash or check payable to St. Pius, paid on the day of the retreat).

Register: Email bentjenr@gmail.com or
text 859-801-6813.

Where Have All the Fathers Gone?

MEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, Dec. 13

St. Agnes Parish, Fort Wright, KY

Please join us for an inspiring men's conference about fatherhood in America, the challenges, the consequences, and the results, on Saturday, Dec. 13 at Saint Agnes Parish, 1680 Dixie Hwy, Fort Wright, KY

Arrive at 8:15 a.m. for 8:30 Mass followed by coffee and breakfast catered by PeeWee's Place.

Conference includes the following: Talks by Rev. Michael Hennigen and Deacon Joe Grote, opportunities for Confession, and fellowship with like-minded men, and will wrap up by noon.

Ideal father and son opportunity (age 13 and older).

For grandfathers, too!

Register at <https://www.cognitofrms.com/RCAactivitiesInc7/NKYMensConference>.

Questions? Contact -

Bill Dehlinger 859-393-5544, bill@deltarealtyusa.com

Mike Hebbeler 859-512-5359, hebsfarm@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION**St. Joseph Church, Crescent Springs, KY****Saturday, Dec. 13, 9:00 am-3:00 pm****Features keynote speaker Anna Mitchell, co-host of the Sacred Heart Radio Son Rise Morning Show**

Includes: Confession, prayer stations on meditative prayer, Marian prayer, and reliquary prayer and more. Lunch is provided. Free of charge.

To register

email dkittyallen@gmail.com or text 859-957-7595.



The Year of Jubilee 2025 Theme
Pilgrims of Hope

FORMED offers videos series – HOW TO ADVENT.

In this four-episode series, enter into the joyful anticipation with purpose and intention during the season of Advent. In *How to Advent*, discover the rich traditions of Advent and how they help us prepare our hearts for the birth of the child, Jesus, at Christmas.

It's easy to sign up for FORMED.

Go to formed.org/signup; search for your parish by Zip Code/Postal Code. Click on your parish. Register with your name and email address. Then check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

Get FORMED! Get Watching!**CALLING ALL CURSILLO ALUMNI!**

Take time to renew your spirit at the **Restoration Retreat**. This one-day retreat is designed especially for those who have already made a Cursillo. Reconnect with your Cursillo community as we bring “**Piety, Study, and Action into Harmony**.” Step away from the busyness of life to pray, reflect, and strengthen one another on your spiritual journey.

- **Men's Retreat:** Saturday, January 31
- **Women's Retreat:** Saturday, February 7
- **Location:** St. Patrick Church, Taylor Mill
- **Schedule:** Arrive at 8:00 am; breakfast and lunch provided; concludes with the 4:30 pm Vigil Mass
- **Cost:** \$65.00

For details, contact T.J. Wells at 859-635-2384 or tjwells@fuse.net

Register at covingtoncursillo.org/restoration-retreats

Come Spread God's Joy!**Catholics Embracing ALL God's Children****St. Joseph Parish, Cold Spring, KY****Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7:00 pm – Mass and Reception**

A special Mass celebrated for LGBTQ+ individuals, their loved ones and families. After Mass, a **reception** will be held in Kelley Hall. Due to the Christmas holidays, there will be no regular meeting in December.

GIVE CATHOLIC NKY

Northern Kentucky's Online Day of Catholic Giving Tuesday, Dec. 2 – A one-day celebration of faith and generosity to support our parishes, schools and ministries. Your gift will strengthen our shared mission to build the Kingdom of God in the Diocese of Covington.

To donate on Tuesday, Dec. 2, please go to

givecatholicnky.org***Be a part of this united act of love and donate!*****New Sleeping Bag and Blanket Drive Donation**

Parish Kitchen continues to accept new blankets and sleeping bags to help our neighbors stay warm this season **through Sunday, Nov. 30. Donations can be dropped off at Parish Kitchen, 1561 Madison Avenue, Covington, Drop-off times:** Monday-Friday: 7:30-11:00 am Saturday-Sunday: 8:00-11:00 am.

Shoe Donation Drive Holy Cross Elementary School

3615 Church Street, Covington

Eighth graders at Holy Cross Elementary School in Covington need your help with their shoe drive. Partnered with Funds2Orgs, a company which hosts shoe drive fundraisers, the eighth graders hope to send 2,500 pairs of shoes to those in need across the world. Sadly, there are people in less fortunate countries who have no shoes. Often children in a family share one pair of shoes. If you can, please donate more than one pair of shoes.

All types of shoes and sizes of new and gently used shoes are welcome – sneakers, sandals, dress shoes, boots, cleats and more! Shoes can be dropped off on Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am-3:30 pm at the following locations: Holy Cross Elementary School and High School, HC Learning Academy and Holy Cross Church.

This fundraiser runs through Tuesday, Dec. 2.***Let's make a difference, one step at a time!***

Please join us on **Tuesdays at 11:00-11:45 am, for Eucharistic Adoration**. During this time, the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available.

4th Annual Bambinelli and Christmas Tree Blessing Saturday, Dec. 13, 5:30-7:00 pm St. Mary's Park

Bishop John Iffert invites you and your family and friends to attend the fourth annual Bambinelli and Christmas Tree Blessing on Saturday, Dec. 13, 5:30-7:00 pm at St. Mary's Park, Diocesan Curia.

See the blessing and lighting of the Diocesan Christmas tree, listen to a live school choir, enjoy homemade cookies and hot cocoa, and hear the Bambinelli Story. Bring the Baby Jesus figure from your home Nativity to receive a special blessing from Bishop Iffert and **be part of a Catholic Advent tradition!**

To help you prepare for next Sunday's Mass – The First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Responsorial Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24: 37-44

Message of Condolence

We offer our deepest condolences to his wife, Charlotte, and to the Family and Friends of Robert Ruete. You will be held in our prayers. May Robert rest in peace.



Mass Intentions

Nov. 23	9:30 am	Joseph Foltz
	11:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
Nov. 24	12:05 pm	Bev Fischesser
Nov. 25	12:05 pm	Funeral for Robert Ruete
Nov. 26	No Mass	

Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 27	10:00 am	The Theresa Lynch Family
Nov. 28	12:05 pm	Margaret Butler
Nov. 29	12:05 pm	Ebbitt Family
Nov. 30	9:30 am	Parishioners and Benefactors
	11:30 am	Jim Eckerle

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

Do you know a parishioner who is confined to home or a nursing home and would like to receive the Eucharist? We can make a visit!

For more information: Call or email Mary Ann Kelly at 859-291-2288 / mkelly@mogcov.org.

Remember in Prayer

Hannah Donoghue ♦ Lois Knochelmann ♦ Chris Haddix ♦ Frank Sutthoff ♦ David Verkamp ♦ Kenneth Schuler ♦ Nancy Correll ♦ Debbie Prior ♦ Lauri Boggs ♦ Joe Legner ♦ Faye Gosney ♦ Rita & Ron Hopper ♦ Bruce Hummel ♦ Kathleen Stevens Cox ♦ Freda Legner ♦ Jan Stahlheber ♦ Joan Miley ♦ Rob Feldman ♦ Gerri Losey ♦ Pat Landrum ♦ D.B. ♦ Amy Stiens ♦ Mary Estelle Roesel ♦ Amy Bates ♦ Joan and Kelse Murphy ♦ Eileen Concannon ♦ Greg Scanlon ♦ Keith Bosshart ♦ Frank Hlebak ♦ Joy Rolfsen ♦ Greg ♦ Mary Beth Ryan ♦ Charles Kania ♦ Justin Reeves ♦ Mary Ann Grimm ♦ Jack Hicks ♦ Ben Wolff ♦ Mickey Penman ♦ Marine Sgt. Edward M. Burke ♦ G.S. ♦ Ruthie ♦ Greg Dahlenberg ♦ Jennifer T. ♦ Anna F. ♦ Hannah Harris ♦ Renee Seward ♦ Meg Anne O'Brien ♦ The Barrett Family ♦ Debbie Klein ♦ Plymessenger Family ♦ Mary Lou Wilson ♦ Katie Tignor ♦ Oliver Derrick ♦ Meg H. ♦ Steve Oberjohn ♦ NR ♦ John Kalker ♦ Charlotte McDermott ♦ Mary Kohorst ♦ Anne Halpin ♦ Mary Kelley ♦ Jerry Turner ♦ Cliff Wagner ♦ Cindy Losey ♦ John Phillip Pugh ♦ Connie Braedon ♦ Teresa Bowman ♦ Jenny Vellon ♦ Jim Skridulis ♦ Beverly Henn ♦ Susan Byrley ♦ Jean Byrley ♦ Bill Hambley ♦ Kathy Thamann ♦ Ben and Natalie Thamann ♦ Suzy Sneary ♦ David Wise ♦ Nikki ♦ Jamie ♦ Joyce Hamberg ♦ Staci Earls ♦ Peggy Bess Kratz ♦ Linda Wesley ♦ Jessica ♦ Damien Herold ♦ Melissa ♦ Karen Jansen ♦ Dorothy Willett ♦ Zadah Edmonds ♦ Bertha Neltner ♦ Karn Fields ♦ Caroline Olberding ♦ Rick Bronner ♦ Susan ♦ Tom Schneider ♦ Caroline Raymond ♦ Jill Bland ♦ Janet Hatter ♦ Olivia Hollihan ♦ Mary Beth Lynch ♦ Theresa Lynch ♦ Trudy ♦ K. T. ♦ Karen ♦ Fred B. ♦ John K. ♦ Jeanne Bitter ♦ Tabitha Frye Family ♦ Greg Benning ♦ Edward Weeden ♦ Anisha Meyer ♦ Elizabeth King ♦ S. M. ♦ Linda ♦ Julia White ♦

To add or remove a name on this list, please contact the parish office.


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Nov. 23, 2025

Dear Friends,

In today's bulletin, you will find our annual financial report, which provides a look at our year-end statements from the past three years. In addition to the numbers, I want to provide some context to help you understand how our parish is doing financially.

We budget with the goal that everything we receive via your offertory gift matches our expenses dollar for dollar. Our projections for the coming year are conservative, based on trending data, such as past giving, new parishioner registrations, cost of living increases, anticipated expenses, etc. Once the new budget is prepared, it is then reviewed and approved by Finance Council and Parish Pastoral Council.

FY25 Highlights

- We are in good financial standing, with no outstanding debts or liabilities.
- Revenue from our parking lot rentals continues to cover the cost of lot upkeep, landscaping and snow removal on our grounds.
- Our Sunday and Holy Day collections for FY25 totaled \$657,000, exceeding our budget by 7.5%.
- This surplus was offset, however, by some unexpected expenses, which included:
 - Storm damage and repairs to our apartment buildings across the street, which resulted in a loss of rental income for four months
 - A water leak in the rectory
 - Organ repair
- All expenses against our Sunday and Holy Day collections alone would have resulted in a \$140,000 loss for FY25. However, we were able to cover much of the cost with our DPAA rebate, which is not included in our operating budget.
- Facility issues did not stop us from giving to our community. Our parish supported Catholic education providing approximately \$168,000 to ACUE and high school support as required. We also contributed to outside charitable agencies.

Looking Ahead

Overall, I am pleased with where we are.

In the FY26 budget, we have included the costs of the front plaza reconstruction and the repair of our sound system speakers, which are significant. We have done our best to identify other potential expenses, which include much-needed upgrades to our security cameras.

In addition, we are blessed to have the Memorial Fund, which has provided us with significant returns over time that defray repairs to our church and rectory. This fund was established exclusively for maintenance of these two structures and is not part of our operating budget. In FY25, parishioners donated more than \$17,514 to the fund, while bequests totaled \$89,427. Stocks did very well, which increased the balance.

As we consider the future, we recognize that the neighborhood around Mother of God is changing dramatically. Thanks to the development happening in Covington, more people are moving to the urban core, and we are looking at ways to effectively share the Good News with our neighbors and invite them to see what we have to offer.

Our efforts are paying off. Since January 2025, we have registered more than 63 new members. (In 2024, we welcomed more than 100 new parishioners.) Many of you attended our ministry fair in February, looking for ways to be actively engaged, and this year's OCIA class is one of our largest ever.

Your interest and involvement in the parish are critical to shaping a bright future for Mother of God. I am grateful for your generosity in donating your time, talent and treasure, and I am excited about what we can accomplish together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Michael Comer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first part being "Fr." and the last part being "Comer".

Fr. Michael Comer
Pastor, Mother of God