

## Year at a glance:

Fiscal Year 2024/2025 was a busy year filled with highs and lows. A year of transition; from what “was” to a year filled with preparation for “what is to come”. We started the year with the heartbreak closing of Manistee Catholic Central School, yet ended the year with renewed hope and vitality for our Parish. With the welcoming of Father James back to our parish, setting up the Strategic Planning Committee to hear the voices of our church family, and the possibility of reopening the school, the hand of God is present and active in Divine Mercy Parish.

We want to reflect on the past fiscal year and all God has done to help heal this Catholic community. His faithfulness has been evident in every step we’ve taken, every challenge we’ve faced, and all the progress we’ve made. We are immensely thankful for the unwavering support and faithful giving of our parish family which has enabled us to invest in our faith filled community.

### 1. Strategic Planning Committee

Per Bishop Walsh’s request, and per Father Jame’s initiative, Divine Mercy Parish has been engaged in strategic planning since September 2024. Two rounds of surveys to Parishioners resulted in a host of suggestions and concerns. Divine Mercy Parish’s fiscal solvency being voted as our Parishioners’ number one strategic concern.

Since the spring of 2025, multiple rounds of meetings concerning financial issues have been held, with Mount Carmel Cemetery, Manistee Catholic Central property, and Guardian Angels Church properties being highlighted as areas of concern. Divine Mercy Parish is currently pursuing activities that will separate the Parish from financial obligations associated with the MCC property, as well as supporting the Guardian Angels Ministry team in its efforts to be financially self-sufficient. .

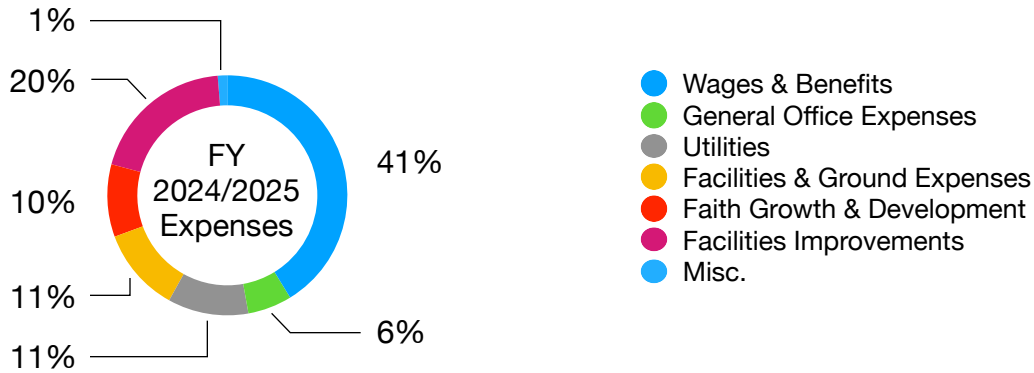
But not all of the strategic planning concentrated on financial issues A Fellowship/Social Team was established to find ways to unite the parish and yet reach out to others in the community. In addition, there has been an approval for the Manistee Saints to submit a design for a memorabilia case celebrating the Saints’ 90+ year history, including its origins from Father Moleski and St Joseph Parish.

### 2. FY 2024/2025 Financial Results

The Church allocates the income and expenses on the basis of location/campus which generated the income or expense. The income and expenses are tracked through individual general ledger accounts. The results from the Fiscal Year 2024/2025, (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) are as follows. If you wish to see additional detail, please contact Father Bearrs or the Finance Council.

	St. Joseph Properties	Mt. Carmel Cemetery	Manistee Catholic Central	Guardian Angel Properties	Total Profit/(Loss)
Revenue 2024/2025	\$ 1,119,691	\$ 103,547	\$ 8,036	\$ 57,725	\$ 1,288,999
Expense 2024/2025	\$ 787,943	\$ 126,024	\$ 233,551	\$ 29,512	\$ 1,177,030
Net Profit (Loss)	\$ 331,748	\$ (22,477)	\$ (225,515)	\$ 28,213	\$ 111,969

## Year at a glance:



**St. Joseph Properties - Revenue** - Despite seeing a \$59,000 decline in Ordinary Income Collections, St. Joseph's Church saw an overall increase in Total Revenue of \$208,000 over FY 23/24. Bequests, Specified Donations, Miscellaneous and other Weekly Income increased by \$216,000. In addition, CSA Refunds of \$13,800 and a \$31,000 Prior-Year CSA correction contributed to the overall increase of 22.89%.

**St. Joseph Properties - Expense** - Overall, Total Expenses were higher in FY 24/25 over FY 23/24 by \$109,000. Taking out the expenditures for Building Renovations and Improvements, (see next paragraph), expenses were actually less in FY 24/25 by \$120,500. The decrease was primarily due to reductions in the following areas:

1. Wages & Benefits	\$48,000 reduction over FY 23/24
2. General Office and Admin	\$28,800 reduction over FY 23/24
3. Clergy - Non Payroll	\$17,000 reduction over FY 23/24
4. Utilities	\$10,000 reduction over FY 23/24

### **Building Renovations and Improvements:**

With more cash freed up to spend on other areas, much needed attention is now being placed on structural improvements and maintenance. During the last fiscal year, \$225,000 was spent on the following projects:

St. Joseph Church Roof and Drains	\$110,500 (Flat roof portions only)
St. Joseph Church Gutters and Caulking	\$ 13,500
St. Joseph Church Bell Tower	\$ 64,200 (Donations covered the cost of the repairs.)
Guardian Angel Boilers	\$ 25,600
Manistee Catholic Central Alarm System	\$ 10,000
St. Joseph Church Audio/Video System	\$ 12,000

**Manistee Catholic School:** The Parish continues to look at all ways to reduce maintenance costs, until a final decision is made on its future. The FY 25/26 budget is estimating average monthly expenses of \$14,000.

**Mt. Carmel Cemetery Revenue-** Sales of plots and burials decreased FY24/25 over FY 23/24 accounting for a reduction in Revenue of \$15,000. This was more than offset by special collections and donations from the Men's Club, totaling \$30,000.

**Mt. Carmel Expenses** - Expenses were higher FY 24/25 over FY 23/24 by \$36,800k. The increase was the result of the following line items:

1. Wages & Benefits	\$20,500 increase over FY 23/24
2. Clean up fallen Trees	\$16,600 increase over FY 23/24
3. Equipment Maintenance	\$ 8,000 increase over FY 23/24

## Year at a glance:

**Guardian Angels Revenue** - GA Restoration income was higher FY 24/25 over FY 23/24 by \$3,200. A renegotiation in ECHO rent resulted in an \$1,700/month increase in revenue.

**Guardian Angels Expense** - Expenses were \$29,000 lower in FY 24/25 over FY 23/24 by \$29,000. Nearly all of this variance, \$24,000, is related to boiler repairs paid in FY 23/24.

### **CSA Liability**

FY 23/24 Balance Owed to Diocese	\$61,895
Adjustment for Diocese Calculation Error	(31,682)
Donations	( 3,900)
CSA FY 23/24 Refunds	( 7,274)
CSA FY 24/25 Refunds	<u>(12,981)</u>
FY 24/25 Balance Owed to Diocese	\$ 6,058

CSA Refunds for both FY 23/24 and FY 24/25 were a result of the Parish meeting its CSA goals.

### **Other Outstanding Debt:**

The Loan payable to the Diocese was reduced by 12% from \$347,885 to \$306,447. Interest is fixed at 4%.

The loan to the MCC Foundation was reduced by 38.24% from \$57,500 to \$36,086.

### **Endowments:**

	<b><u>Divine Mercy Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Mt. Carmel Cemetery Fund</u></b>
7/1/2024 Balance	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Donations	1,675.00	69,299.96
Income Earned	101.14	4,069.76
Administrative Expense	<u>1.32</u>	<u>53.18</u>
6/30/2025 Balance	\$1,774.82	\$73,316.54

### **3. FY 25/26 Budget**

	<b>St. Joseph Properties</b>	<b>Mt. Carmel Cemetery</b>	<b>Manistee Catholic Central</b>	<b>Guardian Angel Properties</b>	<b>Total Profit/(Loss)</b>
<b>Revenue 2025/2026</b>	\$ 1,014,356	\$ 82,332	\$ 540	\$ 66,140	\$ 1,163,368
<b>Expense 2025/2026</b>	\$ 832,103	\$ 133,974	\$ 169,364	\$ 27,927	\$ 1,163,368
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>	\$ 182,253	\$ (51,642)	\$ (168,824)	\$ 38,213	\$ 0

St. Joseph Properties Expense includes \$217,880 set aside for improvements to buildings, grounds, and other projects throughout Divine Mercy Parish.

#### **Parish Council Members:**

Mary Van Drie	Kathy LeFurge	Sara Linke
Brian Maue	Patrick O'Connor	Kelly Whitman

#### **Finance Council Members:**

Mike Hudak	Don Kuk	Betsi Rothrock
Bob Mooney	Michelle Grassa	