

ST. MARY'S OF THE LAKE/ST. BENEDICT'S
HOW ARE WE DOING?
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

As we prepare for our upcoming listening sessions, we would like help you be aware of the challenges our parishes face. All registered parishioners will be receiving our normal annual report in the mail in the coming days. ***Please read that report.***

To help you further understand the challenges we face, on the reverse side of this insert, you will find a summary of our attendance and finance trends from 2018-2024.

While attendance dropped drastically when COVID arrived, the good news is that since we resumed public Masses, the attendance at St. Benedict's has been steady and St. Mary's attendance has increased. Still, we pray that everyone who stopped coming to church will return.

The good news financially is that collections in both parishes, even though fewer people are coming, are slightly higher now than when COVID arrived.

The bad news financially is that our expenses are higher. Why? Inflation. We have done nothing that resulted in increased expenses. It is simply inflation (salaries/utilities/insurance).



LISTENING SESSIONS



This is your opportunity to ask questions and to share your input on our future.

You need to only attend one session.

- Saturday, September 21st – 9:00 am
- Sunday, September 29th – 11:15 am (following Mass)

Please RSVP by calling the office at:
607-535-2786

or emailing Fr. Jeff at
fr.jeffrey.tunncliff@dor.org

*My church is composed of people like me.
I help make it what it is.
It will be friendly, if I am.
It will do great work, if I work.
It will make generous gifts to many causes,
if I am a generous giver.
It will bring other people into its worship and
fellowship,
if I invite and bring them.
It will be a church of loyalty and love,
of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a
noble spirit,
if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these
same things.*

*Therefore, with the help of God,
I shall dedicate myself to the task of
being all the things I want my church to be.*

(taken from our diocesan stewardship manual)

St. Benedict's

Year Ending	Attendance	Collections	Operating Income	Operating Expense	Surplus/ Deficit
2018	74	\$56,076	\$57,579	\$54,169	\$3,410
2019	71	\$54,225	\$55,518	\$55,917	(\$399)
2020	61*	\$53,901	\$55,175	\$51,703	\$3,472
2021	**	\$63,248	\$68,798	\$52,264	\$16,534
2022	47	\$63,649	\$65,274	\$59,726	\$5,548
2023	49	\$64,261	\$70,022	\$57,415	(\$12,607)
2024	48	\$61,819	\$62,656	\$65,956	(\$3,300)

St. Mary's of the Lake

Year Ending	Attendance	Collections	Operating Income	Operating Expense	Surplus/ Deficit
2018	339	\$331,507	\$392,616	\$354,736	\$37,880
2019	365	\$312,645	\$372,737	\$375,520	(\$2,783)
2020	300*	\$302,734	\$365,364	\$328,291	\$37,073
2021	225**	\$280,406	\$362,057	\$314,425	\$47,632
2022	200	\$243,578	\$295,281	\$307,583	(\$12,302)
2023	212	\$251,689	\$325,025	\$344,113	(\$17,694)
2024	226	\$272,374	\$373,205	\$359,171	\$14,034*** Surplus due to \$40,000 bequest —> (\$25,966)

*Number for 9 months prior to COVID shutdown

**No Mass at St. Benedict's – COVID. St. Mary's numbers include 5 pm Mass Attendance