

Our Lady Queen of Peace ANNUAL REPORT **2025** **2026**



Dear Friends,

We are happy to present to you the 2026 Queen of Peace Annual Report. This report serves as an overview of our parish finances and programming. As you know, we experienced some financial challenges in the past year, but we came through the difficulties and finished the past fiscal year in a strong position. Thanks to all who considered their financial commitments to the parish and made adjustments accordingly. Projections for the 26-27 fiscal year have us trending in the right direction and maintaining a solid financial picture. In working with the Diocesan Office of Parish Financial Services, our accounting has been updated and streamlined with accurate and timely information provided to the parish Business Office and Finance Committee. It is a great working relationship.

In terms of community, our membership continues to increase, and we have seen steady growth in Sunday Mass attendance. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. It is in the

Eucharist that the whole spiritual good of Church is contained, namely Christ himself. (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1324)

Through our religious education program, school, parish enrichment programs, youth ministry, service organizations, and liturgical ministries – just to name a few – we continue to grow as community and build the Body of Christ.

My thanks to all of our wonderful staff for the work that they do each day in making so many of our activities a reality. But the truth is, at the core of all of this is your involvement and support for what we do as a community of faith. Together we live as a community of faith.

May God continue to bless each of you and our parish for your goodness and faith. Our Lady Queen of Peace pray for us.

Blessings!
Fr. Brian Wilk, Pastor





CONNECTION

Stewardship continues to be at the heart of life at Our Lady Queen of Peace as we strive to build a vibrant parish culture rooted in gratitude, hospitality, and community. This past year, we were blessed to welcome more than 350 families and individuals to our parish family, many of whom attended our New Member Welcome Brunch to learn more about parish life and deepen their connection to our faith community.

We have also experienced a 14% increase in Mass attendance compared to last year, a joyful sign that more parishioners and guests are gathering to celebrate God's presence and blessings in our lives. Throughout the year, we embraced gratitude as a central theme, taking time to recognize and give thanks for the gifts God has given us, the experiences we share, and the people who enrich our parish. From moments of personal reflection to writing thank-you notes, we intentionally practiced gratitude in many ways.

Building relationships remained an important part of our stewardship journey. Whether introducing ourselves to those around us before Mass, enjoying donuts and beverages after Mass, or participating in events such as QP in the Park, Queen of Hearts Night, the Pancake Breakfast, Soup and Stations, and many other gatherings, we created many opportunities to connect and strengthen our sense of belonging.

Our Lady Queen of Peace is a special and unique faith community because of each person who shares their gifts, faith, and presence. Together, we continue to grow as grateful stewards of God's blessings and as a welcoming community where all can encounter Christ and one another.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE IMPACT

Our Parish Stats

	2024	2025
Total Number of Households	2,989	2,983
18-40	1,926	1,946
41-64	2,379	2,227
65+	1,681	1,740
Total Number of Adults	5,986	5,913
Total Number of Children	2,168	1,578
Parishioners in Parish	8,154	7,491

Worship & Sacraments

	2024	2025
Baptisms	68	45
Confirmations	36	45
Marriages	5	10
Funerals	54	44
First Communions	90	111
Annual Communions	130,560	145,830

Service

	2024	2025
Eucharistic Ministry Servers	256	342
Pastoral Care Volunteers	65	25
Religious Education Teachers	15	15
Liturgies Volunteers	905	1,011
Lay Catechists	18	18
Disciples Serving the Community	172	221
Disciples' Hours Serving the Community	2,561	4,649

Formation/Word/Growing in Faith

	2024	2025
Religious Education Students	222	216
Adult Faith Formation Participants	210	131
After School Programs	77	95



WE OFFER
53 MINISTRIES

LITURGY & MUSIC

We are blessed with amazingly vibrant and enriching Liturgy & Pastoral Music ministries with over 1,600 volunteers who help us to celebrate Mass and liturgies each weekday and weekend. In 2025–2026, our liturgical and music ministers gathered for ongoing formation in their ministries. Lector and Eucharistic Minister workshops were held, while cantors and musicians gathered before each liturgical season to review upcoming music. Our ministers continue to grow through group formation sessions, minister gatherings, and weekly rehearsals. We also welcomed several artists to display their pieces in the Gathering Space art gallery. From icons, to woodwork, to the St. John's Bible, we were enriched by these pieces of art. Doris Neumann and Char Lodl support our Liturgy Office, while Renee Forrest supports the Music Office and serves as our parish pastoral music librarian.

Ministries and Ministers

- Lectors (175)
- Commentators (42)
- Eucharistic Ministers (~ 500)
- Altar Servers (205)
- Ushers (65)
- Greeters (30)
- Art & Environment Team
- Church Cleaning & Altar Care (8)
- Sacristans (16)
- Cantors (24)
- Adult Choir (45)
- Contemporary Choir (14)
- Contemporary Youth Choir (62)
- Children's Choir (80)
- Cherub Choir (42)
- Handbell Choir (13)
- Resurrection Choir (65)
- Instrumentalists (27)
- Organists & Pianists (6)
- Wedding Coordinators
- Gathering Space Art Gallery
- Taizé Prayer
- Contemplative Prayer
- Lectio Divina
- Outdoor Gardening Group
- And many others who serve behind the scenes

SCHOOL

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2025–2026 SCHOOL YEAR

A Year to Remember

From spiritual growth and academic excellence to creative expression and joyful service, 2025–26 has been a year that truly reflects our mission: “Love in every word, Respect in every action, Confidence in every heart.”

Academic Excellence

Our Lady Queen of Peace School continued to lead the Diocese in **academic achievement**, with students consistently performing at the top across grade levels. QP graduates continue to be recognized as **leaders in academics, leadership, and service** at local high schools.

- **Science of Reading and Orton-Gillingham:** Our strong phonics program provides students with a solid foundation in literacy and has demonstrated proven success. Teachers continue to strengthen their understanding of the **Science of Reading** and apply these practices to meet each child's individual learning needs.
- **Math Mastery:** Our math program provides a solid foundation in problem-solving and critical thinking, culminating in opportunities for advanced students to take **Geometry in 8th grade on the QP campus**.
- **Exceptional Student Support:** Students receive personalized instruction and enrichment opportunities tailored to their needs with **two Reading Specialists**, in the Lit. Lab for primary students, and **two Academic Specialists** in the H.U.B., dedicated to Middle School. **In addition, we have two counselors who specialize in Special Education and School Counseling.**
- **STEM and Enrichment:** Students explored engineering principles in the beloved **5th Grade Egg Drop Challenge** and showcased their knowledge through **weekly Current Events Jeopardy competitions**, combining creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. They also participated

in **Digital Citizenship learning**, using technology as a tool for **collaboration, creation, communication, and critical thinking** – key components of our Future Ready framework.

The Arts and Extracurricular Life

Our students' creativity shone through an extraordinary array of fine arts and extracurricular opportunities.

- **Music & Band:** Over **100 students** in grades 4–8 participated in band, and more than **150 students** sang in our choirs spanning 4K–8th grade.
- **Theater Production:** The Middle School musical, *Annie, Jr.*, was a resounding success, welcoming **over 750 audience members** and showcasing our students' exceptional talent and teamwork.
- **Science Fair Exhibition:** This year, students in grades 4–6 participated in a Science Fair, engaging in the Scientific Method and presenting their findings to peers and families. Experiences like this help students develop the preparedness needed to become confident public speakers.

Faith, Service, and Community

Faith in action remains at the heart of everything we do.

- **Houses of Faith:** Students shared joy through service, decorating and delivering **over 30 pumpkins** to community members in need. Students also supported the Allied Drive food drive and Angel Tree by working as teams to earn cash and purchase items for those in need.
- **Charitable Giving:** Through our **School Store** and **Hot Chocolate Sales**, students raised **over \$4,000 for charity**, embodying compassion and stewardship.
- **Fun Run:** With **485 students participating**, our annual Fun Run raised nearly **\$10,000** to support enrichment programs that expand learning beyond the classroom.

Adult Formation

Growing in faith is a lifelong journey, and our adults continue to grow spiritually, intellectually, and personally along the way. This year, our adults deepened their faith through four different Bible Study groups, Small Christian Communities, Spiritual Book Clubs, and presentations from area speakers as well as international and local pilgrimages. We focused on going where Mary of Nazareth went – Champion, Fatima, and Lourdes, stopping in Santarem to see the Eucharistic miracle and ending at Notre Dame for prayer with over 30 participants. We are currently planning our next pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi, Siena, Lanciaio, and Turin.

Young Adult Group

Our Young Adult group continues to gather several times a month for faith and fellowship, movies, service, and discussion. This coming year, they plan to reach out to young adults who have recently joined the parish and continue to grow in faith and friendship.

Youth Formation

Our Youth Ministry is dedicated to helping young people find deeper relationships with God and the Church while discovering how they are called to live out their faith. Through Sunday sessions, late night retreats, speakers, small groups, and service trips we grow together in faith and friendship. We had a great Mission Trip to Arecibo, Puerto Rico, as well as a summertime Disciple Camp. We provided the cast for the 101st Capitol Christmas Pageant, went on retreats, served in shelters, prayed together, served together, and laughed together with over 100 students in our school and Sunday Faith Formation programs. This year, we look forward to continuing to grow in our relationship with God and with one another.



Pastoral Care

Our Pastoral Care team helps people explore and live faithfully even when life provides challenges. From Home Communion Ministry, hospital visits, and care facility Masses to quilts and prayer shawls for those who are sick, and Bereavement Ministry, our Pastoral Care team embodies what it means to live as people of faith throughout our lives. This year, over 20 of our Home Communion team members brought the Eucharist to over a dozen homebound parishioners. Our knitters and quilters created more than 30 prayer quilts and shawls for parishioners and the Diocesan Suicide Loss Grief Program. Knitters also made blankets for approximately 50 newly baptized children in our parish family. We continue to offer our St. Dymphna support group for people whose families have been affected by mental illness, and are planning a Stepping On Class as well as quarterly Red Cross Blood Drives.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) continues to be a vibrant and growing ministry within our parish. This year, we were blessed to welcome an increasing number of adults who felt called to explore the Catholic faith, become Catholic, or complete their Sacraments of Initiation. It has been inspiring to witness so many individuals responding to God's invitation and taking meaningful steps in their faith journey.

In response to this growth and enthusiasm, the parish expanded OCIA to a year-round model of formation and celebration. This renewed approach allows individuals to begin their journey at various times throughout the year, offering greater flexibility and accessibility for those discerning a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church. Participants can engage in ongoing catechetical formation, spiritual preparation, prayerful discernment, and sacramental celebrations at a pace that best supports their personal journey.

The continued growth of OCIA is a sign of the Holy Spirit at work in our parish community. We are grateful for the dedicated team of sponsors and parishioners who accompany these seekers with faith, encouragement, and hospitality. As more individuals answer the call to become fully united with the Catholic Church, we look forward to the many ways they will enrich the life of our parish in the years ahead.

Social Action Commission

Our Social Action Commission is a collective gathering of representatives from some of our most active justice ministries including our St. Vincent DePaul Conference, Knights of Columbus, our Garden Project, Respect Life Ministry, our Racial Justice Group, and Sister Parish Ministry. Together, we share information and ideas while supporting one another in our respective areas of ministry.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

We held successful Big Truck food, personal care, and household goods collections in the spring and fall. Our QP conference participated in the Little Drummer Boy Christmas support for dozens of families who have been visited by Madison area conferences throughout the year. We had a large outpouring of blankets and bedding donated for the winter Recycle the Warmth collection. Most importantly, we have been able to support families – including families within our own parish – with energy costs, rent assistance, and other services while they experience financial hardship. This year, we made over 115 home visits, meeting 168 adults and 133 children. Your support through Pushpay and donations in the blue buckets on Hospitality Weekends helps us serve hundreds of people throughout the year.

Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus Council 4527 is proud to partner with the Queen of Peace community. Parish donations during our Tootsie Roll giveaway provided thousands of dollars to Special Olympics and other organizations that help people with intellectual disabilities. Homeless students in Madison received dozens of backpacks, boxes of school supplies, clothing, and gifts cards through your contributions to our Charity Starts With You & Me drive. Our council also sponsored several seminarians, gleaned thousands of pounds of produce at the Westside Community Market, and provided over 100 coats for kids through the CMC. Plus, we happen to be the longest running sponsor of West Madison Little League.

Community Garden Projects

This year, Fr. Jay blessed the Lacy Garden fields on the Feastday of St. Isidore as we kicked off our 26th year of growing and harvesting produce to support the food pantry at St. Vincent DePaul. Our Garden Intern, Liz along with over 170 volunteers planted, watered, weeded, and harvested 7,266 of produce. The Schulte Garden (named for parishioners Emmett and Mary Ann Schulte) also had a banner year with over 40 volunteers providing over 6,000 pounds of produce for the food pantry at the Catholic Multicultural Center.

Respect Life Ministry

Our Respect Life ministry has collected over 3,000 diapers and dozens of blankets and layette items in support of Babies and Beyond. We also began a collaboration with Walking With Moms and hosted a summer storytime program that welcomed dozens of moms and children to a biweekly gathering led by QP high school and college students. Mentor moms and Babies & Beyond staff helped mothers, fathers, aunts, and grandparents with everything from snacks to emotional support. We also hosted nationally known speaker Katie Shaw, who lives with Down Syndrome, for an evening of information and education for a group of over 80 parishioners. Most recently, we welcomed Bishop Hying along with speakers from Journey Mental Health Organization to talk about mental wellness and our Diocesan/Parish efforts on mental health. Our Mary Ann Schulte Annual Rose Sale also had a standout year, raising a record \$1,700 to benefit organizations that support life from conception to natural death.

Racial Justice Group

Our Racial Justice Group continues to create events and network with other organizations working toward racial justice. Last year, we were part of a Diocesan bus trip for over 40 people to the Black Holocaust Museum and All Saints Catholic Church in Milwaukee. We also hosted two different book club series that welcomed over 20 people and culminated with evenings of prayer and discussion.

Sister Parish Project

We have shared a relationship with our sister parish in Chiapas, Mexico, for more than 26 years. Over that time, we have sent parish representatives to Chiapas, welcomed the head of their parish to Madison, built a relationship with the Capeltic Coffee collective through the Ignatian Spirituality Network, and purchased new Communion host-cutting and baking machines when their equipment wore out. This year, we sent SJ of Marquette University as a representative to Chiapas with Fr. Stephen Pitts, and welcomed Fr. Pepe Aviles, head of the mission in Chiapas, back to QP. In the coming year, we hope to help Capeltic find new markets for their coffee within our community.



2024 - 2026 PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT	JUL 2023 - JUN 2024	JUL 2024 - JUN 2025	JUL 2025 - JUN 2026
REVENUE			
Offertory Income	\$2,188,306	\$2,476,323	\$3,264,406
School Tuition & Fees	\$2,618,603	\$2,608,389	\$2,869,234
Endowment Contribution	\$115,000	\$122,000	\$125,000
School & Family	\$324,939	\$199,591	\$99,782
Program Revenue	\$235,149	\$357,444	\$438,216
Unrestricted Contributions	\$19,168	\$75,313	\$283,517
Restricted Contributions		\$93,912	\$62,875
Other Income	\$184,110	\$65,457	\$63,642
TOTAL REVENUE	\$5,685,275	\$5,998,430	\$7,206,672
EXPENDITURES			
Payroll & Professional Expenses	\$4,394,098	\$4,557,614	\$4,727,336
Instructional & Program	\$534,388	\$513,419	\$458,004
School & Family Expenses	\$128,595	\$35,451	\$39,753
Liturgy	\$94,508	\$116,682	\$131,462
Facilities & Maintenance	\$645,832	\$516,504	\$511,911
Administrative Expense	\$626,289	\$822,515	\$636,084
Other Expenses	-	-	\$559
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$6,423,710	\$6,562,186	\$6,505,111
Net Operating Revenue (Loss)	(\$738,435)	(\$563,756)	\$701,561

CAMPAIGN	JUL 2025 - JUN 2026
Respect Life Collection	\$2,509.22
International Combined Collection	\$14,552.87
Bless Our Priests Collection	\$2,900.00
Holy Land Collection	\$1,735.00
National Combined Collection	\$2,285.22
CMC Giving	\$80,531.42
Sister Parish, Chiapas-Includes Net Profit from Sales	\$36,102.79
Saint Vincent de Paul Donations	\$4,983.94
Maintain Our Vision	\$339,585.75
Universal Church Support	\$8,359.72
Diocesan Cathedral Project	\$3,050.00




Inspired by the Spirit
2026 | ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

ACA CAMPAIGN 2026

\$262,615 Given

\$232,245 Goal

113.08% Paid to Goal

470 Givers

2026 FISCAL YEAR PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT	CHURCH	SCHOOL	TOTAL
REVENUE			
Offertory Income	\$3,264,406.00	-	\$3,264,406.00
School Tuition & Fees	-	\$2,869,233.92	\$2,869,233.92
Endowment Contribution	-	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00
School & Family	\$3,400.31	\$96,381.61	\$99,781.92
Program Revenue	\$44,822.20	\$393,393.42	\$438,215.62
Unrestricted Contributions	\$283,517.25	-	\$283,517.25
Restricted Contributions	\$55,920.04	\$6,955.00	\$62,875.04
Other Income	\$61,705.08	\$1,937.04	\$63,642.12
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,713,770.88	\$3,492,900.99	\$7,206,671.87

EXPENDITURES			
Payroll & Professional Expenses	\$1,030,471.41	\$3,696,864.92	\$4,727,336.33
Instructional & Program	\$120,660.83	\$337,343.35	\$458,004.18
School & Family Expenses	-	\$39,753.20	\$39,753.20
Liturgy	\$131,462.14	-	\$131,462.14
Facilities & Maintenance	\$270,465.29	\$241,445.81	\$511,911.10
Administrative Expense	\$465,796.76	\$170,287.65	\$636,084.41
Other Expenses	-	\$559.15	\$559.15
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,018,856.43	\$4,486,254.08	\$6,505,110.51

Net Operating Revenue (Loss)	\$1,694,914.45	(\$993,353.09)	\$701,561.36
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ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 6/30/2026	30-JUN-26	30-JUN-25	CHANGE
BANK ACCOUNTS			
Operating Cash	\$761,820.98	\$320,879.00	\$440,941.98
Mass Stipend	\$9,188.99	\$12,409.00	(\$3,220.01)
Auxiliary - School & Family/Athletics	\$113,873.38	\$272,500.00	(\$158,626.62)
TOTAL	\$884,883.35	\$605,788.00	

INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS			
Unrestricted	\$642,493.36	\$537,848.00	\$104,645.36
Restricted Endowment	\$4,030,093.00	\$3,637,530.00	\$392,563.00
TOTAL	\$4,672,586.36	\$4,175,378.00	



Our Mission

Our Lady Queen of Peace is a large, vital community of believers challenged by Christ's call to help build the Kingdom of God.

Our Vision

Worship. Grow. Connect. Serve.



QUESTIONS

608-231-4600 • email qpmail@qopc.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Betlach	Kathy Perepezko
Victor Escalona	Theresa Wiese
Ann Martinelli	Maria Dehnert
Paul Stoffel	Elizabeth Lacey
Ken Buroker	CJ Raymond
Charles James	

FINANCE COUNCIL

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Joe Daniels	E.G. Schramka
Terry Heinrichs	Theresa Wiese
Dan Millmann	<i>Trustee</i>
<i>Trustee</i>	Fr. Brian Wilk
Mike Palm	Paul Wrycha

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

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PAROCHIAL VICAR

Fr. Jay Poster

DEACON

Mark Zwolski

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE, ADULT ENRICHMENT & SOCIAL ACTION

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Sylvan Bachhuber

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Janice Tischler

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Caleb Mitchell

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