

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our parish is named after the profound mystery of the Lord's Ascension which marked, in a way, the beginning of the era of the Church in history. Like those first disciples, we at the Church of the Ascension come together often for prayer, to be formed more deeply in the faith and to be nourished by the Lord in the breaking of the bread. And like that first Christian community, **we too are sent into the world to witness to the truth revealed by Jesus, to lovingly serve as He did and to announce the Good News of God's love revealed in Him.** The members of the early Church faced obstacles and challenges, like we do today. But trusting in God's Spirit to guide them, they went out and continued the work of Jesus, willing to endure the crosses that came their way. We are called to do the same.

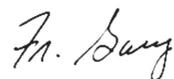
Nourished by prayer and the sacraments, we journey on the path of discipleship, striving to grow in relationship with Jesus daily. Our parish operated ministries of faith formation, of justice and defense of life; our outreach ministries to the sick and the homebound, as well as our charitable service and works of mercy, are just some of the ways we evangelize. Through our parish's collective efforts, we respond to Jesus' expectation for His Church, "as the Father sent me, so I send you" (Jn 20:21). **Together we can accomplish amazing things.**

Mindful of this, **I invite you to join our stewardship initiative: "Faith Lived...Blessings Shared."** Please review the contents of this brochure and prayerfully consider how you and your family can play an active role in continuing the work of Jesus through our parish community. Our goals are to **invite involvement of as many parishioners as possible in our various ministries and to increase our Sunday offertory contributions in order to fund those efforts** and bring the truth, love and grace of Jesus to as many people as possible. This is no easy task amidst today's challenges, but I am confident that the people of Ascension are up to the challenge.

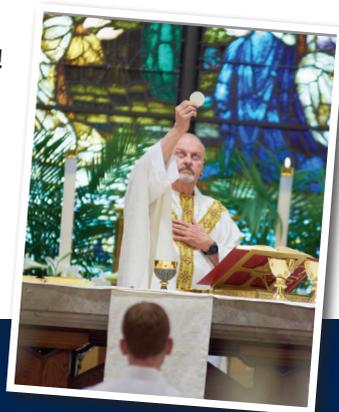
On October 22nd and 23rd, we will be holding a special Commitment Weekend, inviting members of our community to identify ways they might share their time and talent and make a financial commitment that will allow the Church of the Ascension to continue its important work. **We are counting on you!** Please participate in our **"Faith Lived...Blessings Shared"** initiative and help our parish respond to God's many blessings by sharing our gifts with others and imitating the heart of Jesus.

Thank you for your generosity, prayers, and commitment to Church of the Ascension!

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life,



**CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION**



Connect with Us

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Making your 2023 Commitment

Fill out the enclosed Tithing Pledge and Time/
Talent Pledge Cards and bring them to Mass
next weekend

or

scan this QR code with your smartphone to
fill out your Cards online.



Fulfilling your Commitment

Three simple and secure ways to do so:



Sign up for or update
your **Online Giving** or
Auto Debit at

<https://kcascension.org/stewardship/>



Use your **offering envelope**
and bring it to Mass each
Sunday or mail it to the parish office.

Church of the Ascension
9510 W. 127th St.
Overland Park, KS 66213



Explore using **tax advantaged
charitable gifts** such as IRA
Distributions, Donor Advised
Funds, Gifts of Stock, or
remembering the parish in your
will. Contact the parish office at
913-681-3348.



**Faith Lived...
Blessings Shared**

**CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION**
OVERLAND PARK, KS



Church of the Ascension embraces Stewardship as a Way of Life. A life of Stewardship is rooted in Scripture and is a disciple's response to the mission and ministry of the local and universal Church in sharing the Gospel. Stewardship recognizes that we, as individuals, are not the owners of our lives, our time, our talent, nor our treasure, but stewards or managers of these God-given gifts.

Stewardship is our Time, Talent and Treasure returned to God in thanksgiving for all that He has given us.

Registered parishioners/families should be in good standing with respect to Stewardship by:

- Practicing the Catholic faith and living Catholic values.
- Sharing in the prayer life of the parish through weekly participation in the Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Supporting the life and mission of the parish through acts of service by becoming an active volunteer in our programs and ministries.
 - o Parishioners are encouraged to volunteer for **one or more ministries**.
- Practicing financial stewardship to the best of their ability as an expression of gratitude to God for His blessings received.
 - o Parishioners are encouraged to make and honor a sacrificial pledge to God of at least **10 percent** of their annual household pre-tax income. The following guidelines are provided as a tithing guide:
 - 5% - To our parish as general parish support
 - 1% - To Archdiocesan support
 - 4% - To our parish or other charitable causes*

*Note: School families are encouraged to give this additional 4 percent to our parish in support of the parish school.



Faith Lived

Here, united in God's love, we are a visible sign of the body of Christ and together we do great things. Nourished by prayer and the sacraments, the members of our parish community are journeying on the path of discipleship and growing in relationship with Jesus Christ daily. We value discipleship and evangelization.

3,334
Families in our Parish

83
Baptisms

148
Confirmations

44
Funerals

562
Children in Religious Ed

850
Adults Participated in Faith Formation

8,760
Hours devoted to Eucharistic Adoration

138
First Communions

37
Weddings

593
Children in Full-time School

49
Adult Faith Classes or Retreats

226
Vacation Bible School Participants



Blessings Shared

As we strive to love one another better, good stewardship plays a key role. Stewardship isn't a code word for financial support. Stewardship is about doing the work of Christ and engaging our many resources to further the ministry and mission of Our Lord. Remembering that everything we have is a gift from our creator.

Through our many ministries, and our social and service-oriented outreach programs, we put into action Jesus' expectation for His Church, "as the Father sent me, so I send you" (Jn 20:21).

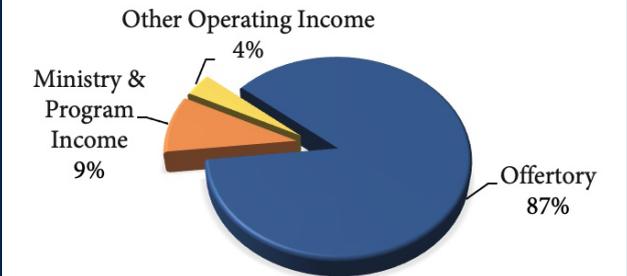
- **\$246,000** donated outside our parish
- **624** Visits by Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound
- **265** Parishioners served in Liturgical Ministry
- **\$19,630 plus 37,861** Pounds of Food Contributed to Pop the Trunk food drives
- **\$10,265** raised for Baby Bottle Boomerang
- **303** Prayer blankets and quilts donated
- **491** Ascension Blood Drive donors
- **343** Turkeys and Hams **plus \$672** for Turkey drive
- **3** large cargo trucks **plus \$13,975** in gift cards donated for Angel Trees

Financial Snapshot: 2021/2022 Fiscal Year

Operating Income

Offertory	\$6,706,266.92
Ministry & Program Income	\$707,420.23
Other Operating Income	\$283,147.73

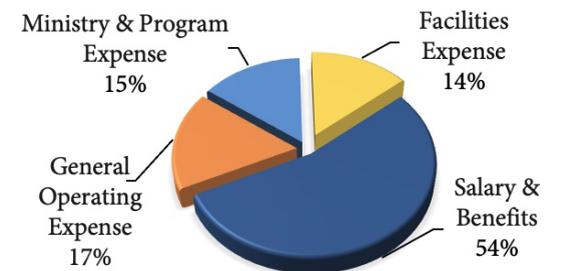
Total Operating Income \$7,696,834.88



Operating Expenses

Salary & Benefits	\$3,956,166.63
General Operating Expense	\$1,243,850.51
Ministry & Program Expense	\$1,063,103.61
Facilities Expense	\$1,046,146.98

Total Operating Expense \$7,309,267.73



Special Event Net Receipts

Celebrate Ascension Net Receipts	\$112,537.84
Archdiocese Campaign Rebates	\$189,282.56