



Our Lady of the Lake

480 152nd Avenue | Holland, MI 49424

www.oll.org | (616) 399-1062



Annual Parish Report

Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Parish Demographics

Parishioners	Fiscal Year 24/25	Fiscal Year 23/24
Households	1,515	1,487
Individuals <u>1/</u>	3,669	3,901
Household Envelope Users	665	735
Sacramental Trends	Fiscal Year 24/25	Fiscal Year 23/24
Baptisms	27	20
Marriages	9	6
Funerals	22	26
RCIA Candidates/Catechumens	5/5	6/6
First Eucharist	24	37
Confirmation	28	40
Discipleship	Fiscal Year 24/25	Fiscal Year 23/24
Discipleship Total	276	383
Pre K - Eighth Grade	85	110
High School	18	19
LANE <u>2/</u>	173	254
Parish School Corpus Christi	Fiscal Year 24/25	Fiscal Year 23/24
Total Students	171	164
OLL Students (Preschool - 8 th Grade)	68	58
Catholic High School	Fiscal Year 24/25	Fiscal Year 23/24
OLL Students	3	5

1/ Individual Parishioners Demographic Data

Ages	FY 24/25	FY 23/24
17 and under	513	612
18 - 24	426	419
25 - 39	369	337
40 - 59	974	1,008
60 - 79	1,076	1,050
80 +	219	197
Unknown	92	278
Total	3,669	3,901

2/ This data point in FY 23/24 reflects OLL adults with LANE accounts. In FY 24/25, the data reflects users who enrolled and took a LANE adult course either in person or online.



Statement of Parish Financial Activity

Income	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	23/24 Actual
Offertory	1,205,743	1,340,318	1,192,762
Ministry <u>1/</u>	257,964	48,450	54,097
Other <u>2/</u>	219,322	85,178	85,863
Haiti	100,754	60,000	96,678
Total Income	1,783,783	1,533,946	1,429,400
Expenses	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	23/24 Actual
Ministry	86,065	142,480	110,537
Administration	161,042	155,042	143,866
Salaries and Benefits	599,517	653,156	603,499
Facility	197,348	205,604	176,446
School <u>3/</u>	299,964	303,564	281,457
Haiti	107,941	81,145	69,659
Total Expenses	1,451,877	1,540,991	1,385,464
Excess	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	23/24 Actual
Excess Income Over Expenses	331,906	(7,045)	43,936
Savings	24/25 Actual	24/25 Budget	23/24 Actual
Parish Savings and Cash Accounts	1,649,171		1,317,502

The Statement of Parish Financial Activity is presented on a modified basis. A traditional Income Statement includes depreciation. Depreciation is an accounting practice used to spread the cost of tangible or physical assets, such as buildings, across their useful life. Depreciation for FY 24/25 and FY 23/24 was \$190,613 and \$177,252 respectively.

Finance Council Members:

- Brad Everest
- Bob Fenton (Chair)
- Greg Foster
- Steve Grossman
- Alan Hughes
- Garrick Pohl

Notes:

1/ includes one time estate gift, \$200,000
2/ includes donations for pipe organ, \$171,116
3/ includes Corpus Christi School (K-8) and Catholic High Schools





A Letter From Father Michael

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

June 7, 2025, marked the 52nd anniversary of my high school graduation. My freshman year I took Earth Science with Mr. Bultman. Something he said is still pertinent today. "Change is the only constant in this world."

What changed during 2025 at Our Lady of the Lake? In short, many things. Each week we gather as a faith community to celebrate the gift of eternal life won for us through the life, death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We encounter that gift profoundly in the celebration of the sacraments.

This year 27 children died with Christ and rose to new life with him in the waters of baptism. 24 children celebrated and received First Holy Communion. 28 youth were sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit by Bishop Walkowiak at the Cathedral of St Andrew. 9 couples were united in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony. During the Easter Vigil 10 individuals were received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

We welcomed many new faces in the parish office. Rose Hernandez works at the front desk and welcomes, assists, and answers your calls. Rachel Fornarotto's position was expanded to include ministry to young couples and young families. We welcomed Teresa Petrenko as our Director of Communications. And Gretchen Catalfamo as Confirmation Coordinator implemented a two-year confirmation preparation program beginning in 7th grade.

Pentecost Sunday, we celebrated the dedication of our new pipe organ. A three-year vision, search, fundraising, purchase and installation process is a welcomed addition to our liturgical celebrations. And let us not forget the return of our handbell choir.

Thank you for being a valued member of the Our Lady of the Lake parish family. May we keep our eyes fixed on Christ and our ultimate destiny, the Kingdom of Heaven!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Michael Burt
Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake

Handbell Choir

Ringin' Once Again

For the first time since COVID, our Handbell Choir joined us for several celebrations throughout the year. The handbells accompanied our Christmas and Easter Masses, as well as played for our Organ Dedication during Pentecost. It was delightful to



hear the bells ringing once again, especially with our new organ! They add a fun and beautiful new sound to our liturgies, and we plan to keep the group around for future special occasions!

National Eucharistic Congress

Indianapolis, Indiana

In July 2024, a group of OLL parishioners attended the Tenth National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, Indiana. Our parishioners were among the 60,000 pilgrims who attended this event. There, they experienced a life-changing Eucharistic Revival, including:



- Celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of Mass in multiple rites and languages each day.
- Listening to world-class Catholic speakers reflect on important topics.
- Walking alongside thousands of Catholics in a Eucharistic Procession through the streets of downtown Indianapolis.
- Gathering in Adoration with thousands of Catholics to see Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.
- Attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation to experience Jesus' limitless, unconditional love.

New Pipe Organ



Purchase

Our Lady of the Lake purchased a pipe organ for our church in 2024 (image 3)! We found this unique opportunity more than a year and a half earlier when a pipe organ consultant connected us with an organ shop in the Netherlands, Pels & Van Leeuwen. This organ shop had a used pipe organ for sale that they hoped to send to a church in the United States. Not only was it sized appropriately for our space, but it was readily available and priced at a significant discount. Some modifications were needed to make the organ more suitable for our space. The total purchase of the organ, including the cost of the modifications to our Sanctuary, was \$372,026. In the 24/25 fiscal year, we raised \$171,116.

Fundraising

In October, we launched the "Buy A Pipe" fundraiser to begin raising money toward the cost of our pipe organ. Since our organ has 840 pipes, we invited parishioners and guests to buy one or more of the pipes. Larger pipes had a higher price, while smaller pipes had a lower price, to accommodate various levels of giving and combinations of pipes. A pipe tracker logs purchased and available pipes!

Shipping and Arrival

We had expected to receive our organ in January; however, after various delays, our organ finally shipped in March. It spent about a month traveling across the ocean from the Netherlands to the United States before arriving at our parish on April 3. The organ was kept in the shipping container until

we were ready to begin the installation processes.

Installation

The Knights of Columbus (image 6) assisted in unloading our organ from its shipping container on the first day of the installation process. Once all the pieces had been brought into the building, two organ technicians from the Netherlands, Peter van der Temple and Tom Bouwman (image 2), worked around the clock for two weeks constructing the organ in our Church. (image 5).

Tuning

The final step in our organ assembling process was to tune and voice the instrument. For three weeks, we hosted Rochus and Peter van Rumpt (image 1), the father-son organ builders from Pels & Van Leeuwen, to prepare our instrument. They intricately tuned each pipe by ear before adjusting the instrument as a whole to make the sound suitable for our space (image 4).

Dedication Mass

At all Masses Pentecost weekend, June 7-8, we celebrated the dedication of our pipe organ with our Liturgy Choir, Handbell Choir, a brass ensemble, and stringed instruments! Father Michael blessed the organ at each Mass (front cover image), and we finally heard the magnificent sound of our organ for the first time! Many of the hymns were recorded and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in case you missed it or if you would like to hear any of the songs again!

Four New Staff Members

Gretchen Catalfamo

Start Date: July 2024

Title: Confirmation Coordinator

What She Does:

- Creates Confirmation Prep curriculum
- Teaches Confirmation classes
- Maintains Confirmation documentation
- Creates and distributes Confirmation certificates

About: Gretchen began attending OLL in 2016 when her son asked to learn more about the Catholic faith. She joined RCIA and was brought into the Catholic Church at Easter in 2017. She grew up in Rudyard in the Upper Peninsula before joining the U.S. Marine Corps, spending 9 years on active duty. She began teaching Confirmation prep when her kids went through the program in 2017, and has now joined staff.



Teresa Petrenko

Start Date: January 2025

Title: Director of Communications

What She Does:

- Communicates announcements to the parish
- Maintains OLL's website
- Writes the weekly bulletins
- Edits social media posts

About: Teresa began attending OLL in the summer of 2024, when her and her husband moved to Holland.

She isn't a complete stranger to Holland as she was a 2020 graduate of Hope College with a B.A. in Musical Theatre. In school, she learned much about websites, marketing, and social media, leading her to pursue a position within that realm when moving back to Holland.



Rachael Fornarotto

Start Date: August 2024

Title: 24/25 High School

Coordinator, 25/26 Director of Youth, Young Adults, and Young Families

What She Does:

- Leads the high school youth group
- Coordinates young adult and family gatherings
- Fills the needs of our youth community

About: Rachael loves serving the parish at Our Lady of the Lake. Her heart is rooted in the mountains of Idaho, but she loves seeing God's mercy in Lake Michigan. She loves to be with family and friends telling stories and making memories.



Rose Hernandez

Start Date: February 2025

Title: Administrative Assistant

What She Does:

- Manages the front desk area
- Supports other staff members
- Maintains sacramental records
- Records parishioner contributions

About: Rose has always wanted to work for a faith-based organization.

She has a strong faith which was strengthened by working at OLL. Rose is originally from Texas, but moved to Holland in 1977. In 2014, Rose moved back to Texas to look after her mother. She returned to Holland in 2022, and has always called it her home. Rose has two sons and three grandchildren.



Confirmation Prep

Two Year Program

We transitioned our Confirmation Preparation Program into a two year program once our new Confirmation Coordinator, Gretchen Catalfamo, began. Students now prepare for this Sacrament in seventh grade and receive it in eighth grade.

Boiler Project

Phase 2, Installation Completed

In the fall, we completed phase 2 of our boiler project, the installation process. Two high efficiency boilers were installed to replace our aging boilers, and we have begun seeing improvements in our electric and natural gas bills. We received a \$6,913 rebate from Consumers Energy and a \$24,517 rebate from Semco Energy.

Corpus Christi Catholic School

Blue and White Night Back To CCCS

In October, our school held its first Blue and White Night! This event replaced the biannual Auction With A Twist, offering a new and exciting approach to making a Catholic education accessible and available within our community. This fundraiser will now take place annually at Corpus Christi School. Blue and White Night brought the auction fundraiser back home, celebrating 25 years in the building. The evening consisted of a dinner by Frankie V's Catering, a live and silent auction for attendees to bid on big prizes, and fun games to play throughout the evening.

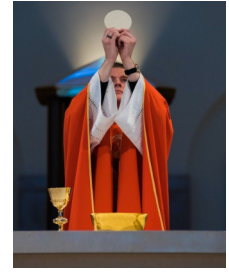




Lakeshore Academy for the New Evangelization

What Not To Miss At Mass

Throughout the academic year, Lakeshore Academy for the New Evangelization (LANE) released a LANE Families class titled "What Not To Miss At Mass". This online, self-paced course offered a step-by-step walk-through of the Mass. It provided both children and adults a better understanding of the Church's liturgical prayers, enabling them to participate in Mass more fully.



Defending Your Faith In A Culture Of Unbelief

LANE also conducted a three-part adult class series on the topic, "Defending Your Faith in a Culture of Unbelief". This class met both in person at Our Lady of the Lake and was live-streamed over Zoom. Students were encouraged to submit questions or objections to the faith that they would like help answering. The instructor and DEAN of LANE, Greg Smith, tailored each lecture and discussion based on these submissions, equipping participants for practical apologetics and evangelization with their neighbors, friends, and families.

Part 1 "Defending Religion" touched on how we face a post-religious world that sees religion as useless and foolish. Students learned how they can share, explain, and defend their faith when the very idea of faith has been abandoned.

Part 2 "Defending Christianity" touched on how we are saturated by media that tells us whatever we want to hear, leading us astray with myths old and new. Students learned how they can share, explain, and defend basic Christian truths within a culture of "liquid modernity".

Part 3 "Defending Catholicism" touched on how Catholics in the U.S. today are challenged in their faith and how many fall away from the Church. Students learned how they can share, explain, and defend the historic Catholic faith against Protestant and Evangelical attacks.



Our Sister Parish in Haiti

Fr. Effener's 25th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination

Fr. Effener is the pastor of our sister parish in Haiti, St. Anne and St. Joachim parish. This past year, he celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination! His parish celebrated him (left) to honor and thank him for his many years of service to the vocation.

Children's Summer Camp

In August of 2024, the St. Anne and St. Joachim parish school hosted a two-week, children's summer camp with the theme

"Protecting Children So That They Have A Better Tomorrow". Throughout the camp, the children of Labranle played games, completed crafts, sang songs, and danced to music (right)! More importantly, every child ate two meals each day. The children had fun, and the camp was much appreciated!



School Building Roof Repair

In years past, OLL has helped fund major projects on the property of St. Anne and St. Joachim in Labranle. These projects have included building a new rectory, the water filtration project, and building a smaller chapel in Dubebu. This year, Fr. Effener asked to replace the roof on the school building. The Haiti committee approved the project, and work began in May of 2025 after the school year was complete. During the course of the construction, it was determined that the walls were deteriorating to the point where they were not sound and would not be able to support a new roof. The project was then expanded to replace the walls and add a second floor for future use, as this was the ideal time to do so (left). The original budget was sufficient for roughing in the first floor, including the added repairs to walls and supports. Still, it did not cover the costs of finishing the walls with plaster, installing electricity, or adding a railing. The children will still be able to attend classes in the building.





Office & Prayer Hours

Monday—Friday
8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Mass Schedule

Sunday ..9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday..... 6:00 p.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Adoration

Thursday 3:00—9:00 p.m.
First Friday of the Month
9:30 a.m.—9:00 p.m.

Sacraments

Reconciliation
Wednesday..... 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Baptism

For baptismal preparation,
contact our parish office or
visit oll.org/baptism/.

Marriage

For marriage preparation,
contact our parish office or
visit oll.org/weddings/ at
least six months in advance.

Corpus Christi Catholic School

12100 Quincy Street
Holland, MI 49424
corpuschristischool.us
(616) 796-2300



Your Parish Staff

Pastor
Fr. Michael Burt
ext. 106 • frmichael@oll.org

Director of Ministries Greg Smith

ext. 113 • gsmith@oll.org

Director of Administration Melissa Linderman

ext. 104 • mlinderman@oll.org

Administrative Assistant Rose Hernandez

ext. 102 • rhernandez@oll.org

Director of Sacred Music Audrey Gorman

ext. 119 • agorman@oll.org

Director of Youth, Young Adults, and Young Families Rachael Fornarotto

ext. 123 • rfornarotto@oll.org

Director of Communications Teresa Petrenko

ext. 110 • tpetrenko@oll.org

Liturgical Coordinator Debbie Kraus

ext. 112 • dkraus@oll.org

Hospitality Coordinator Miki Brierty

ext. 108 • mbrierty@oll.org

Parish Care Coordinator and Parish Nurse Pat Whitaker

ext. 203 • parishnurse@oll.org

Children's Ministry Coordinator Erin Pilarski

ext. 103 • epilarski@oll.org

Confirmation Coordinator Gretchen Catalfamo

ext. 114 • gcatalfamo@oll.org