

Devoting Support <sup>to our</sup>

# FAITH

Community

## STAYING CONNECTED

God's work continues during  
the COVID-19 pandemic.

## INSIDE

How COVID-19 has  
impacted our parish

## PLUS

We need you! All the  
ways you can be part  
of our parish!





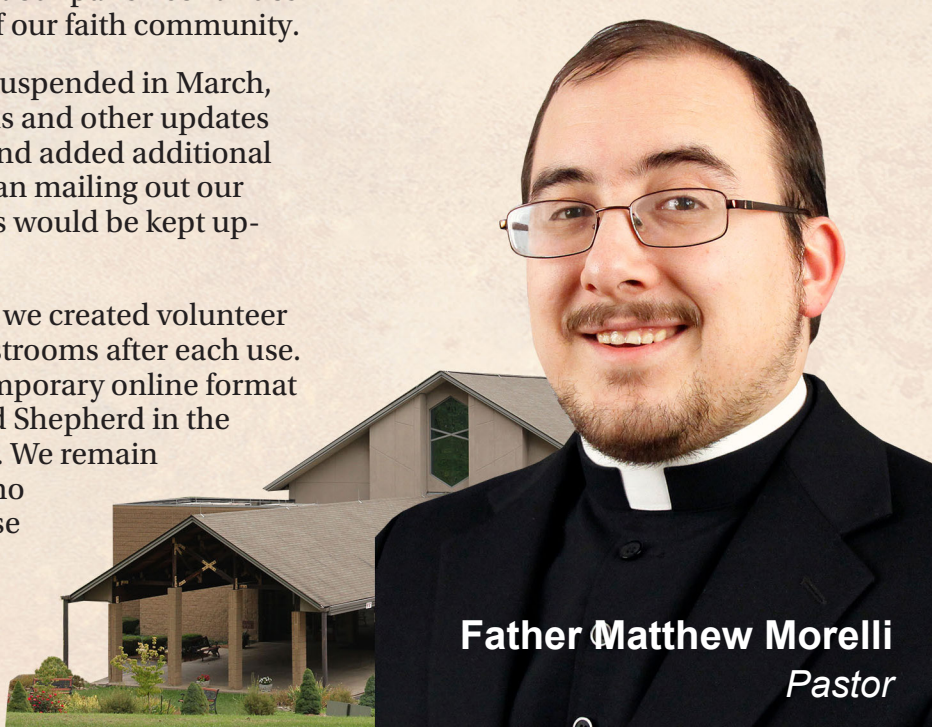
Help us stay connected to you! PLEASE take a moment to fill out our parish survey online:  
[DioceseofGreensburg.org/GoodShepherd](https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/GoodShepherd)

## Staying Connected During COVID-19

I have been keeping the parishioners of Good Shepherd in my prayers during this pandemic. I can't even imagine the difficulties you must be facing; balancing family, job, school and everything else that has been made more complicated by COVID-19. During this stress-filled time, I want you to know that our parish continues to care for the spiritual and material needs of our faith community.

When the celebration of public Masses was suspended in March, our parish began to stream Masses, devotions and other updates to parishioners via Facebook and YouTube and added additional resources to our parish website. We also began mailing out our parish bulletin to ensure that all parishioners would be kept up-to-date with what is going on in the parish.

Now that our church building has reopened, we created volunteer cleaning crews to sanitize the church and restrooms after each use. We are resuming Faith Formation using a temporary online format to facilitate aspects of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in the context of the Domestic Church of the home. We remain united in prayer as a parish family - those who have returned to church for Masses and those who have chosen to remain at home.



**Father Matthew Morelli**  
*Pastor*

## Ways You Can Give



Church of the Good Shepherd  
 P.O. Box 99  
 Kent, PA 15752



10am-4pm  
 Monday-Thursday

10am-12:30pm  
 Friday



<https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/giving/Pages/Parish-Giving.aspx>

Enter donation amount, select parish and enter credit card information

Sadly, as you can imagine, the virus has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. If you are willing to give of your time and talent to help those in need, please look for our ministry listings and contact us to volunteer. Even though we cannot gather as we normally would, this may be an especially good time to consider a ministry in our parish so that when we do begin to gather, you will have an idea of how you want to serve our community of faith.

Additionally, as you might imagine, your continued financial support during this difficult time will help our parish to maintain and to continue God's work. And so, with great sensitivity to whatever your circumstances might be, I humbly ask, if you are able, that you consider an increase in your weekly or monthly offertory. You can make that commitment online or by sending those donations directly to the parish via U.S. Mail or by visiting our website for online offertory.

# COVID-19 and its Impact on our Faith Community

The effects of COVID-19 were seen in all parishes, including our own. Our parish offertory remains slightly below normal but has been strong primarily due to the generosity of parishioners – several parishioners gave very generous individual donations, and we have already surpassed our parish goal for the Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Earlier in the year, we received one of the Federal PPP loans to cover some of our expenses during the stay-at-home order.

However, our parish also suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. Three of our six Lenten dinners were cancelled. Our annual turkey dinner will take place, but will be modified to be a takeout-only event.



I do want to call your attention to several ministries that have continued through the COVID-19 restrictions, or will resume once the restrictions are lifted. These include volunteering for our fundraising dinners and making pierogis, money counters, catechists and catechetical aides, liturgical ministers, cantors and choir members, Knights of Columbus and volunteers to assist with outdoor maintenance. We are also in the preliminary process of creating an Evangelization Committee and Vocations Committee. Our parish was literally built upon the hard work of many volunteers throughout our history – if you are not currently a volunteer, I humbly ask that you consider taking part in one or more of these ministries.



## Parish Statistics



### Registered Households



2018: 350  
2019: 352  
2020: 337

### Single Member Households



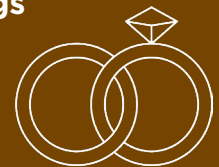
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### Baptisms



2018: 4  
2019: 4  
2020: 6

### Weddings



2018: 10  
2019: 3  
2020: 1

### Funerals



2018: 6  
2019: 5  
2020: 20

## Parish Financials

	2018	2019	2020
<b>Offertory</b>	\$ 185,155	\$ 179,071	\$ 160,677
<b>Other Ordinary Income</b> <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	2,087	1,147	624
<b>Extraordinary Income</b> <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	52,091	53,484	37,036
<b>Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund</b>	36,516	24,743	23,000
<b>Other Non-Assessable Income</b> <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	65,240	7,286	30,356
<b>Special Collections</b>	52,500	39,751	23,779
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 393,590</b>	<b>\$ 305,481</b>	<b>\$ 275,472</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	\$ 75,645	\$ 93,966	\$ 76,318
Church	84,037	23,230	18,590
Rectory	10,282	9,955	8,122
Education and Ministry	29,367	26,923	23,484
General Expenses	101,329	109,682	116,055
Special Collections	52,500	39,751	23,022
Extraordinary Expenses	40,403	18,159	104,849
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>393,563</b>	<b>321,665</b>	<b>370,440</b>
<b>Net Operating Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 27</b>	<b>\$ (16,184)</b>	<b>\$ (94,968)</b>

# Capital Improvements

Over the last three years, we have undertaken several capital improvement projects and are making progress on several others. We replaced the church roof and rectory roof, repainted the worship space to remedy water damage, and restored the Eucharistic Chapel window. We are in the process of upgrading the parking lot lights, replacing the church HVAC system, and securing bids to demolish the DeMaria house.



## Ministries at Church of the Good Shepherd

Church of the Good Shepherd encourages its parishioners to participate in one of our liturgical, social or music ministries. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

### Altar Server

Altar servers assist the priest in preparing for Mass.

### Music Ministry

Choirs and cantors provide musical support of full and active participation in the liturgy.

### Money Counters

These individuals assist in counting collections.

### Religious Formation Leaders and Youth Ministry Leaders

These individuals assist in forming the next generation of Christ's Disciples.

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Parishioners assist the priest in distributing the Eucharist at Mass.

### Greeters

Greeters welcome Parishioners to our faith community.

### Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God during Mass or other liturgical functions. Lectors devote time to preparation and understanding of sacred Scripture.

### Ministry of Care

These volunteers provide pastoral care to the sick and homebound of the parish. The ministers take the Eucharist to the sick where they are at home, a personal care home or a nursing home.

### Ushers

The ushers take up the offertory and distribute bulletins after Mass. They also assist as needed with emergencies and other concerns.

### Social Ministries

Volunteers serve as funeral directors and help set up for various social gatherings. Planning and implementing the Lenten dinners and Thanksgiving dinner are also important facets of this ministry.

### Parish Life Ministries

Cleaning and decorating the church, maintaining the outside church grounds and helping out with office work are all necessary opportunities for volunteers.

### Knights of Columbus

The Knights are a charitable service to the poor and hungry, while promoting Catholic education and family values.