

Church of the Little Flower
Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Parish Financial Report Summary

Our Dear Little Flower,

In accordance with Archdiocesan requirements, the parish has submitted its annual Financial Performance Report for the fiscal year ending June 2025. The report shows a positive net income of \$8,086. Although our Total Collections for the year decreased slightly by approximately 2%, this is not a significant concern, given that we also launched a capital campaign for our Priest Residence. In February of 2025, we introduced this campaign with a goal of raising \$750,000. Once again, Little Flower parishioners far exceeded our expectations and far surpassed that goal with total pledges of \$907,000. We sincerely thank our parishioners for their faithful support and generosity, which allow our parish to maintain a strong financial position and vibrant community each year.

The complete Financial Summary for the fiscal year ending June 2025 is detailed below. Our Total Revenues were relatively flat year over year with a slight reduction of 1.5%. Our Total Ordinary Expenses were 8.5% higher due to increased utility costs and a rise in insurance premiums. Salaries and Benefits were also 12% higher, primarily due to the full-year impact of staff who had joined in the middle of the prior year, as well as an increase in benefits costs from our provider.

Church of the Little Flower Financial Summary			
	Jul '24 - Jun '25	Jul '23 - Jun '24	Favorable
	Actuals	Actuals	(Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Collections	643,136	654,737	(11,600)
Christmas Collection	45,568	49,652	(4,085)
Easter Collection	25,990	29,127	(3,137)
Other Revenues	278,757	257,995	20,763
Priests Residence & non-operating revenues	82,672	100,078	(17,407)
Total Revenues	1,076,123	1,091,589	(15,466)
Ordinary Expenses			
Salaries, Benefits, Contract & Prof Services	608,657	543,435	65,222
Assessments	100,181	102,616	(2,435)
Insurance, Utilities, Supplies & Equipment	198,823	178,770	20,053
Religious Ed / Sacraments	29,115	21,668	7,447
Other Ordinary Expenses	131,261	137,672	(6,411)
Total Ordinary Expenses	1,068,037	984,161	83,876
Net Ordinary Income	8,086	107,428	(99,342)
Capital Projects Revenues - Priests Residence	134,088	-	134,088
Capital Projects Expenses - Priests Residence	134,088	-	134,088
Net Income	8,086	107,428	(99,342)

We are deeply grateful to all our parishioners whose generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure have made this year’s financial success and accomplishments possible. Together, we continue to live out our Little Flower Mission by welcoming more individuals and families back to our church and to our Lord. This year, we have seen growth across all our sacramental and faith formation programs, thanks to the dedication of everyone in our parish community who strives to “Pass on our Catholic Traditions” and “Grow as a Welcoming Family of Faith”.

We have also made a tremendous impact living out part of our Mission Statement to *“Serve Those in Need”*, including but not limited to the following:

- Offered a multitude of new and recurring *Adult Faith Formation and Fellowship Pathways*: Cornerstone Men’s Retreat, Women’s Spirituality Book Clubs, Little Flower Spiritually-Themed Cafes, Evening of Reflections for our Ministries, Monthly Family Masses with hospitality after all Masses, Men’s Breakfast with outside speaker and witnesses from parishioners, and the Theology on Tap faith themed series to continue to journey together on our faith-filled pilgrimage
- **Developed and nurtured our Little Flower Kindness Youth Ministry Team**, which includes more than 140 teens dedicated to living out our Catholic mission to serve those in need. Together, they contributed nearly 900 hours of service throughout the year, including, but not limited to, the following: preparing over 300 sandwiches for the homeless, assembling and sending approximately 20 care packages to college students from our parish, providing Thanksgiving meals for approximately 20 families, and baking more than 3,000 cookies, cakes, and cupcakes for seniors. They also organized and led our parish Family Fall Fest and Family Bingo events. The *Kindness Team* continues to flourish through their fundraising efforts, grants, and donations, living out their faith and doing the work of Christ in service to others.
- Fulfilled our mission statement to *Pass on the Catholic Traditions by completing the following Sacramental and Faith Formation Programs*: 8 weddings, 45 Funerals, 59 Baptisms, approximately 125 candidates for First Communion and Confirmation. Religious Formation for over 170 families and 365 youth, and adult formation through small faith sharing groups, OCIA, OCIC, men’s and women’s ministries, and bible studies for over 300 people.
- Welcomed more than 66 new families to our parish with welcome bags and visits from our Missionary Team.
- Provided hundreds of items of clothing and childcare basics to moms and families in need through Mercy House and Catholic Charities.
- Donated meals to over 1,200 people through our St. Joseph’s Soup Kitchen Ministry and Family Promise of Union County.
- Approximately 30 families in need were served weekly from Berkeley Heights and neighboring communities through all our Food Pantry donations and drives. We also provided 30 complete meals for Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
- Shared gifts with over 400 families and individuals last Christmas that benefited children, families, seniors, veterans, and those experiencing homelessness and mental health challenges.
- Distributed Holy Communion to over 100 people through our Eucharistic visitors to the homebound, Autumn Lakes Nursing Home, Park Edge senior housing, and Runnells Rehabilitation.
- Hosted several town events, engaging with our community, such as Alzheimer’s Awareness, St. Patrick’s Day Senior Lunch, Pilgrimage to Sight and Sound Theater, and Mass for our First Responders.
- Actively present and engaged in the Berkeley Heights community town events, with tables at community festivals, and partnering with the Berkeley Heights Business and Civic Group as well as the Women’s Club for Child Abuse Prevention month.

We are truly blessed at Little Flower, and we joyfully share those blessings within our parish, throughout our community, and beyond.

With your continued generosity and support, we reaffirm our commitment to faithful stewardship and sound financial responsibility in the coming fiscal year. We vow to invest in the continued growth and vitality of our parish through thriving ministries and events, while also advancing our capital campaign and setting aside funds for our Priest Residence.

May God continue to bless us in the next fiscal year as we continue to *Give Witness to the Gospel, Serve Those in Need, Pass on Our Catholic Traditions, and Grow as a Welcoming Family of Faith*.