



# Christ the King Parish

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Dear Parishioners,

It is February and winter is in full swing here at Christ the King. Lent is in two weeks with Ash Wednesday being on February 18. Today we kick off the 2026 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA).

In Christ, we are one. This is our campaign motto this year. This is indeed true for us as the Catholic Church. Our unity is expressed sacramentally in receiving the Eucharist, the one body of Christ. Our unity is further expressed in sharing our resources to do ministry in unity here at Christ the King Parish with me, your pastor, in unity as the Diocese of Erie with Bishop Persico, and in unity as the Universal Church with Pope Leo XIV. The Catholic Services Appeal is one way we share in the greater ministry of the Church.

The following is the numerical information on our Catholic Services Appeal.

Catholic Services Appeal	2025	2026
Parish Goal Set by Parish Finance Council	\$72,000	\$72,000
CSA Assessment (Money sent to the Diocese of Erie)	\$53,554	\$54,600
Funds for Parish Improvement Projects Based on Parish Goal	\$18,446	\$17,400
Actual Collected	\$48,347	<i>You Control This!</i>
CSA Assessment (Money sent to the Diocese of Erie)	\$53,554	\$54,600
Actual Funds for Parish Improvement Projects	<b>\$(5,207)</b>	???

For the CSA collection for 2025, we missed our parish goal by such a large amount that we actually had to use \$5,207 of our ordinary offertory collection to make up the difference to pay the CSA Assessment to the Diocese of Erie. The assessment is due

just like every other bill we need to pay, regardless of the amount collected through the CSA campaign itself.

The amount owed to the diocese from the Catholic Services Appeal is calculated based on the previous two years of general offertory collected less funds spent on school subsidies and religious education. This result is then proportionally allocated across all of the parishes. This formula means that money donated through the CSA is NOT used to determine our parish's proportion of the Diocese of Erie CSA goal.

Over the last few years, capital improvements have been done for our facilities at Christ the King Church and Immaculate Conception Church. We increased our staffing by adding an Outreach Director to focus on improving our communication with our parishioners and especially reaching out to our broader community to connect new people with our Catholic faith.

The Diocese of Erie supports this local effort through Faith magazine, training opportunities for religious education, educating our future priests and deacons, and sharing our faith through our united charity work with Catholic Charities and the Missions Office. They further support me with retreats and continuing education opportunities.

Our reality is that everything costs and all costs have increased these last few years. I am striving to responsibly use your donations in consultation with our pastoral and finance councils. I know that the Diocese of Erie has been adjusting their own use of your financial donations to be as efficient as possible to the point of being short staffed.

Is this work worth my own donation, yes. I have pledged \$1260 to the Catholic Services Appeal because the work of the Lord needs my commitment in funds even when my own livelihood comes from your contributions. This is part of my tithe of 10% based on my gross income: 5% for the work of the Church, which includes my CSA donation, and 5% to other charities.

Please consider your pledge to the CSA and increase it if possible.

THANK YOU for your continued generosity! Many of you give many hours of volunteer service and behind the scenes donations to live "In Christ, we are one." It is a blessing and joy to be your pastor. Let us work together in sharing with each other the Kingdom of God.

Peace in Christ,



Rev. Johnathan Schmolt

Pastor

## Fundraising Committee Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2026

**21 Club-October 18, 2025** – Cindy reported Net profit for last cycle of 21 Club \$13,295.90. Discussion was held regarding changing 21 Club to a once-a-year raffle with 1 dinner per year. Cindy provided financial analysis of this suggestion, and it was noted profit would be significantly impacted by change and she further reported she has reviewed the idea with Father Johnathan and he is in favor of keeping the current 21 Club format. Committee agreed that the current format is more profitable. It was agreed the greatest need is more sellers, tickets sold and volunteers. Discussion was held regarding a letter to Parishioners to seek more sellers, more ticket purchases and volunteers to support this fundraiser.

**Paddle Party** – February 7, 2026-There are 8 vendors signed-up. Prices are set at \$5 for first Paddle and \$2 each additional paddle. Prize basket and gift card donations, gift card envelopes and donations boxes are in the back of both churches. Committee noted we are in need of further donations.

**Ham Bingo**-Saturday, March 21, 2026-Admission \$8, all must have a paid admission, \$1 Early Birds, Specials \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Bingo prize will be \$30 Shop-n-Save Gift Card. There will be an additional raffle for anyone bringing a donation for local food pantry.

**21 Club Dinner**-Saturday, April 18, 2026-Currently only 894 tickets have been sold.

**Patriot Day Festival**-September 13, 2026, 10 am-4 pm-No discussion

**Turkey Bingo-Saturday, November 14-2026**-No discussion.

### **New Business**

**Saturday evening Music and Food**-Discussion was held that hosting a band and selling food items on Saturday evening after mass may be a good fundraiser. Ideas are still being generated and further discussion will be held regarding what time or year, what genre of band and what food items would work best. Will continue discussions at future meetings.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 6:30 p.m.