

✠ ♦The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus ♦January 11, 2026♦ ✠

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS

The baptism of our Lord Jesus is sure a mystery. When we see the definition of the word "baptism", Jesus's baptism enters the category of mystery. We can see it even in the expressions that the 4 Evangelists describe it. They all use different words to express the relation, the connection, the link between Jesus and the DOVE that came from heaven. St Matthew (which is today's gospel) pens down the following: "...The Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him". St Mark pins down the following verse: "... like a dove descending upon Him". St Luke reports this: "...And The Holy Spirit descended upon Him in a bodily form". St John says: "In whomever the Spirit come down and remain...". However, The baptism of our Lord Jesus is a capital event in His life. Because the four Evangelists wrote about, and because the Church made it a Feast, it means Jesus's Baptism is essential to our spiritual life. That calls to a very important question: What have we done to or with our own baptism?

**Parish Financial Report
Our Lady of the Abingtons - Dalton
TREND ANALYSIS**

	Fiscal Year July 1 - June 30				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Revenue					
Collections	109,104	113,793	111,790	116,946	121,696
Faith Formation Fees	310	325	294	195	5,240
Fundraising/Development	58,713	55,444	70,135	11,235	39,532
Other Income	9,251	17,963	7,732	279	4,381
Designated Income/Grants/PPP Loan	4,266	-	-	-	-
Transfers Savings Account/Other	453	3,546	6,000	-	-
Diocesan Special Collections	4,849	3,888	3,507	6,311	3,976
Total Revenue	186,946	194,959	199,458	134,966	174,825
Expenses					
Administration	71,590	63,401	83,603	82,751	72,278
Rectory	24,385	22,032	20,233	7,859	14,942
Liturgy	12,335	9,926	15,117	10,606	12,683
Faith Formation	6,835	4,076	2,498	4,342	2,414
Social Justice	3,224	590	17,160	804	83
Operation & Maintenance of Plant	31,081	12,360	18,300	10,590	10,382
Fixed Expense	9,345	8,116	7,520	4,499	6,735
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlays	-	-	-	-	-
Designated Expenses /Transfers Out	3,494	-	174	-	-
Catholic School Assessment	15,216	10,596	13,668	10,800	11,112
Diocesan Special Collections Remittance	5,049	25,483	3,510	6,311	1,858
Total Expense	182,553	156,580	181,783	138,561	132,487
Parish Surplus/(Deficit) - CASH Basis	4,393	38,379	17,675	(3,595)	42,338
(Increase)/Decrease in Unpaid Diocesan Obligations	**(SEE NOTE)**				
Actual Parish Net Surplus/(Deficit)	4,393	38,379	17,675	(3,595)	42,338
NOTE					
Outstanding Diocesan Obligations could include: Diocesan assessments, School assessments, health insurance, self-insurance, pension and other expenses.					
End of Year Unpaid Diocesan Obligations	-	-	-	-	-
Beginning of Year Unpaid Diocesan Obligations	-	-	-	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in Unpaid Diocesan Obligations	-	-	-	-	-
Diocesan Loan/Debt	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A