

NO
PARKING
ON THIS SIDE
OF STREET

WELCOMING THE
NEW PASTOR

ORDINATION OF
FR. KENNETH PARSAD

THE ELECTION OF
POPE LEO XIV

THE ASSUMPTION

ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*On to
New Things*

2025 ISSUE



IN 1881...

God gave a small group of miners a mission to bring to the mountains of Park City the world's greatest treasure: the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Eucharist, and the Faith, Hope, and Charity that flow from Him.

For those miners, that treasure became the light that guided them into the mines. It was the beacon that drew them home at the end of each day. And, ultimately, their path towards salvation.

Today, God's mission for St. Mary's has spread from the streets of Old Town Park City, to the meadows of White Pine Canyon, to the Heber Valley, and beyond. St. Mary's seeks to evangelize, catechize, give back in Charity, and enrich the community through the Catholic Faith and its intellectual, artistic, and cultural traditions. To bring all the treasure of Jesus Christ, for the salvation of souls, and the Greater Glory of God!



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CONTENTS

ON TO NEW THINGS 3

Reflecting on the changes and continuities being experienced at St. Mary's.

ASSUMING NEW RESPONSIBILITIES 5

New pastor Fr. Arokia Dass David is welcomed with our parish tradition of our annual procession.

A RETURN TO INVESTMENT 9

Fr. Kenneth Parsad, formed as a seminarian here at St. Mary's, assigned to Park City after a joyous ordination.

ON THE NEW POPE 13

The passing of Pope Francis, followed by the election of Pope Leo XIV, through the eyes of us at St. Mary's.

NEW BLOOD 17

New Grand Knight and initiatives from the local Knights of Columbus Council 1129.

FINANCIAL REPORTS 21

Position and summary statement of St. Mary's and its missions.

On the cover: New pastor Fr. Arokia Dass David laughs with Fr. Christopher Gray before the annual Assumption Procession on August 17, 2025.



On to New Things...

“My priestly motto is “to abide in His love” (*manere in dilectione Eius*). In the days ahead, my greatest desire is to walk with you more closely, to visit your homes, and to know your families.”

- Fr. Arokia Dass David



THE YEAR OF 2025 was one of profound change and transformation. This year, parishioners mourned the loss of Pope Francis and enthusiastically accepted the news of the election of Pope Leo XIV, the first pope from the United States and someone who indicated he will continue the mission of the late Pope Francis.

Not much time later, the news broke that former pastor Fr. Christopher Gray was being transferred to a new assignment at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. Replacing him would be Fr. Arokia Dass David and the newly ordained Fr. Kenneth Rey Parsad, who spent time in formation at St. Mary's. Both are trusted and good friends.

What does this year say about St. Mary's? The faithful of the Wasatch-Back, here in Park City and in the Heber Valley, are adaptive. They transcend any molds. As a whole, they do not conform to stereotypes or divisions, religious or political. These are unhelpful and mundane. Instead, it is time to focus on “the new things.”

While many things are changing, the good, constant, worthwhile parts will always be present. Memories of one's favorite pope, favorite pastor, or anything else, will pass away. However, what they represent, through God's providence, will only become more plain.

Christ's mercy, peace, and love will continue to be proclaimed. The St. Mary's sanctuary of charity is only growing stronger. The rich traditions and treasures of the Church, ever-ancient and ever-new, will continue to shine.

Rather than try to reinvent the wheel, which has been tried so many times before by so many others, St. Mary's will offer the timeless riches which ironically

offer something new to every generation without changing. This is the eternal truth of Jesus Christ and the Faith, Hope, and Love that flow from Him.

How will we do this? This coming year, St. Mary's plans to promote evangelization more than ever before. And not only will we do this, but you can, too. In the works is a Catechesis program open to all parishioners.

In the works is a **vision** of increased volunteer opportunities. In the works is the St. Mary's Community: a deposit of treasure and faith that future generations will inherit for years to come.

We invite you to join us in this mission, which is no different than the mandate Christ gave to make disciples of all. This year, please walk with us in proclaiming Faith, giving back in Charity, and offering Hope to all, especially our future generations.

In the following pages, please find all the “new things” that will continue the St. Mary's mission. We are glad you are here with us.





Assuming **NEW** Responsibilities



WELCOMING ST. MARY'S NEW PASTOR, FR. AROKIA DASS DAVID, WHO SUCCEEDED FR. CHRISTOPHER GRAY ON AUGUST 1, 2025.

Photo: Fr. Arokia Dass David (left) and Fr. Christopher Gray (right) laugh together before the annual Assumption Procession from the Old town Chapel to the St. Mary's White Pine Canyon Church on August 17, 2025.

JUST this past August, St. Mary's gained two wonderful priests. One might be familiar: the newly ordained Fr. Kenneth Parsad, who spent time in formation at St. Mary's. The other, the new pastor, Fr. Arokia Dass David, who served in Price at Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish, might be unfamiliar.

Ordained in 2009, Fr. Dass originally hails from southern India, where he studied philosophy and theology. In 2013, he made his way to Utah, where he moved around serving various parishes and churches.

Before former pastor Fr. Christopher Gray departed from his post at St. Mary's to the Cathedral of the Madeleine, he was happy to assure the community that both Fr. Dass and Fr. Parsad are good friends, faithful shepherds, and priests who will serve the community well.

The St. Mary's parish, with its rich history and traditions, its absolutely special and unique community, and its immense size compared to Price, might have

Father Arokia Dass David was born in Paramakudi, Tamil Nadu, India. He completed his undergraduate studies at Loyola College in Chennai, earning a bachelor's degree in English literature. He then entered Sacred Heart Seminary, where he received a Diploma in Philosophy and later completed a Bachelor of Theology. He also earned a Master of Christian Studies from the University of Madras.

He was ordained to the priesthood on April 26, 2009, by the Most Rev. Anthonisamy Neethinathan, Bishop of Chingleput, India.

Fr. Dass' first priestly assignment was as Vice Rector of St. Joseph Minor Seminary in India, where he also taught Sacred Scripture. He later served as associate pastor and secretary to the bishop, followed by another year as vice rector at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rainy Hill.



Photo: Fr. Dass preaches his homily during Mass after the annual Assumption procession on August 17, 2025.

seemed daunting to the new team of clergy. Nevertheless, the community welcomed them with open arms and, bemusingly, got to witness their new shepherds immediately jump into the deep end of St. Mary's tradition.

On August 17, just about two weeks after starting, Fr. Dass and Fr. Kenneth participated in the annual Assumption Procession and celebration. The four mile procession, however, didn't feel long, and was something Fr. Dass had no difficulty acclimating to.

"I have taken part in many processions before, especially in India, where processions are very common and sometimes involve thousands of people. I have even organized several myself," Fr. Dass said. "But here in Park City, it was my first time experiencing it."

With perfect weather, the procession was a breeze and arrived at the White Pine Church early, allowing people to catch a breath before Mass.

"Honestly, I only came to know how it looked afterwards through pictures, because during the entire procession I was praying the rosary and not paying attention to the time or distance," Fr. Dass admitted. "For me, it felt like only a few minutes had passed."

The procession was just part of the warm welcome parishioners had planned.

"From my very first days here, parishioners

welcomed me with fresh pastries, fruits, and kind cards, which touched my heart deeply," Fr. Dass said. "That warm welcome showed me the strength of faith and love in this community."

Fr. Dass knew a little bit about St. Mary's before coming, so to some degree, he knew what to expect.

"I knew that St. Mary's is a large and vibrant community, rich in faith and tradition," he said. "It is never easy to leave a parish family you love, but I also felt peace and trust that God was leading me to a new mission. I came with an open heart, ready to serve."

Serving St. Mary's will be slightly different and involve some new plans, though will largely be similar to other churches.

"My former parish was smaller, relatively and more rural, while St. Mary's is larger and very multicultural," Fr. Dass described. "What stays the same is preaching the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, and being with people in their daily lives. What I adapt is how to organize and respond to the needs of a bigger community with many different backgrounds."

Hinting at new things to come, Fr. Dass was excited for the future of St. Mary's.

"What I can say is that this vision was born in prayer even before I arrived in Park City," he indicated.

Part of the vision will surely be bringing others to Christ and making Christ accessible to all.

"This is the desire of my heart and the foundation of my ministry," Fr. Dass explained. "I come not as one who knows everything, but as a brother in Christ who wants to walk with you in faith, hope, and love."

This will be the model Fr. Dass follows.

"I am reminded of St. John Vianney, who often said his whole mission was 'to win souls for God,'" he said. "In the same spirit, I pray that together we may remain in the love of Christ and bring others into His embrace."

By doing so and remaining true to God's mission, St. Mary's will only continue to grow.

"I truly believe the best days for St. Mary's are still ahead of us," Fr. Dass said.

Such a mission may be daunting, though Fr. Dass will always have the St. Mary's community and God to help.

"I feel grateful to be part of such a living community of faith," he said. "On my own it may seem impossible, but with God's help, everything is possible."

To learn more about Fr. Dass or to meet with him, please visit the website at StMarysParkCity.com/Fr-Dass.

Photos: Fr. Dass leads the annual Assumption Procession on August 17, 2025.



A RETURN TO INVESTMENT

Returning to seminary and to St. Mary's

COMING from the town of Abra in the Philippines, Fr. Kenneth Rey Parsad was raised to be a priest since childhood. After discovering his vocation for himself, as well as talking to some good connections, an opportunity arose which brought him to the special place of Park City — not just once, but twice...

When Fr. Kenneth Parsad was ordained on June 13 here in Utah at the Cathedral of the Madeleine by Bishop Solis, parishioners were ecstatic. Many already knew him as he served in formation at St. Mary's in 2023. However, connections to Utah and St. Mary's go back farther than most know.

The young child Kenneth grew up in the northern part of the Philippines, attending St. Joseph Seminary for high school at just 11 years old. It was a minor seminary, and young teenagers would be formed in the Catholic faith. While not common in America, the high school seminary was seen in the Philippines as a good place to form a young man. It had rules that would help structure boys and prepare them for the priesthood.

By the time Kenneth finished high school

seminary, he moved straight on to the University of Santo Tomas Central Seminary, an advanced seminary more like college. By 22 years old, Kenneth had completed all the academic (philosophical and theological) requirements to be a priest. However, despite 11 years of study, he left.

“At that time, I thought that it was my mom who [made] me enter, and she was the one who wanted the priesthood for [me], not me,” Fr. Parsad said. “So I left... for seven years.”

As a young man, Kenneth had hobbies of music and other typical activities, but something felt missing.

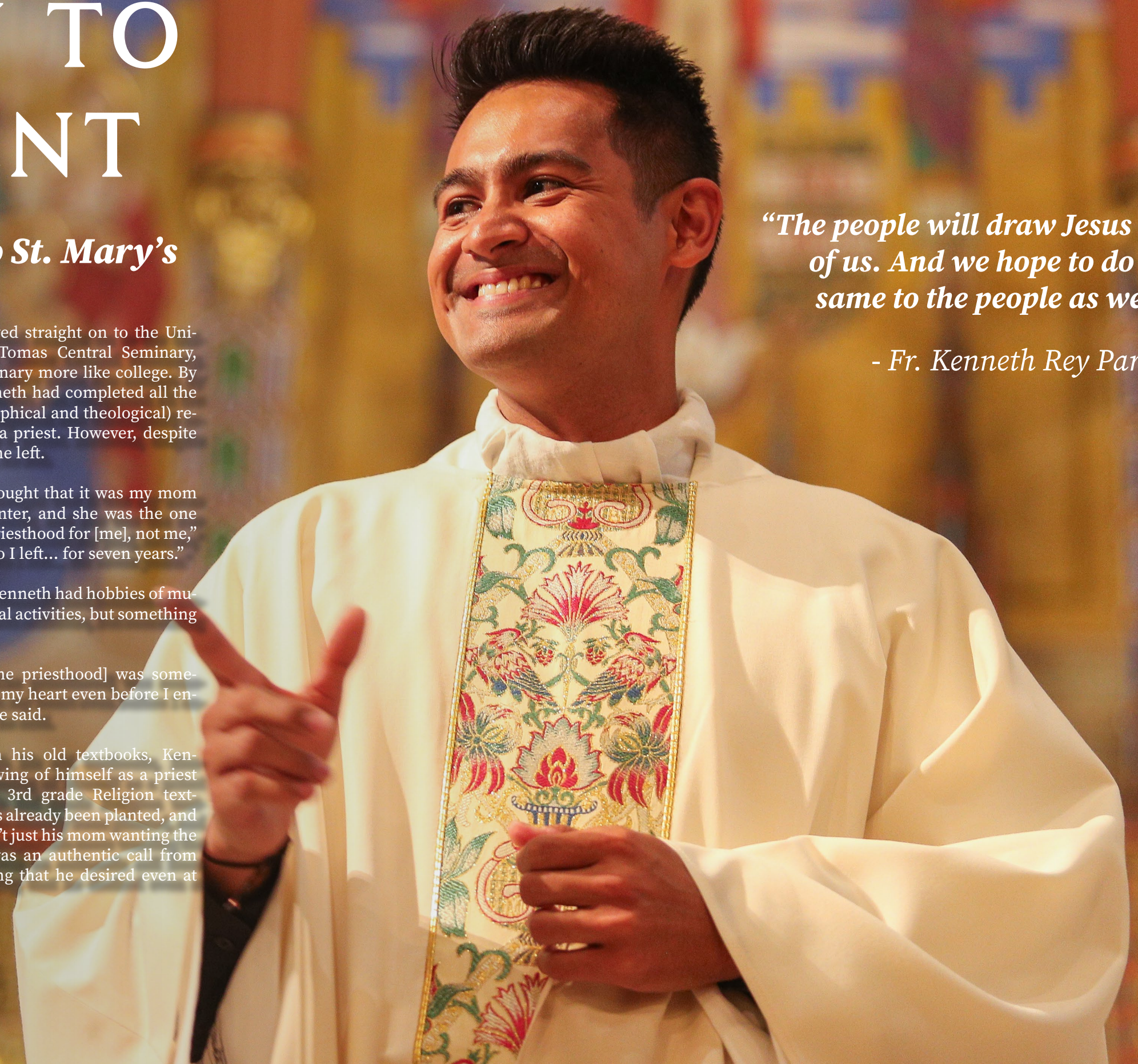
“I was wrong. [The priesthood] was something that I had in my heart even before I entered seminary,” he said.

Browsing through his old textbooks, Kenneth found a drawing of himself as a priest preaching on his 3rd grade Religion textbook. The seed has already been planted, and he realized it wasn't just his mom wanting the priesthood — it was an authentic call from God and something that he desired even at an early age...

Fr. Kenneth Parsad smiles after his Ordination Mass at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City on June 13, 2025.

“The people will draw Jesus out of us. And we hope to do the same to the people as well.”

- Fr. Kenneth Rey Parsad



Kenneth reached out to an old trusted friend, Fr. Rodel Ignacio, a beloved priest friend who served as Parochial Vicar of St. Mary's and St. Lawrence. Fr. Rodel, who was a mentor who also attended the same minor seminary, could tell he was serious about his vocation and invited Kenneth to apply as a seminarian in Utah. As it turns out, Bishop Solis also attended the University of Santo Tomas Central Seminary and was returning for an alumni gathering.

Kenneth inquired about serving as a priest in Utah and was accepted and was placed into Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon, where the Diocese of Salt Lake City sends its seminarians, for another two and a half years of formation.

"[Mount Angel was] like the perfect place for me to, you know, to be integrated in a new place to learn the culture," Fr. Parsad said.

In Mt. Angel Seminary, Kenneth had a refresher on important topics like Canon Law and had the opportunity to gain experience serving in the American setting. During this time, the new Program of Priestly Formation (PPF) began to be implemented. In this new program, seminarians were required to spend a semester in a parish of the diocese.

"I was the first one to try that out," Fr. Parsad explained.

Fr. Parsad spent time at St. Mary's, learning under former pastor Fr. Christopher Gray, who taught him about numerous things — from handling candles, ironing linens, the graceful movements and reverence in Liturgy, to other practical and essential things about running a parish — instilling in him a love of and attention to details.

"THE CHURCH BUILDING HAS A LIFE IN IT THAT YOU HAVE TO FEEL. YOU HAVE TO BE ATTENTIVE TO IT."

"He also told me that the church building has a life in it that you have to feel," he said. "You have to be attentive to it."

Before ordination to the priesthood, Kenneth was also assigned as deacon at St. Rose of Lima in Layton, where he expected to serve as a priest first. The PPF recommends



Above: Fr. Parsad kneels before Bishop Oscar Solis during his ordination Mass on June 13, 2025, at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City.



Right: Fr. Christopher Gray and Fr. Rodel Ignacio help Fr. Parsad vest and put on the chasuble after being ordained a priest.

deacons to, ideally, serve as a parochial vicar for another two years after ordination.

"I was surprised when the vocation director at that time informed me that I was going here [to St. Mary]," he said. "It was a surprise, but it was a good one."

It was an exciting surprise, though as the time for ordination came, so did feelings of nervousness.

"It's a mixture of emotions, always," Fr. Parsad said. "But with somberness, I prayed and fasted on that day."

Moreover, it was Fr. Rodel and Fr. Gray who helped Fr. Parsad vest into the chasuble during the Mass.

"I felt honored to be vested by Fr. Rodel and Fr. Gray," he said. "It was Fr. Rodel who invited me to the diocese, and I have had the privilege of being mentored by Fr. Gray during my pastoral semester. They are priests I look up to — and incidentally have worked together here at St. Mary's and St. Lawrence.

And now I was assigned here. It's a blessing, really."

The gravity of the situation stunned Fr. Parsad.

"I mean, it's even hard to put into words," he said. "Just to be Jesus to the people in a particular unique way, as a man who shares in His Eternal Priesthood."

Even more surprising was the newfound trust people had in Fr. Parsad, something he noticed as he began his ministry. Hearing from parishioners and others he served also helps him live out his calling.

"It's humbling to have people open up their lives, trusting that they are speaking to Jesus Himself," Fr. Parsad said. "And I would think that, 'what have I ever done to deserve this kind of life?'"

The experience remains humbling and reflective of the Lord.

"I'm always reminded that it's not really me," Fr. Parsad said. "It's Jesus. It's really Jesus and I try to live that out in the words that I

say [and] the actions that I do. And that's kind of like my guiding principle. It's difficult."

People opening up their desires, fears, and stories will inspire priests, Fr. Parsad reflected.

"In a certain way, the sheep teaches the shepherd how to be one. In a certain way, the people will teach us how to be priests. And I'm excited to be here [at] St. Mary's and St. Lawrence because I'm sure that they will help us bring more Jesus to the forefront," he said. "The people will draw Jesus out of us. And we hope to do the same to the people as well."

In the end, returning to seminary, followed by ordination, was an incredibly edifying decision, one Fr. Parsad was happy he chose.

"I'm glad I did and that it's for this diocese," Fr. Parsad reflected. "It's a humbling and fulfilling experience. In these past two months, it's truly Christ working and I'm partaking in His work with the best I can."

Fr. Martin Diaz leads the newly-ordained Fr. Kenneth Rey Parsad to the front of the Cathedral of the Madeleine on June 13, 2025.



A high-angle photograph of Pope Leo XIV in a white motorcade car, waving to a large, diverse crowd of people in St. Peter's Square, Vatican City. The Pope is wearing white papal vestments and is the central focus of the image. The crowd is dense, with many people holding up their phones to take pictures. The scene is bright and sunny, with a clear blue sky. The text 'On the New Pope' is written in a large, white, serif font at the top right, and 'First Pope from the USA' is written in a large, yellow, serif font below it. The background is a mix of people in various attire, including suits, casual clothing, and religious garments.

On the New Pope

First Pope from the USA

Story with contributions from Anthony Jewett.

Certainly, the themes of change, transition, and even optimism, have nested themselves deep in the hearts of not just St. Mary's parishioners, but also Catholics worldwide. With the passing of Pope Francis on Easter Monday after long bouts with respiratory failures at the Gemelli Hospital in Rome, Park City Catholics were quick to offer prayers, messages, and memories for the late Pontiff.

A St. Mary's memorial Mass on April 25 drew mourners to pay respects for the pope who certainly had an impact for people who may not have ever been reached out to by the Catholic Church before.

Many saw him as he wanted to be seen, not as a Christ-type but as a Peter-type, one of us who was thrust into a position of responsibility, who took his role seriously, though never forgetting that he was just as human, just as flawed, and just as much of a servant of the Lord as each member of the Church is. . .

Pope Leo XIV rides through St. Peter's Square waving to the crowd in Vatican City, the Holy See, May 18, 2025. (Freddie Everett/US Department of State)

After the nine days of mourning, reflection on the progress, difficulties, and the mission of the entire Church took on a new air of anticipation: Who would be the next Pope? Would he continue the legacy of Pope Francis? Would he take the Church in a new direction?

These questions would be answered quickly. In a stunning Conclave that lasted just two days (May 7 - 8), Robert Cardinal Prevost was elected on the fourth ballot. Shock, excitement, and inspiration filled the Piazza San Pietro as they announced the new pope, Pope Leo XIV, was an American.

Born in Chicago, Pope Leo XIV would be the first pope from the United States, something many viewed as unthinkable in their lifetime.

“He just flew under the radar because we were so focused on these other figures, when in reality, he was always there,” said St. Mary’s Director of Evangelization Anthony Jewett, who had been closely following the lead-up to the conclave.

Also in attendance at St. Peter’s Square was well-known St. Mary’s young-adult John Shackelford.

“It was amazing,” Shackelford said. “We were next to a group of Franciscan Friars and some American students. It was fascinating to listen to what they were anticipating. . . but even they were pleasantly surprised to hear an ‘Americano’ was elected.”

Applause continued until Pope Leo began his first address to the people and to the world.

“Dear brothers and sisters, these are the first words spoken by the risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for God’s flock,” Pope Leo started. “I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world. Peace be with you! It is the peace of the risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally.”

The last pope who took the name Leo, Leo XIII, was famous in the late 1800’s for writing his signature encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, which would be the very start of a developed Catholic social teaching touching on everything from the hu-

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WORDS FROM PARISHIONERS TO POPE FRANCIS

“Thank you for your guidance, love, [and] compassion, not only to our Church, but to the whole world. You will be so missed. Rest in eternal peace.”

- Anonymous parishioner

“Thank you Holy Father for everything. I will never forget about you.”

- MP

“Thank you for your good, kind, leadership.”

- Larry Shane Yates



(Photo © Vatican Media)

FIRST WORDS

“The Pope who blessed Rome, gave his blessing to the world, to the entire world, that Easter morning. Allow me to follow up on that same blessing: God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail!

We are all in the hands of God.

Therefore, without fear, united hand in hand with God and among ourselves, we move forward. We are disciples of Christ.

Christ precedes us. The world needs his light. Humanity needs him as the bridge to allows it to be reached by God and by his love.

Help us, too, and help each other to build bridges, with dialogue, with meetings, uniting us all to be one people, always in peace. Thank you, Pope Francis!”

- Pope Leo XIV



Pope Leo XIV greets the audience at St. Peter’s Square after being elected in the conclave. (Photo © Vatican Media)

man family, economics, to worker’s rights and human dignity.

Many see this as a sign that many of the tumultuous issues in the world will be addressed in a new way, that the things causing anxiety and division will be a top priority to re-establish the peace of Christ around the globe for everyone.

“I hope others seek to understand and to know everyone beyond a few data points,” Shackelford said, speaking on how people may feel left out based on presumptions and stereotypes. “Sometimes it feels we are not even considered numbers to be counted, let alone people with names and faces when thinking about our future. Seeing a relatively young American Cardinal with only two years [of] experience of being a Cardinal, brings a lot of joy and hope.”

The fact that Pope Leo has spoken on continuing being a missionary like Pope Francis, but in his own way, certainly has people excited. The continuity Pope Leo might bring is unique, explained Anthony Jewett.

“It’s not continuity in the sense that he’s a carbon copy of Francis,” Jewett said. “It’s continuity that he is the successor to Peter, just as Francis was the successor of Peter. And particularly at St. Mary’s at this time in our parish, we are familiar with this idea of being excited. That’s also conformed with the continuity of the identity of the parish.”

The new things will unfold in God’s time, and hopefully, unlock a sense of unity, missionary discipleship, and faith in Christ.

“Nobody was disappointed really with Pope Leo being elected,” Jewett said. “Everybody was so excited, and in fact, a few months after his election, we’re still riding that high of ‘there’s excitement when things are new.’”

Below: St. Mary’s young adult John Shackelford (left) with friends at St. Peter’s Square when Pope Leo XIV was elected. (Photo courtesy John Shackelford)





NEW BLOOD

Deputy Grand Knight Luis Jimenez (left), Grand Knight Dr. Joe Nowoslawski (center), and treasurer Jon Dipietra (right) pose for a photo at the new Knight's corner in St. Mary's Church.

THE local St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council has always been well respected by parishioners. Over the years, Park City's Council 1129 has been honored with numerous Star Council Awards, reserved to groups of Knights with outstanding performance.

But even now, the St. Mary's Knights of Columbus has been reinvigorated with new blood, leading everything from movie screenings to charity drives and more.

On July 1 of this year, Dr. Joseph Nowoslawski was elected as the new Grand Knight, and with a team of trusted knights, has been expanding on the previous success. The situation was just right. Former Grand Knight John Carty moved up to a state position for the Knights, and incoming pastor Fr. Arokia Dass happened to be a Fourth-Degree Knight.

"We are very excited as Fr. Dass is a Fourth-Degree Knight and he works closely with the Knights of Columbus," Dr. Nowoslawski said. "Additionally, we have installed new officers, and several new knights have joined this year which will allow us to do more for the parish and community during the coming years."



Dr. Joseph Nowoslawski helps unload coats for children in need as part of a national Knights of Columbus initiative before he was named Grand Knight. (2023 photo)

Council 1129 has previously focused on expanding charitable outreach. Each year, the Knights purchase and distribute 800 winter coats for disadvantaged children as part of a national campaign. Additionally, sponsoring numerous blood drives, the council is on its way to collecting 180 units of blood, or about 22 gallons, which could save countless lives.

While the charity will continue at a steadfast level, new ideas of Knights of Columbus programs include increased opportunities for Faith formation. One of the new officers and treasurer, Jon Dipietra, originally came from Brooklyn, New York, and settled in Utah in 2020. The impact fellow Catholics at St. Mary's had on him prompted him to join the Knights of Columbus and want to share his Faith with others.

"I just joined up," Dipietra joked. "They make it very easy on the internet."

A new initiative Dipietra is taking the lead on is the Cor Program. Latin for "heart," the Cor Program focuses on creating an environment where men can get together in prayer groups and pray the Rosary and share their thoughts with each other.

"I feel the Cor program is really focused on that," Dipietra said. "I think it's an opportunity to foster that kind of activity."

Moreover, membership in the Knights won't be required to join, making it accessible to those who need it most. Community events, such as the St. Patrick's Party, brought together everybody for socializing and fellowship. And

while those activities are important, they lack other important things needed for someone to develop their prayer life, Dipietra advised.

"It's all very important but I also feel like a huge part of what we do as Catholic men... would be [to have] other Catholic men to model the faith: good roles and behavior and good practice of the faith," he said.

In this way, the Knights became a way for Dipietra to give back and help bring other men in – men who previously may have been sitting on the fence.

"You can't go wrong doing these kind of activities rather than the million other things that are not that positive in the world," he said. "It's a good venue for doing charity."

Meanwhile, new Deputy Grand Knight Luis Jimenez is also working to expand the council and attract new members. As a bilingual speaker, Jimenez could better explain to the Hispanic community that they, too, are invited to join the Knights, and that there are lots of benefits to joining.

"They didn't know that we existed," Jimenez said. "They didn't know the benefits of becoming a Knight. [Something] that gets usually overlooked is that the Knights were originally created to support the families of the parish that have lost the husband, the provider, and that was the reason the Knights were created: to help the rest of the parish, your Catholic family."

Whether it is special insurance offerings, or other charitable initiatives, the Knights



DR. JOE NOWOSLAWSKI
GRAND KNIGHT

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LUIS JIMENEZ
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT

“As being a Catholic man, I believe in helping others, helping your community, helping your brothers, your Catholic family, and that called me... The best thing that the council can bring to the rest of the parish is that example of what a Catholic father... should strive to [be].”



JON DIPIETRA
COUNCIL TREASURER

“It’s all very important but I also feel like a huge part of what we do as Catholic men... would be [to have] other Catholic men to model the faith: good roles and behavior and good practice of the faith.”

work behind the scenes to help others.

“As being a Catholic man, I believe in helping others, helping your community, helping your brothers, your Catholic family, and that called me,” Jimenez said.

By becoming well-known to the different cultural communities at St. Mary’s, the Knights can lift up their fellow men.

“The best thing that the council can bring to the rest of the parish is that example of what a Catholic father, brother, husband, or son should strive to [be as] a part of their parish,” Jimenez explained. “I think you should look at

the Knights as ‘a group of Catholic men that exemplify what I wish my son would become’: a good Catholic man who wants to help the community... Or, that ‘my husband will be happy to join a social group that is looking to help [his] parish.’

One of the ways Jimenez most enjoyed serving the parish was volunteering to serve food at the most recent St. Patrick’s Day party. Unable to help set up, Jimenez was able to come in time to serve during the party while others enjoyed the festivities.

“I think I was standing there for two and half hours serving food,” he said. “I never thought I

was like ‘I’m tired,’ or anything like that. To me, I felt like I was having fun. I was doing my job. I was helping everybody – simple as serving food.”

All in all, the Knights will continue to be a steady and important presence to the St. Mary’s family. As awareness of them grows, so will the charity, service, faith, and love of the whole community.

“The Knights are there and they do what they do because it’s the right thing to do,” Jimenez stated. “It’s the Catholic thing to do.”



Luis Jimenez serves food at the Knights’ annual St. Patrick’s Day Party in the social hall on March 15, 2025.



COUNCIL 1129 - A STAR COUNCIL -

The St. Mary’s Knights of Columbus are a group of Catholic men dedicated to serving our parish and community, supporting our families, and growing in faith together. Whether you have a lot of time or just a little, your presence and participation can make a big difference. Knights are practical Catholic men, 18 and older, who are involved and engaged at St. Mary’s, and seek to enhance their own faith and family life. Knights are invited to attend our monthly meetings.

For more info, contact our Grand Knight, Joseph Nowoslawski, MD, at (610) 772-3551 or via email at JFN@ParkCitybiotechinvestors.com

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END OF YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY ST. MARY'S CHURCH

YEAR END 6/30/2025

Overall, fiscal 2025 was largely a positive year, but importantly we have some financial challenges as we head into fiscal 2026. Through the continued generosity of you, our parishioners and visitors, our year-to-date revenues of \$2,460,700 exceeded our year-end budget by 6.8%. Charitable giving of \$260,050 was provided to assist 351 households at an average rate of \$534 per household. \$187,000 was raised and designated toward the cost of replacing the White Pine Church roof which is now 28 years old. The total project cost will likely exceed \$900,000, so we very much need more designated gifts to cover this huge cost. Somewhat making our positive financial results, we received a one-time grant from the Employee Retention Tax Credit from the federal government (due to the pandemic) of \$83,100. Our endowment investments at the Catholic Foundation of Utah earned \$33,400.

Parish Life continued to grow and thrive! Mass attendance for the past 12 months exceeded the prior year by 9.0% making the average attendees around 1400 per week. New parish registrations increased to 125 from 107 last year. These indicators confirm that the parish is growing and is vibrant. Thanks to each family for your engagement and enthusiasm. Our year-to-date expenses of \$2,343,100 were very close to budget, mostly attributed to focused cost saving efforts on events and the unfortunate need to delay maintenance projects into next year. We replaced the White Pine Parish Center water heater and a failed deck on the White Pine Rectory. We fertilized and removed unhealthy trees. All building maintenance cost totaled \$50,500.

Some important perspective is regarding our future financial priorities. The parish endowments held at the Catholic Foundation of Utah total \$479,400. The Capital Reserve temporary endowment established for future large capital maintenance projects has grown to \$327,400 or 68% of all endowments. Such amounts, while encouraging, pale in comparison to our actual future needs.

With the above said, we have our important challenges. The parish's financial position overall remains stable, thanks in large part to consistent participation in online giving and several large donations. While we carefully manage expenses, our staffing headcount serving you has grown significantly in recent years, with associated costs! Going forward into our next fiscal year we are projecting needing a combination of additional revenue and cost reductions totaling \$400,000 to maintain our savings account balances, a significant challenge for a parish our size.

Your generosity is needed for St. Mary's to continue to provide for all ministries, charitable outreach, maintain our buildings and support the Bishop's Development Drive. We thank our parishioners and visitors for their continued generous support of the parish and its ministries.

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Foley, Parish Administrator, and the Parish Finance Council

ST. LAWRENCE MISSION FINANCIAL SUMMARY

YEAR END 6/30/2025

As our primary source of operational funding, offertory donations brought in \$167,000 this year—an increase of \$12,000 from last year and part of a steady upward trend in recent years. Total Mission income reached \$366,000, bolstered by generous subsidy gifts from the Thrift Store that supported essential maintenance. As giving has grown, so too have the costs of daily operations, with total expenditures this year reaching \$335,000. While we are blessed to receive special gifts from IRAs and other one-time contributions, the long-term stability of the Mission depends on consistent, recurring giving. This steady support sustains our day-to-day ministries and operations—needs that have become especially tight since the spring.

Although an official building proposal for a new church has been submitted to the Bishop in accordance with Diocesan procedures by the preliminary building committee, we still have an obligation to care for what we have as good stewards and recipients of such a beautiful faith. This past year, we focused on rehabilitation and. . .



SCAN TO READ
THE FULL REPORT

ST. LAWRENCE THRIFT STORE FINANCIAL SUMMARY

YEAR END 6/30/2025



SCAN TO READ
THE FULL REPORT

The St. Lawrence Thrift Store, a ministry of St. Mary of the Assumption, has been operating since 1983 in Heber City and Old Town Park City, supporting both St. Mary's Church and St. Lawrence Mission through the resale of donated goods. The store continues to thrive after 42 years, despite increased competition for donations.

Key Highlights:

Donations & Operations: Steady flow of high-quality donations year-round, with busy months from June to November. Furniture pickups occur 2-3 times weekly in Park City and Heber Valley.

Customer Engagement: Strong local following and growing customer base aided by advertising in the Heber Valley

Guide, Park City Guide, and active Instagram/Facebook promotion.
St. Mary's & St. Lawrence Mission Support

St. Mary's Diocesan Hospitality House: \$25,000.00 for for maintenance and operations. . .

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear brothers and sisters, I am truly grateful to begin this journey with you at St. Mary's. My heart is filled with thanksgiving for the strong faith, generosity, and dedication of our parish family. This community is a true Garden of Eden, blessed with beauty and grace, and I feel honored to serve here as a steward entrusted with its care.

I thank our bishop for giving me the opportunity to carry out my ministry in such a wonderful place, and I am especially thankful for Fr. Kenneth, our associate pastor, whose support is a great blessing, as well as for our staff who work faithfully behind the scenes each day.



Above all, I want to keep my eyes fixed on Jesus and never lose sight of Him. I truly believe the best days for St. Mary's are still ahead of us, for as Jesus said, "With God all things are possible" (Mt 19:26). Let us move forward together and always abide in His love (manere in dilectione Eius). Please pray for me, as I carry you daily in my prayers before the Lord.

- Fr. Arokia Dass David



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