

2023

DONOR IMPACT REPORT

 **OLV Charities**
A Father Baker Legacy



Fostering Miracles



Dear friends,

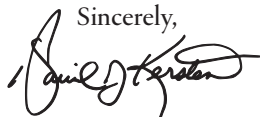
Quite often, Venerable Nelson Baker, our saintly founder, is credited with building this “City of Charity,” a beacon of hope to all in need of healing—be it emotional, physical, or spiritual.

Indeed, this humble man accomplished some extraordinary things. And he did so armed with vision, a keen business savvy, limitless compassion and, of course, a bedrock faith in Almighty God.

But he wasn't alone. He didn't—he couldn't—do it all by himself. He had two partners that were essential to his success: The Blessed Mother, Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Victory, and those who believed in his mission and supported his work. Just as, decades before, his generous friends made incredible acts of mercy happen, **you** do the same today.

- **You** lent a hand to children, teens, and families experiencing trauma and need—allowing us to provide hope to those battling mental and physical disabilities.
- **You** helped strengthen the future of our Church through Camp Turner—which provided a faith-filled summer camp experience to 448 young people this year, including five Ukrainian refugee children—and its new Nature Day program for Catholic elementary school students.
- **You** ensured that OLV National Shrine & Basilica continues to be a sacred space of peace and prayer.

Through your unwavering support, all of this (and more) was possible in 2023 and we are grateful. Thank you for the confidence you have placed in us. We humbly ask you to continue your support of the OLV community in 2024 and beyond. We cannot do it without YOU!

Sincerely,


David J. Kersten
CEO, OLV Charities



Camp Turner saw its second highest attendance total in more than a decade in 2023, as 448 young people enjoyed a summer of discovery and faith. Through the generosity of donors, new projects were

completed, including repairs to the dining hall, the addition of a bike path and a new horse corral.

Strengthening the future of the Church was at the heart of a very special event focused on young families, “Kids Night Under the Dome.” More than 350 parents and children came to the Basilica for a free evening of family fun. Among the activities were Christmas carols, snacks, time with The Saint John’s Bible, and gazing at the wonder of the Shrine.





In July, the ribbon was cut on the Rev UP Center, a facility that provides much-needed recreation and therapy space for children and teens with behavioral health concerns. Donor support of the project was essential to its development.

Once completed, OLVHS' Evaluation & Treatment Center will have a critical mission: to help families with a child who is suspected of having Autism Spectrum Disorder get the services they need as soon as possible. Currently, there is a 12-month waiting list for evaluation programs in Western New York. Thanks to friends like you, nearly \$1 million was raised for this critical project throughout 2023. The ETC will open its doors in spring of 2024.





SUPPORTING A PLACE OF PRAYER, WORSHIP, & BEAUTY



This past year was a monumental one in terms of polishing and maintaining OLV's "crown jewel," the OLV National Shrine & Basilica. Among the important projects that took place in 2023 were: restoration of its pews and floors, continued work on cleaning and replacing stained-glass windows, and replacing/repairing copper sections of the roof and exterior dome. Donor support of this work has been critical in helping ensure the Basilica is able to welcome visitors and pilgrims for another 100 years!

Throughout Advent, more than 2,000 people flocked to the Shrine to see The Saint John's Bible. A special exhibit in the lower level of the Basilica was centered around a traveling edition of the modern masterpiece, the first Bible to be hand written, hand-painted and hand-bound in 500 years!

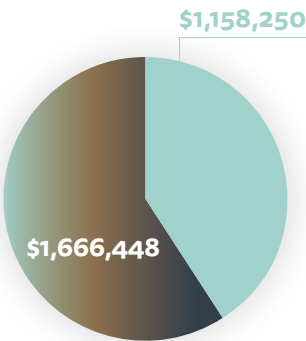




OLV Charities provides much-needed financial and in-kind support (critical business operations such as information technology, facilities, and finance) to OLV Human Services and OLV National Shrine & Basilica. It also encourages devotion to Our Lady of Victory and supports Father Baker's Cause for Canonization.

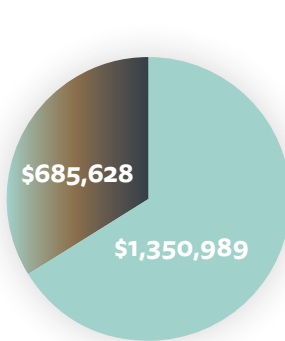
 **Funding Support**

 **In-Kind Support**



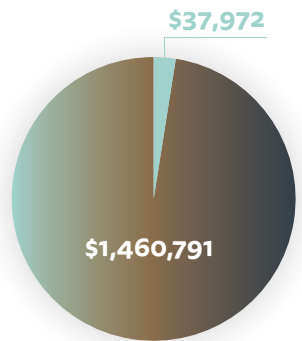
OLV Human Services

TOTAL SUPPORT
\$2,824,698*



OLV National Shrine & Basilica

TOTAL SUPPORT
\$2,036,617*



Religious Devotion & Education

TOTAL SUPPORT
\$1,498,763*

Grand Total: \$6,360,078

*These figures are based on interim financials available at the time of donor impact report compilation.

BECAUSE OF
you...



1.44 million

individuals throughout Western New York and Southern Ontario watched OLV's Weekly Masses on WGRZ-TV.



41,780

donors from all over the world supported Father Baker's ministries through OLV Charities.



12,000

children, teens, seniors, and families were served through the various programs at OLV Human Services.



1,412

individuals experienced all that Camp Turner has to offer, including 448 youth summer campers, the second-highest number in more than a decade.



694

young children (ages 0-5) with developmental delays received evaluation and/or related services.



The team at the OLVHS Counseling Clinic scheduled **4,593** appointments, helping **229** clients find the mental health support they needed.



319

individuals with barriers to employment (mental and/or behavioral issues) were assisted via vocational training.



Donor-supported video projects were viewed **134,256 times** on our many social media channels.

Each year,
thousands of children, teens, adults, seniors, and families
come to our campus for help and guidance. Our life-
saving programs for those dealing with mental, physical,
and behavioral difficulties provide healing and hope.
And our wondrous Basilica offers spiritual sanctuary,
quiet comfort, and inspiration to visitors.

*Without you, none
of it is possible.*

TO SUPPORT OUR
MINISTRIES AND
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BAKER'S LEGACY, SCAN
THE CODE WITH YOUR
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