

## Holly Bazaar Report – 2025

The 2025 Holly Bazaar was a successful and well-attended event. We hosted a total of 20 vendors, with eight located upstairs in the common room and the remaining vendors set up outdoors. Vendor offerings included children's toys, soaps and candles, jewelry, canned cocktails, and a variety of other items. Vendor participation generated a net profit of **\$1,275**.

This year marked the introduction of an early-bird vendor rate. Vendors who submitted both their contract and payment by August 28 received a discounted rate of \$65. Five vendors took advantage of this option, and the early-bird rate will continue in future years. We also introduced a \$15 tent rental fee, which was utilized by four vendors. This policy will likewise remain in place moving forward. This policy also included that if a vendor damaged the tent, they would have to pay the full rate of the tent, \$200, this policy will remain in place as well, but luckily we did not have to apply it this year.

The revenue for the entire event was **\$9,372**. We had **\$2,707** in expenses.

The All Saints Shops generated a total revenue of **\$5,771.25**. Excluding raffles, the three highest-earning shops were the tree and wreath sales, the Gingerbread Café, and Elsie's Corner. Basket raffles made a revenue of **\$1,182**, the 50/50 generated **\$794**, and the special prize yielded **\$404** in ticket sales. Thank you to everyone who operated an All Saints shop this year. All shops will continue for the 2026 Holly Bazaar and beyond.

The success of the Holly Bazaar is dependent on the time and energy of our volunteers. Sincere thanks are extended to everyone who assisted with running tables, set-up and clean-up, distributing flyers, and supporting the many other tasks required throughout the day. In addition to the support of our parishioners, this year we were grateful to have "Mr. M's" student volunteers from Forte Academy High School in Elmhurst. Their participation was a valuable addition to the event, and we plan to continue this partnership for future Bazaars.

Several improvements are planned for the 2026 Holly Bazaar. Vendor contracts will be distributed earlier, with a goal of mid-May to early-June. This adjustment reflects feedback from vendors who reported being booked well in advance for our event date. By reaching out earlier, we aim to position the All Saints Holly Bazaar as a priority event for vendors. We also plan to expand our promotional efforts by attending additional farmers' markets and community fairs in the months leading up to the Bazaar in order to reach audiences who already enjoy similar market-style events.

The first planning meeting for the 2026 Holly Bazaar will be held in person on **Sunday, September 13**, following the 10:30 service. All parishioners—both long-time volunteers and those interested in getting involved—are warmly encouraged to attend and share their ideas.

Signed,

Diana Gilday Holly Bazaar Chairperson