



# TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

A Newsletter for the Campaign for Parishes, Catholic Education and Faith Formation

July 2019

## To Teach Who Christ Is Newsletter Survey is Live

This month, we're launching a survey to gain a better understanding of your thoughts on the newsletter and the content that's most relevant to you. Moving forward, we're hoping to explore and feature topics of interest, and re-visit some of the stories we've shared in the past. We'll also continue to showcase the incredible impact *To Teach Who Christ Is* has had on our parishes, schools and the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Our survey covers how often donors read the newsletter, how satisfied they are, what interests them, and provides an opportunity for additional feedback. The team is sending a direct link to the survey via email and including a flyer in this month's print version.

The survey can be found on the *To Teach Who Christ Is* website at [toteachwhochristis.org](http://toteachwhochristis.org). It should only take about five to 10 minutes to complete and we'd also appreciate any additional feedback, and would ask that all questions, comments and concerns be sent to Teresa Battaglia at [tbattaglia@archchicago.org](mailto:tbattaglia@archchicago.org).

Thank you in advance for your time. We are so grateful for your help. Please know that your feedback is anonymous and will help us improve the content we share with you on a monthly basis. God bless you all this month.

## A Look Back on Our First Edition of the Newsletter

The first edition of the newsletter was published in May 2014, and at the time, around \$100 million had been raised. This milestone led us to begin developing the newsletter to share the ways donations were being utilized, highlight dedicated donors and provide development updates. Now, over sixty editions later, we've raised over \$422 million, and continue to cover the progress and success of the campaign.



Our newsletters have featured a variety of articles, but one aspect has remained constant, the opening letter. We've included letters from several different people who have made a great impact on the campaign like the Cardinal, Chief Development Officer, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, and more. The very first newsletter began with an opening letter from

Continued on back

Continued from front

Cardinal George, then Archbishop of Chicago, who expressed his sincere gratitude to the donors for their generous gifts and commitment to help strengthen parishes, Catholic education and faith formation.

While the opening letters have remained the same, the format of the newsletter has changed based on activity in parishes, schools and the phases of the campaign. The first edition of the newsletter featured an article summarizing the campaign's progress and information around the waves of the campaign. The article called out specific parishes that had raised a significant amount, including St. Edmund Parish, who raised \$1.14 million (116 percent of its \$985,136 goal), and designated campaign funds to rebuild its rectory.

The first edition also highlighted gracious donors, Chip and Ellen Mulaney. Ellen, a member of the Archdiocese Catholic Schools Board, and Chip, a board member for a tutoring program that serves inner-city children, are both extremely dedicated to Catholic education which prompted them to make a major gift to campaign. Chip and Ellen were the first of many donors to be a part of our newsletter.

The last section of the newsletter included a diagram and explanation of parish needs and the ways funds would be utilized throughout parishes, and over the years, we've seen many parishes use funding to better their parish's facilities, faith formation programs and local communities.

Sixty plus issues later and we're looking to improve the content we share. We look forward to hearing from you and continuing to share the impact your generous donation has on the Archdiocese of Chicago.

## Dedicated St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parishioners Receive Caritas Scholarship and Continue to Enroll Their Kids in Catholic School

David and Azucena Cruz have been members of St. Nicholas of Tolentine for over 10 years. They grew up in the Catholic Church and have always been active parishioners. The Cruz's have two children, Ismael who is in sixth grade, and Fatima who is in first grade.

"My husband and I knew early on that we wanted our kids to grow in the faith and would eventually send them to Catholic school, despite the fact that we would have to sacrifice to enroll them in private school," said Azucena. "It was really important for us to give them the opportunity to grow in faith, learn Catholic values, and more than anything, experience the love of God in their lives."

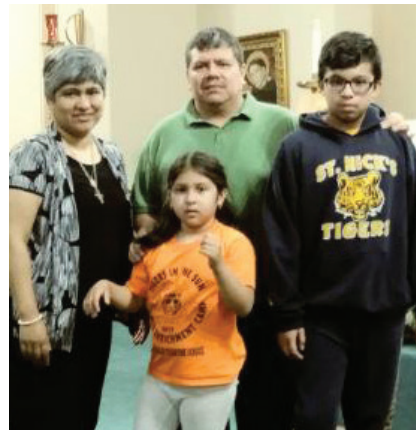
Both of their children are very happy at St. Nicholas and have learned a lot. Ismael and Fatima have been enrolled at the school since pre-kindergarten and were familiar with the parish because of the family's involvement. St. Nicholas has always provided help whenever the Cruz family has needed it, and it's because of this support system, both of their kids are motivated to succeed spiritually and academically.

"The biggest impact has been in the kids' religious education. At St. Nicholas, they are prepared for the sacraments and learning about Catholicism," said Azucena. "Ismael serves as an altar server at the school masses, and Fatima has already expressed a desire to also be an altar server one day. They are learning about serving the community and God. Watching them grow in Catholic school is extremely rewarding."

Azucena and her family have a great relationship with principal, Mariagnes Menden, and they have been able to speak openly with Mariagnes whenever the family needs financial aid. Principal Mariagnes informed the Cruz family about the Caritas scholarship.

"We are very grateful for the scholarship because it has helped us afford tuition at the school and provides long-term benefits for their spiritual and academic success," said Azucena. "In gratitude, we serve at both the school and parish, and would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all those who make the Caritas scholarships possible for our kids."

To learn more about St. Nicholas of Tolentine School, please visit [stnicksschool.com](http://stnicksschool.com).



David and Azucena Cruz, and their two children, Ismael and Fatima are dedicated parishioners at St. Nicholas of Tolentine.

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

**Overall Campaign Goal: \$350,000,000**

Total Raised to Date: \$422,805,639\*

Percent of Goal Pledged: 121%

Pledges Paid to Date: \$230,950,063

Percent Paid to Date: 66%

\*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



835 North Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611

tel 312.534.8500

[toteachwhochristis.org](http://toteachwhochristis.org) | [ensenarquienes Cristo.org](http://ensenarquienes Cristo.org)



@toteachcampaign



[www.facebook.com/toteachcampaign](https://www.facebook.com/toteachcampaign)