



# TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

A Newsletter for the Campaign for Parishes, Catholic Education and Faith Formation November 2020

## Our Letter of Thanks to You

**“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.”**

1 Chronicles 16:34

It's during this time of thanksgiving, we have been able to reflect on the many ways God has worked through this campaign and our donors. As a result of your ongoing generosity, commitment and support, we've been able to accomplish so much of what we set out to do when we created the campaign several years ago.

So, we thank you for:

- Giving parishes across the archdiocese the opportunity to continue to serve parishioners and local communities, and providing each of them with funding to complete necessary repairs
- Helping us strengthen Catholic education and allowing families in need to send their children to Catholic school through the Caritas and Phoenix scholarships
- Supporting the future of our Church by funding catechist training and innovation in religious education

Everything we've accomplished the past several years would not have been possible without your support, prayer and faith in this campaign. Thank you for your ongoing generosity. We pray you have a blessed Thanksgiving.

## Parish in Posen Strives to be a Beacon of Peace and Uses Campaign Funding to Complete Necessary Repairs

St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr parish, located at 14414 South McKinley Avenue in Posen, was originally predominantly made up of Polish parishioners, but over the years has become home to a diverse group of people. Throughout its 125 years of existence, the parish has strived to serve anyone and everyone, being a messenger of peace and unity. As stated on the parish's website, “our vision of “communio” emerges from a rich life of shared prayer, which nurtures our parish community and enables us to acknowledge collective gifts and challenges, our occasions of sin and moments of grace.”



Pictured above are repairs and updates St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr parish was able to make to their facilities using campaign funding.

When the parish first began the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign, they shared campaign announcements and news during mass and in the bulletin. In addition, Fr. Pius, the priest at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr parish, invited those involved to share their testimonies with the campaign and explain their responsibilities.

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"Having the campaign committee share their own experience with the campaign and why it was important to them really helped other parishioners see the campaign in a different light," said Fr. Pius.

St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr parish used funding to renovate and rebuild the restrooms in the church, replace the pavement in front of the church, repair the air conditioning units and install a handicap accessible door.

"Our parish has benefited from the campaign in so many ways," said Fr. Pius. "Our parishioners are extremely happy and we are all grateful for the opportunity to be involved to better our parish."

The parish plans to use future funding to tuckpoint the church and update the windows in the rectory. To learn more about St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr parish, please visit [ststanposen.archchicago.org](http://ststanposen.archchicago.org).

## COVID-19 Update: Support Your Parish and the COVID-19 Relief Fund

Please visit [archchicago.org/support](http://archchicago.org/support) to support parish offertory, the COVID-19 Relief Fund or both as your means allow. Your generosity is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for your support.

## Tax Advantageous Year-End Giving Ideas



With 2020 quickly coming to a close, now is the time to reflect on year-end gifts to further help *To Teach Who Christ Is*, your parish or other ministries you support. Many people see a gift of cash as the way to maximize their charitable giving. Others find sharing is easier with a gift of appreciated stock or a distribution directly from an IRA.

People can give gifts of appreciated stock to the Archdiocese of Chicago using the Stock Letter of Intention Form, which can be found online at [giving.archchicago.org/ttwci/manage-your-pledge](http://giving.archchicago.org/ttwci/manage-your-pledge). This type of gift typically makes sense for someone who has held stock for longer than 12 months.

Donors can make gifts directly from their IRA accounts to support their favorite charities. For those aged 70 and a half and above, giving directly from their IRA account offers unique advantages. This withdrawal can satisfy all or part of a donor's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

Gifts up to \$100,000 made directly to a charitable organization from a donor's IRA account do not count as taxable "income" to the donor when the funds are withdrawn. The only stipulation is the donor does not receive any goods or services from the charity in exchange for this gift. The acknowledgment letter the donor receives from the charity will clearly state this. It is recommended that all donors consult a professional advisor when considering making any gift from an IRA account.

Contributions from individuals throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign have helped parishes thrive, provided children with greater access to Catholic education, and developed new religious education initiatives. These gifts have helped *To Teach Who Christ Is* exceed \$261 million pledges paid to date toward our overall goal of \$350 million.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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

Total Raised to Date: \$424,822,673\*

Percent of Goal Pledged: 121%

Pledges Paid to Date: \$262,434,296

Percent Paid to Date: 75%

\*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)



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