

# TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

A Newsletter for the Campaign for Parishes, Catholic Education and Faith Formation November 2019

## A Friendly Reminder to Continue Fulfilling Your Pledge

All donors are given the option of fulfilling their pledges with monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual payments. The Archdiocese of Chicago continues to process all gifts, and provide an acknowledgment letter articulating the identified schedule for payment reminders. These payment reminders should be sent directly to donors according to the identified schedule. If you have not received a gift acknowledgement in a timely manner, please contact the campaign office at 312.534.8500.

A reminder that payments on pledges should not be made to the parish or included in the parish offertory basket. The Archdiocese of Chicago will facilitate this process to ensure parishes are not burdened with the task of auditing payments during the five-year pledge period.

To manage your pledge, please visit [giving.archchicago.org/to-teach-who-christ-is/manage-your-pledge](http://giving.archchicago.org/to-teach-who-christ-is/manage-your-pledge).



## Sisters Receive Caritas Scholarship, Giving Them the Opportunity to Attend Our Lady of Charity School

Tiffany Martinez is a single mom to two daughters, Hailey and Ariana, who are both students at Our Lady of Charity, located at 3620 South 57th Court in Cicero. Both Hailey and Ariana are recipients of the Caritas scholarship, which is funded by the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign.



Pictured above are Tiffany's daughters, Hailey and Ariana, who are both students at Our Lady of Charity and Caritas scholarship recipients.

"My daughters have beautiful hearts, great personalities, and always know how to make me laugh – they are my pride and joy," said Tiffany. "They've attended Our Lady of Charity since Pre-K and are very active in the community's art, soccer, gymnastics, and ballet programs."

Tiffany's nephew attended Our Lady of Charity from Pre-K through eighth grade, and invited her to one of the open houses the school was hosting. After visiting, Tiffany had a strong desire to enroll her kids at

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the school, and while tuition was a new and large expense for her, she wanted to do everything she could to ensure they'd become students at Our Lady of Charity.

Following her visit and initial meetings with school staff, Tiffany learned about the Caritas scholarship and she applied immediately. She was approved for the scholarship and beyond grateful to be able to send her children to the school she dreamed of sending them.

"My favorite part about the kids attending Our Lady of Charity is the relationships we've built not only between the students, but also with the parents, teachers, and staff members," said Tiffany. "My girls have had such an amazing experience over the years due to the small class room sizes and I truly appreciate the way the teachers go out of their to pay special attention to every student, focus of their strengths, and help with their weaknesses."

Tiffany is also grateful for the faith formation aspect of sending her girls to Our Lady of Charity, and believes that having that daily reminder of the presence of the Lord leads them to make wiser choices.

"We are forever thankful for the donors of *To Teach Who Christ Is* and their generosity because they've made it possible for families like mine to receive scholarships that are very needed," said Tiffany. "It's through the scholarship and this campaign, you're truly teaching who Christ is, and it's my hope that my daughters will be able to do the same."

To learn more about Our Lady of Charity, please visit [olc-school.org](http://olc-school.org).

## Tax Advantageous Year-End Giving Ideas



With 2019 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/to-teach-who-christ-is/manage-your-pledge](http://giving.archchicago.org/to-teach-who-christ-is/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 \$242 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: \$425,923,076\*

Percent of Goal Pledged: 122%

Pledges Paid to Date: \$242,199,867

Percent Paid to Date: 69%

\*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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