

# TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

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

## Thank you for Participating in Our Survey

In July, we launched a survey to gather your thoughts on the newsletter and the content that's most relevant to you. The survey covered how often donors read the newsletter, how satisfied they are, what interests them, and provided an opportunity for additional feedback. We've received hundreds of responses, and have enjoyed reading through feedback thus far.

We look forward to sharing an overview and will be working to implement your interests, thoughts and ideas as we continue developing our newsletter and building our editorial calendar. We are extremely grateful for your responses and your time. Your feedback will allow us to explore and feature topics of interest, and continue to showcase the incredible impact *To Teach Who Christ Is* has had on our parishes, schools and the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Thank you again for your time, and please stay tuned for a summary of our survey results in the coming months.



## Korean Parish in Des Plaines Continues to Exceed Campaign Goal



St. Paul Chong Ha Sang Catholic Mission was able to use campaign funding to build a new storage room, repair their parking lot and install a new roof.

St. Paul Chong Ha Sang Catholic Mission, located at 675 Dursey Lane in Des Plaines, was initially established when the congregation at St. Peter in Skokie started hosting Korean masses in 1984. After transferring to several churches, St. Paul Chong Ha Sang found their parish home in Des Plaines in May 1996.

“When we were in the process of building our new church, the archdiocese miraculously donated beautiful stained-glass windows,” said Stella Son, parish secretary. “They featured different Saints and originally were a part of St. Francis of Assisi parish. Without the generous support of the parishes we were involved with, and the

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Archdiocese of Chicago, our community wouldn't be what it is today, and we are very grateful for that."

St. Paul Chong Ha Sang was a part of the first wave of the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign and was featured in the November 2014 newsletter. At that time, the parish had raised \$456,102 of its self-established goal of \$300,000, and as of July 2019, have collected \$399,986 out of their total pledge of \$460,672.

"As an Asian community, we wanted our parishioners to fully understand and participate in the campaign, so we translated all of our resources to Korean," said Stella. "We exceeded our goal because we tried our best to emphasize that all households could participate regardless of their donation amount. By having conversations together and praying for each other, it allowed us to become closer and unite as one."

In 2014, St. Paul Chong Ha Sang had a strong focus on using their funds toward religious education, and at that point, had already hired a youth group director. Since then, donations have been used toward the parish's maintenance and capital funds, including building a new storage room, repairing the parking lot and church roof, and replacing the HVAC unit.

"Joining the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign has been an exciting experience for all of us," said Stella. "It was a privilege for us to join this campaign, and it gave us a strong sense of solidarity with others outside of our church community. It was also a good opportunity to return our gratitude to other parishes and groups throughout the archdiocese."

To learn more about St. Paul Chong Ha Sang Catholic Mission, please visit [stpaulchong.org](http://stpaulchong.org).

## The Holy Spirit Continues to Enrich Saint Peter and Paul Parish's Campaign Efforts

Saint Peter and Paul Parish, located at 12459 South Halsted Street in Chicago, was included in the first wave of the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign and featured in an early edition of the newsletter in January 2015.

Saint Peter and Paul's initial goal was \$83,344, and the parish pledged \$191,163 (229 percent of their goal). As of September 1, 2019, parishioners have fulfilled \$93,905 in pledges (113 percent of the parish's initial goal). It was because of the parish's success, led by Father Honoratus Mwageni and the campaign committee, they were featured in an archdiocese film as a training tool for other parishes.



Saint Peter and Paul Parish was able to make several renovations using funds, including updating the kitchen and installing a security system and fence.

At the start of the campaign, all committee members pledged their own gifts, and committed to personally visit their fellow parishioners to explain the importance of *To Teach Who Christ Is*.

"We were able to meet individually with every parishioner," said Father Honoratus. "Our early pledges set the tone for a successful campaign and motivated our parishioners to commit to their pledges."

Funding from the campaign was used to replace new gutters, install a security fence, develop an addition to the social center, complete renovations to the kitchen, and install a security system and boiler.

"Our generous donations have allowed us to sustain our buildings through preventive maintenance," said Father Honoratus. "Not only were we able to make physical repairs to the church, we were also able to improve our outreach programs, including CAPS, mental health seminar, senior resource fairs and a community Christmas party."

To learn more about Saint Peter and Paul parish, please visit [facebook.com/SSPPChicago/](https://facebook.com/SSPPChicago/).

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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

Total Raised to Date: \$423,086,884\*

Percent of Goal Pledged: 121%

Pledges Paid to Date: \$234,980,148

Percent Paid to Date: 67%

\*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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