



# TO TEACH *Who Christ Is*

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

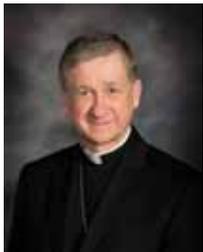
June 2015

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that more than six months have passed since my installation as Archbishop of Chicago. The early months of my tenure were focused on acclimating myself with the many aspects of our local Church. This month, I will meet with the Holy Father, who will present me with the *pallium*, the traditional vestment that is given to Metropolitan Archbishops.

Your gracious welcome of me and your willingness to speak candidly about your concerns have been most helpful. Likewise, I have been encouraged by your support and generosity in sharing your time, talent and treasure, particularly through *To Teach Who Christ Is*. The generosity so many individuals have shown to the campaign is truly awe-inspiring. Our major gift effort has passed its initial goal of \$100 million, and I remain dedicated to carrying on Cardinal George's work to a new goal of \$125 million. Our Wave III parishes have collectively raised \$18.8 million, with 15 parishes surpassing their Archdiocesan-set goals. Given Wave III's great success, this summer's kick-off meetings for Wave IV parishes should be equally inspiring, for both me and for the parish teams planning for their fall campaigns.

Of course, our achievements would not be possible without the dedication of so many faithful, like you, who have given so generously to this initiative, and to help the Archdiocese carry out its mission *To Teach Who Christ Is*. Thank you for helping ensure the future of our Church in Chicago.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Blase J. Cupich*

Most Reverend Blase J. Cupich  
Archbishop of Chicago

## Campaign passes major gift milestone, sets new one

The *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign's major gift effort has exceeded its \$100 million goal, and Archbishop Blase Cupich has now pledged to raise an additional \$25 million.

The new goal of \$125 million will translate into more funding for scholarships for the Catholic Education Scholarship Trust and for the other important ministries funded by *To Teach Who Christ Is*, such as faith formation and critical facility issues.

Before his passing, Cardinal Francis George, OMI, had secured \$90 million in leadership gifts from individuals and foundations. Archbishop Cupich has continued his work, bringing the total to \$100.6 million during his tenure.

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The campaign's major gift effort has now received 37 gifts, which are solicited by the Archbishop and campaign volunteers instead of through parishes, reports Peter de Keratry, campaign manager. "Each of these gifts is really a campaign unto themselves," he notes. "They are a great testament to the generosity of donors and the work of Cardinal George, Archbishop Cupich and others on the campaign team."

Gifts to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign established the Catholic Education Scholarship Trust, an independent trust which will provide scholarship to qualified students in Catholic schools throughout Cook and Lake counties. Endowments are also being established to provide funding for formation and certification of parish catechists, as well for professional development for teachers and principals in Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic schools.

"The generosity of those who are able to contribute gifts at this level is helping to quickly build the principle for these newly established endowments," he adds. "The result is that more funds are available for scholarships and other ministries."



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## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

### Pamela Matambanadzo and Rosemary Ihejirika



*Pamela Matambanadzo and Rosemary Ihejirika*

Chicago's St. Mary of the Lake Parish was fortunate to have two parishioners who went the extra mile to ensure the success of its *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign. Friends Pamela Matambanadzo and Rosemary Ihejirika joined the parish's Campaign Executive Committee (CEC) at the request of their pastor, Father Jim Kastigar. "I seek opportunities to get involved in my parish and be a part of the parish family," Rosemary says. "I feel that it is important for members of our parish and community to feel part of the body of the Church. Campaigns such as this provide an opportunity to come together."

St. Mary of the Lake is currently at 136 percent of its \$436,570 standard goal. The parish will use its share of campaign funds to replace kneelers and

repair broken pews, professionally clean paintings, replace windows in the parish schools, and establish a continuing education scholarship as well as a fund for maintenance projects.

Pamela also sees the importance of the Archdiocesan case, supporting scholarships for Catholic schoolchildren, faith formation and critical facility repairs in economically stressed parishes. "As a Vincentian, I am very aware of both the work the Church is doing for those less fortunate but also of needs left underserved," she says. "The Archdiocese is the umbrella that we, as Catholics, fall under as we try to fulfill our obligations as Christians to the least of our brothers. We cannot be effective if we work alone, as such supporting the Archdiocese only serves to make us more effective."

Both enjoyed working with other St. Mary of the Lake parishioners on the CEC, as well as meeting those they did not know when visiting parish families and sharing details about the campaign.

"It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know my fellow parishioners, work with them in a team environment and tap into the many hidden talents and hospitality of my church family," Rosemary says.



St. Vincent Ferrer Parish in River Forest will build a new multipurpose hall with funds from its *To Teach Who Christ Is* enhanced campaign, and students at St. Vincent Ferrer School have expressed their excitement through art! The hall will be named in honor of beloved former associate pastor Father Michael Kyte, OP, who passed away last year.



### Parish campaign funds new roofs

St. Peter Parish in Antioch now has a beautiful and dry worship space thanks to its *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign.

The slate roofs sheltering the church, as well as the rectory and breezeway, were in dire need of replacing. Original to the building, which was dedicated in 1930, they had exceeded their expected lifetimes and had begun leaking. Delaying replacement threatened the safety and integrity of the entire roof structure, according to Father Mike McMahon, pastor.

"It was starting to affect the interior of the church," adds Regis Trenda, who is chairing the campaign with Fran Gomes. "We needed the project done right away."

The parish was planning a capital campaign to finance the roof project when *To Teach Who Christ Is* launched. Father McMahon and parish leadership decided to use *To Teach Who Christ Is* funds to address this critical facility issue.

To date, St. Peter has raised 92.6 percent of its \$930,186 goal from about a third of its parishioners. "It was an exciting campaign and very much an opportunity for St. Peter, and we're still working on to meet our goal," Father says.

Remaining funds from *To Teach Who Christ Is* will be used to tuckpoint the north and south walls of the church — repairing damage stemming from the old slate roofs. The parish continues to receive gifts, including additional gifts with current pledge payments.

"Parishioners were very aware of the issues and are happy with the results, and with what we're trying to do," Father says. "They love their parish and their buildings."

# 'This campaign allows all of us to work together'



Father Ed Fialkowski, pastor

Although *To Teach Who Christ Is* will allow Our Lady of the Wayside Parish in Arlington Heights to improve its facilities, parishioners are equally excited about the campaign elements that will benefit the Archdiocese of Chicago as a whole, according to Father Ed Fialkowski, pastor.

"We share a belief and interest in Catholic education," he says. "We see it

as an important educational ministry of our church. We want to properly teach and hand on our faith to our children and to all who are willing to learn more about Catholicism."

The parish is at 43 percent of its standard goal of \$2.6 million, and has set an enhanced goal of \$3 million. It plans to use the parish's more than \$1.9 million parish share, upon the campaign's successful conclusion, to replace the church carpeting, refinish the pews, clean and repaint the entire church, remove any asbestos, rewire the church electricity and replace and repair windows in the school.

Father Fialkowski says he and his Campaign Executive Committee have been transparent when visiting families and asking for pledges, and have communicated about *To Teach Who Christ Is* clearly through meetings, the parish bulletin, pulpit announcements, mail-

ings and phone calls. "The parishioners of Our Lady of the Wayside are always generous when presented with a worthy cause," he says.

Laurel and Ed Murnane and Jennifer and John Birmingham are serving as Our Lady of the Wayside's campaign co-chairs. Semi-retired, Ed has been using his extra time to participate in programs at the parish to which he and his family have long been dedicated.

"As a life-long resident of the Archdiocese of Chicago, and a product of Archdiocesan schools, *To Teach Who Christ Is* offers a chance to give back to the Archdiocese while helping my own parish at the same time," he says. "Our needs at Our Lady of the Wayside may be different from those of other parishes, but this campaign allows all of us to work together to support the church in general, and our parish in particular."

## OVER GOAL!

Congratulations to the following Wave III parishes and pastors for exceeding their Archdiocesan *To Teach Who Christ Is* goals!

PASTOR	PARISH	PERCENT OF GOAL
Father Miguel Martinez	Immaculate Conception (88th Street), Chicago	214%
Father Honoratus Mwageni	Saints Peter and Paul, Chicago	213%
Father Tom McDermott, OP	St. Vincent Ferrer, River Forest	201%
Father Waldemar Wieladek, CSSR	St. Mary of Czestochowa, Cicero	181%
Father Thadeo Mгимба	St. Gerard Majella, Markham	166%
Father Britto Berchmans	St. Paul of the Cross, Park Ridge	161%
Father Jose Maria Garcia-Maldonado	Good Shepherd, Chicago	157%
Father Esesquiel Sanchez	St. Bede the Venerable, Chicago	154%
Father Jim Kastigar	St. Mary of the Lake, Chicago	136%
Father Thadeo Mгимба	Ascension-St. Susanna, Harvey	131%
Father Peter Fernandes, SFX	St. Timothy, Chicago	124%
Father Jeremy Dixon	St. Vincent de Paul, Chicago	116%
Father George L. Schopp	Our Lady of Grace, Chicago	116%
Father Krzysztof Janczak	St. Richard, Chicago	106%
Father Thomas Cima	St. Michael the Archangel, Chicago	104%



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## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

**Overall campaign goal: \$350,000,000**

Total raised to date: \$159,708,760\*

Percent of Goal: 45.6%

Cash received to date: \$44,003,753

**Parish campaign goal: \$250,000,000**

Raised to date: \$59,067,817\*

Number of gifts: 24,460

Percent of goal: 23.6%

Cash received: \$26,844,878

**Major gift goal: \$100,000,000**

Raised to date: \$100,640,943\*

Number of gifts: 37

Percent of goal: 100.6%

Cash received: \$17,158,875

\*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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