

TO TEACH *Who Christ Is*

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

July 2016



Dear Friends,

Next month, I will welcome the final wave of parishes to participate in *To Teach Who Christ Is* at a series of kickoffs. It is hard to believe that we are now approaching the final stage of this historic campaign.

Over the past 20 months, I have had the opportunity to meet with Catholics across this archdiocese. The dedication they and their pastors have shown in joining me to secure the future of our local Church has been both humbling and inspiring. These many partners have chosen to work with me to carry out the mission and ministry of our local Church. Truly, *To Teach Who Christ Is* has been and will continue to be a blessing in so many ways.

As you will read in this newsletter, your generosity is already making a significant impact in our parishes, schools and archdiocesan efforts. The number of projects like these will only increase as pledges are fulfilled and more funds become available.

Please join me in praying for the pastors, volunteers and parishes participating in Wave VI. Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones.

Yours in Christ's Service,

+ *Blase J. Cupich*

Most Reverend Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago

To Teach Who Christ Is brings changes to parishes across the Archdiocese



Father Robert Schultz, pastor of St. Beatrice Parish, which refinished church pews with campaign funds.

Summer is construction season in the Midwest, including at many parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago that have been tackling projects with funds raised through *To Teach Who Christ Is*.

Parishes receive 60 percent of what they raise in campaigns up to their goal, and 100 percent over goal, for local needs they identify in their case statements. These funds are made available as pledges are fulfilled.

A new campaign-funded sign in front of Sacred Heart Church in Palos Hills has been telling passers-by on 111th Street that "summer's hot but we're cool," as well as Mass times and information about special events, like bingo, blood drives and

the parish music series. "It's been a lot of fun to have it," says Rita Burns, coordinator of liturgy. "It gives us greater flexibility for messages, and all of the feedback has been positive."

A meditation prayer garden was also created and accessibility projects in the church and parish center completed. The parish has currently raised 86 percent of its \$1.125 million goal and continues to accept gifts.

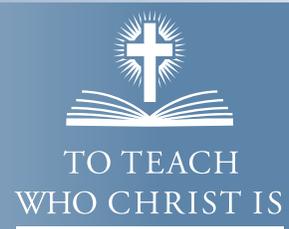
Refinishing and repairing the pews in St. Beatrice Church was the first of three projects identified during *To Teach Who Christ Is* that the Schiller Park parish chose to tackle. The pews are original to the 1957 church and were showing their age, says Father Robert Schultz, pastor.

A handful of pews were refurbished following the last parish campaign before funds were depleted. "People were leery about whether they would get done this time," he says. "I'm glad they can see that, yes, we did what we said we were going to do."

To reduce costs, the pews were sanded, repaired and stained one section at a time in

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the church instead of being removed and then reinstalled. New hardware and bolts ensure they'll be sturdy, as well as beautiful, for years to come.

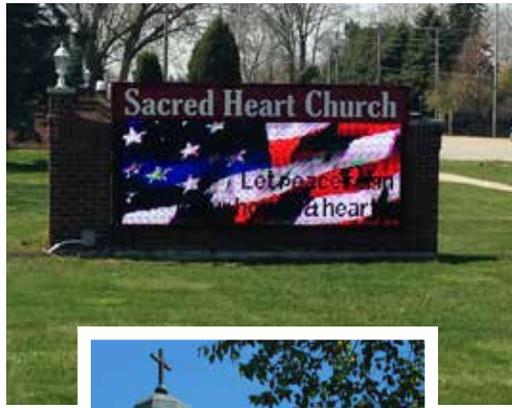
"I keep reminding people where this money was coming from, what our three projects were, and that the pews were one of them," Father Schultz says.

St. Beatrice is at 115 percent of its \$405,000 goal, and will also replace the parking lot and the church's heating and cooling system with *To Teach Who Christ Is* funds.

Achieving 182 percent of its \$1.53 million goal allowed St. Patrick Parish in Lake Forest to replace the cedar roof on its campus' newer church. While the old roof was less than 20 years old, it had been improperly installed by a now defunct contractor, says Gianfranco Isaia, facilities manager. Shingles were being lost during inclement weather, and damage to the church was sure to follow as the years progressed.

"We decided to take the opportunity of *To Teach Who Christ Is* to roll out the idea of replacing the roof to parishioners," he says. "It looks wonderful."

St. Patrick will also use its share of campaign funds to remodel the O'Gara Center, restore the stained glass windows and install air conditioning in its older church, improve lighting throughout the campus, and enhance several ministry programs.



Sacred Heart's new sign and St. Patrick's new roof are thanks to generous gifts to the To Teach Who Christ Is campaign.

A temporary ramp leads to St. Clement Church while permanent accessibility upgrades take place behind its landmark façade, and the school entrance is being significantly revamped this summer. The Chicago parish raised 271 percent of its \$2.54 million enhanced goal, and the work is a visual reminder to parishioners of the importance of the campaign, says Father Ken Simpson, pastor.

"It's renewing interest and excitement that we need to capitalize on," adds Father Simpson. He explained that St. Clement sees as many as 500 new parishioners a year, and the parish plans to offer those who have joined since the campaign was completed with an opportunity to participate.

Besides replacing the antiquated wheelchair lift with an elevator that will connect the church and the rectory, offering access to all levels of both buildings, *To Teach Who Christ Is* has allowed the parish to clean and repair the 100-year-old rose windows in the church, and install new boilers, a hot water heater, doors and windows in the priests' residence.

Father Simpson points out that the parish also committed 10 percent of its campaign gifts to St. Margaret of Scotland School in Chicago, as part of its "Clement Commits" stewardship program. "People were as excited about that as what we're doing here," he notes. †

VOLUNTEER PROFILE | Judy Paciga



After raising seven children at Our Lady of the Ridge, Judy Paciga saw serving on the Campaign Executive Committee as a way of giving back for the many blessings she has received at the Chicago Ridge parish for more than 50 years.

"I was reluctant to get involved," she says. "I'm not very good at asking for money. But I knew the parish needed to repair the roof, and new heating and air conditioning. The campaign presented a wonderful opportunity for us to meet the needs of the parish."

The Chicago Ridge parish is at 107 percent of its \$650,000 goal, and will direct campaign funds to church beautification as well as those facility repairs.

A banner hanging in the back of the church provided inspiration for the stewardship parish. "It says, 'We cannot out-give God,'" she explains. "However, we can sacrifice in whatever way we can, in gifts and pledges, to make our campaign a success so our parish is vibrant."

Any doubts she and other committee members had about meeting their goal and approaching fellow parishioners were erased as the weeks went by and they were met with kindness and understanding.

"With the encouragement, dedication and hard work of our pastor, Father Wayne Svida, and our campaign director, Magda, we were able to exceed our goal and our vision for a welcoming parish for future generations in the tradition of our Catholic faith," she says. "I have been blessed to be part of this campaign and Our Lady of the Ridge." †

OVER GOAL!

Congratulations to the following Wave V parishes and pastors for exceeding their *To Teach Who Christ Is* goals.

PASTOR	PARISH	PERCENT OF GOAL
Father Norman Moran-Rosero	St. Basil-Visitation, Chicago	252%
Father Jacque Beltran	Most Blessed Trinity, Waukegan	245%
Father John Edmunds	St. James (Wabash Avenue), Chicago	180%
Father John Owusu-Achiaw	St. Ambrose, Chicago	160%
Father Karol Tybor	St. John, Glenwood	158%
Father Martin Ibarra	St. Mark, Chicago	154%
Father Hernan Cuevas Contreras	St. Athanasius, Evanston	153%
Father Robert J. Roll	St. Bride, Chicago	152%
Father Robert J. Kyfes	St. Joseph, Homewood	151%
Father Lawrence R. Dowling	St. Agatha, Chicago	144%
Father Thomas R. Koys	St. James at Sag Bridge, Lemont	144%
Father Andrew Torma	St. Michael (South Shore Drive), Chicago	143%
Father Harold B. Stanger	St. Marcelline, Schaumburg	141%
Father Bronislaw Chmiel	St. Pancratius, Chicago	140%
Father Robert J. Gilbert	St. Joachim, Chicago	137%
Father Jacek Dada	St. Andrew the Apostle, Calumet City	136%
Father Sergio de La Torre-Carrillo	Mary, Queen of Heaven, Cicero	134%
Father Stan Kuca	St. Bernardine, Forest Park	132%
Father Gerald T. Gunderson	Mary, Seat of Wisdom, Park Ridge	129%
Father Robert P. Marchwiany	St. Florian, Chicago	128%
Father Terrance M. Johnson	St. Irenaeus, Park Forest	125%
Father David Straub	Queen of the Rosary, Elk Grove Village	123%
Father Thaddeus Dzieszko	St. Constance, Chicago	123%
Father Samson Ngatia Mukundi	St. Sylvester, Chicago	122%
Father Darrio L. Boscutti	St. Cyprian, River Grove	118%
Father Dennis M. Zalecki	St. Anastasia, Waukegan	117%
Father Lawrence J. Malcolm	St. Gerald, Oak Lawn	116%
Father Donatus Chris Mgbеajuo	Corpus Christi, Chicago	114%
Father Timothy R. Fiala	Divine Providence, Westchester	111%
Father Mark Krylowicz	St. Anthony, Chicago	110%
Father Tu Jin Paul Kim	Korean Martyrs, Chicago	110%
Father Stephen Bedenikovic	Sacred Heart Croatian, Chicago	110%
Father Dennis A. Ziomek	St. Catherine of Alexandria, Oak Lawn	108%
Father Wayne A. Svida	Our Lady of the Ridge, Chicago Ridge	107%
Father John P. Chrzan	St. Gilbert, Grayslake	107%
Father Tim O'Malley	St. Genevieve, Chicago	107%
Father Anthony J. Brankin	St. Odilo, Berwyn	105%
Father Gregory A. Rom	St. Felicitas, Chicago	105%
Father Monsignor Peter Galek	St. Colette, Rolling Meadows	103%
Father Ted Lawson	St. Michael (Old Town), Chicago	103%
Father Michael A. Wulsch	St. Peter, Skokie	103%
Father James A. Heneghan	Immaculate Heart of Mary, Chicago	103%
Father Louis Tylka	St. Julie Billiart, Tinley Park	103%
Father Kenneth J. Fleck	St. George, Tinley Park	102%
Father Robert Stuglik	St. Joseph, Summit	102%
Father Nicholas R. Desmond	Our Lady of Mercy, Chicago	102%
Father John S. Siemianowski	St. Agnes, Chicago Heights	100%
Father Francisco Ortega	Sacred Heart, Melrose Park	100%



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CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Overall campaign goal: \$350,000,000

Total raised to date: \$317,878,551*

Percent of goal: 90.8%

Non-revenue total: \$16,308,614

Cash received to date: \$91,086,361

Parish campaign goal: \$250,000,000

Raised to date: \$176,743,494*

Number of gifts: 52,634

Percent of goal: 70.6%

Cash received: \$62,765,115

Major gift goal: \$100,000,000

Raised to date: \$124,806,443*

Number of gifts: 62

Percent of goal: 124.8%

Cash received: 28,321,246

* cash, documented pledges and bequests

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