



TO TEACH *Who Christ Is*

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

April 2016

Dear Friends,

When I arrived at the Archdiocese of Chicago two years ago, our team was challenged to reinvigorate *To Teach Who Christ Is*, the largest campaign ever attempted by a Catholic diocese. Today, we can be proud to have achieved 75 percent of our \$350 million goal. The campaign continues to show great momentum, and we have every confidence that it will surpass goal by the end of the year.

Last summer, I was asked to serve as interim director of stewardship and development, in addition to my duties as campaign manager, after the incumbent retired. This appointment ends next month when John Osterlund joins the Archdiocese as chief development officer.

This summer, I will become executive director of stewardship and development for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, moving only three hours from my childhood home in Amarillo, Texas, and closer to many family and friends. I look forward to working with Archbishop Paul Coakley to build the Church in Oklahoma, and my family is excited about our new adventure.

Although saying goodbye to friends and colleagues in Chicago will be difficult, I leave grateful for my part in *To Teach Who Christ Is* and proud of its long-term impact on our parishes and people.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Peter L. de Keratry, CFRE
Campaign Manager

Parishes work together in Wave V



Campaign Executive Committee members at St. Bride Parish with their commitment cards.

Eight smaller parishes participating in Wave V have been grouped together in a “wave within a wave,” and their pastors are enjoying the camaraderie the situation is providing.

The parishes — Glenwood’s St. John and Chicago’s Nativity of Our Lord, St. Agatha, St. Ambrose, St. Bride, St. James, St. Joachim and St. Peter’s in the Loop — have goals ranging from \$100,000 to \$295,000, totaling \$1.87 million. Currently, they have raised \$1,565,335 million. Wave V has an overall goal of \$41.325 million and 68 parishes.

Parish campaign directors Brooke Laskin and Christina Moore send the pastors a weekly newsletter so they are updated on each other’s campaigns and progress.

“Seeing the progress of the other parishes has been positive,” says Father Larry Dowling, pastor of St. Agatha. “For a parish where the leadership team wasn’t sure we could make goal, seeing parishes get there was pretty encouraging for them, and for me as well.”

‘Working together as a group with seven other parishes certainly challenged me to meet our goals.’

~ Father Bob Gilbert

St. Agatha is at 104 percent of its \$220,000 goal, and plans to use its share of campaign funds for roof repairs, religious education and community outreach.

“Working together as a group with seven other parishes certainly challenged me to meet our goals,” says Father Bob Gilbert, pastor of St. Joachim. “Every week when I saw where we compared to other parishes in the group, it motivated me to work harder to get our parish at or near the top of the list.”

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St. Joachim is also over its \$205,000 goal, with 100 percent raised, and plans to tuckpoint and install LED lighting in the church, as well establish a mentoring program for parish youth and an emergency repair fund.

Father Karol Tybor says working as part of a smaller group has definitely been effective psychologically. “If you see yourself on the list and closer to the top, you feel good,” he says. St. John Parish

‘Seeing the progress of the other parishes has been positive.’

~Father Larry Dowling

will use campaign funds for facility improvements and repairs as well as to grow the parish’s faith formation department.

As pastor of St. John for only nine months, Father Tybor has been overwhelmed by the generosity of his parishioners. They have contributed both their time and resources to lead the parish campaign, now at 147 percent of goal, to success. “The Holy Spirit has worked through us,” he says.

Although none of the pastors in this “mini wave” have met face-to-face, Father Bob Roll says he has enjoyed sharing in other’s success. “Seeing the sometimes rapid growth in pledges in a parish is exciting for us all!” he says.

He has made St. Bride parishioners aware of the other parishes in the small group. “They are thrilled to be ahead,” says Father Roll, whose parish is at 127 percent of its \$100,000 goal and will be able to tackle tuckpointing. “Especially after our Commitment Weekend sign-up on Sunday, they are excited and proud!”

Brad Patterson, who manages the campaign directing staff, points out that all of these parishes are “winning” the friendly competition of this wave within a wave. “The generosity of the clergy and laity in these parishes will ultimately result in as much as \$1 million being raised to address the important local needs already mentioned,” he says. †

VOLUNTEER PROFILE | Laura Carrillo



When St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Wheeling participated in Wave IV of *To Teach Who Christ Is*, Laura Carrillo saw the campaign as critical to the future of her parish and the local Church.

“As a follower of Christ, I felt compelled to help meet the needs of my neighbors, who are and form the Church,” Laura says. “I was challenged to demonstrate this love by taking action — not just by words, but by deeds. I felt a personal call to attend to the needs of my parish, and to make a difference in the future of the Church as a whole, as it is the body of Christ.”

St. Joseph the Worker is now at 130 percent of its \$625,000 goal, thanks in large part to the efforts of Laura, who personally visited with 45 families in four weeks, as well as a large group of volunteers who dedicated many hours of their time. The parish will use campaign funds for a new organ and sound system and an energy efficient boiler, and for the restoration of the church’s windows and oak pews.

‘As a follower of Christ, I felt compelled to help meet the needs of my neighbors, who are and form the Church.’

Laura believes personal visits were key to her parish’s success. She and her fellow team members spent time with parishioners in their homes, and were able to explain what the campaign was about and how it would make a difference.

“I spoke to parishioners about the needs of our parish, and explained how caring for the Church is, in reality, our responsibility, if we truly live as followers of Christ,” she says. “I tried to build a conscience of stewardship and love toward one another.”

For Laura, Isaiah 26:12 — *Lord, you will decree peace for us, for you have accomplished all we have done* — exemplifies her participation in the campaign.

“I was only able to carry out and help achieve the goal of *To Teach Who Christ Is* for my parish because of God’s great mercy,” Laura says. “Simply everything is rooted in God. Thanks should be given to Him! It is Him who accomplishes all things in us.” †



Teamwork

Father Ken Fleck meets with his Campaign Executive Committee members at St. George Parish in early April. The Tinley Park parish is currently at 37 percent of its goal, and plans to use campaign funds to renovate the interior and exterior of the church, as well as establish a school and religious education endowment.

St. Theresa parishioners are ‘committed to the cause’



St. Theresa Parish will begin the first phase of its master plan this summer, thanks to the generosity of parishioners to *Building On Our Faith Together*. The Palatine parish raised \$7.25 million toward a \$6.3 million “victory goal” during an independent parish campaign in 2015.

“Last summer, we redid the lighting and ceiling tiles in one corridor of the school to give people a taste of what’s to come, and to get them excited about the possibilities that the master plan represented,” says Father Tim Fairman, pastor.

Parishes seeking to raise extraordinary funds for parish projects — or

Besides *To Teach Who Christ Is*, St. Theresa will use funds from *Building On Our Faith Together* to meet infrastructure needs in all buildings on the parish campus, such as remodeling, renovations, HVAC repair and replacement, and general maintenance. In addition, a new



and should be completed in the summer of 2017.

Involving the parish community throughout the process was the key to success, as they felt personally connected to the project and the campaign, says Nicole Carlisle, a campaign general chair who is also the communication director at St. Theresa. “We had great participation among volunteers,” she says. “Parishioners were committed to the cause.” †

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more than three times the parish offertory — have the option of conducting an independent parish campaign with pre-approved professional fundraising counsel. *To Teach Who Christ Is* becomes a component of these independent campaigns, with parishes required to contribute 40 percent of their Archdiocesan assigned goal for the shared ministries of the Archdiocese.

gym floor will be installed in the Dolan Center, a new entrance created for the school and Pauline Center, and the south entrance of the church improved.

Father Tim Fairman noted that the parish’s master plan is the result of consultation with architects followed by town hall meetings with and surveys of parishioners for their input. The master plan was amended to reflect their wishes,

Archdiocese loses longtime friend

John Boler, a longtime St. Theresa parishioner with his wife, Mary Jo, and a generous friend of the Archdiocese and numerous Chicagoland charities, passed away March 9.

Mr. Boler, 81, was an early supporter of *To Teach Who Christ Is*, providing a leadership gift to the campaign. His stewardship extended to his parish, as well, where he helped rebuild the rectory and contributed to other initiatives. “He often asked if he was doing enough,” his family wrote in his obituary.



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CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Overall campaign goal: \$350,000,000

Total raised to date: \$265,150,595*

Percent of Goal: 75.7%

Cash received to date: \$81,786,358

Parish campaign goal: \$250,000,000

Raised to date: \$143,505,152*

Number of gifts: 43,279

Percent of goal: 57.4%

Cash received: \$53,458,919

Major gift goal: \$100,000,000

Raised to date: \$121,645,443*


Number of gifts: 57

Percent of goal: 121.6%

Cash received: \$28,327,439

*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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