



TO TEACH *Who Christ Is*

A Newsletter for the Campaign for Parishes, Catholic Education and Faith Formation September 2016

Dear Friends,

This fall, we welcome more than 77,000 students to the 217 Catholic schools of the Archdiocese. As the largest Catholic school system in the United States, our schools have achieved national prestige for the quality of teaching and learning that takes place every day. Even more importantly, our schools exist to bring Christ to our students and their families, helping to awaken within them their unique call to holiness, service and faith.

As we look with confidence to the 2016-2017 school year, I am filled with gratitude for the many people who support Catholic school education. In my first year as Superintendent, I have been amazed at the generosity of the people of the Archdiocese. The ongoing success of the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign proves that the education and faith formation of our young people is a priority. Thank you for your support of this vital effort!

Our schools succeed because of the many people who support them. This newsletter describes the various ways that *To Teach Who Christ Is* is already making a lasting, positive change in our Archdiocese. May God continue to bless our efforts together!

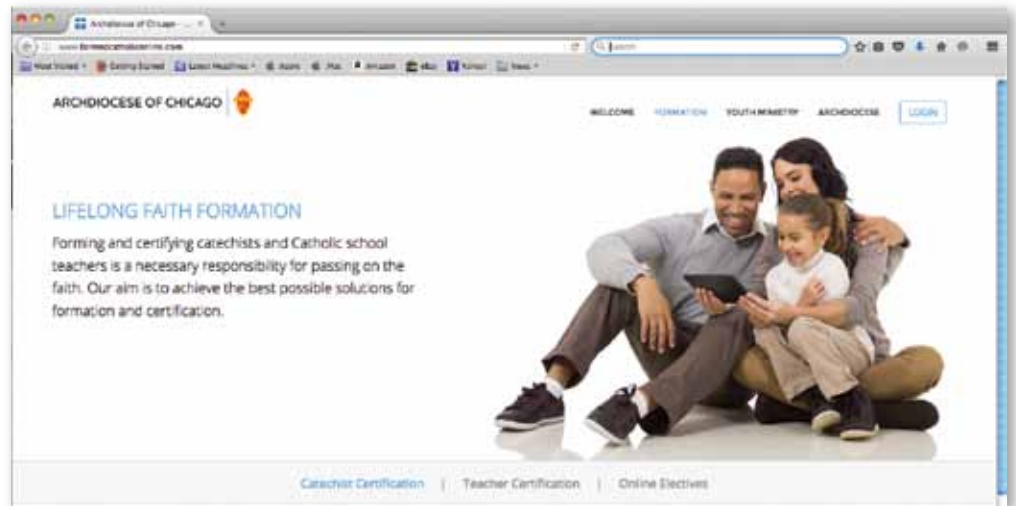
Yours in Christ,

Jim Rigg, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Campaign benefits faith formation initiatives throughout the Archdiocese

The *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign is already funding faith formation initiatives, benefiting parishes and catechists throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Faith formation is one of the shared ministries that faithful have been asked to come together and support through the campaign, along with Catholic education and facility repairs at economically distressed parishes. Of its \$350 million goal, *To Teach Who Christ Is* will provide a minimum of \$2 million to identify, study and replicate the current best approaches to religious education, and an additional \$10 million to ensure catechetical leaders serving in parishes have the required certifications.



A survey of thousands of faithful revealed a desire for both online and blended learning.

While endowed funds will ensure faith formation in the Archdiocese remains strong for generations to come, readily available campaign funds have created an online formation school, at www.formedcatholiconline.com, and provided scholarships to the Youth Ministry Leadership Development Summer Institute and to Holy Fire, an evangelization event for junior high students.

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Father Peter Wojcik, Co-Director of the Department of Parish Vitality and Mission, says online learning was a priority. “We knew there was a need, that the Archdiocese didn’t have any online or flexible learning tools for catechists, teachers or people in the parishes.”

A survey of thousands of faithful revealed a desire for both online and blended learning, results which were confirmed by sounding boards of priests and parish leaders. The department then

“When they offered the class online, it seemed like the perfect opportunity for me,” says Alyce, who had been planning to take the class several times but was limited by its location. “I could do it on the weekends, I could do it for an hour after work — it was just convenient.”

Gina enjoyed the coursework — 25 sessions — as well as the all-day retreat and two-evening methodology classes. “It was a nice refresher of our faith,” she says. “If I didn’t understand some-

The 22 youth ministers who received scholarships for the Youth Ministry Leadership Development Summer Institute will directly impact 1,700 children in parish programs, says Jesus Deleon, Director of the Office of Lifelong Formation. Bishops and Vicariate Deans nominated scholarship recipients from low-income parishes, where formation for youth ministers is often lacking.

The lack of formation causes “sparks of youth ministry programs that turn on and off from parish to parish,” Jesus says. “Coordinators of youth ministry tend to burn out faster when not well-prepared.”

After the completion of this two-year training program, the participants will receive the Certificate of Youth Ministry

The 22 youth ministers who received scholarships for the Youth Ministry Leadership Development Summer Institute will directly impact 1,700 children in parish programs.



Matt Goto (left) of Oak Park’s Ascension Parish participates in a session of the Youth Ministry Leadership Development Summer Institute.

developed a website offering formation toward catechist and teacher certification, with complementing retreats and night classes, as well as online electives for anyone looking to deepen their faith.

“The Pope and the Archbishop are clear about ongoing formation,” Father Wojcik says. “It’s not a one-time deal; it’s a journey with Christ, and you invite others to journey with you.”

Gina Stanley, a secretary in the religious education office at Prince of Peace Parish in Lake Villa, and Alyce Gilarski of St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish in Prospect Heights took part in the pilot phase of the website. Both completed the first level of the catechist certification, “Answering the Call.”

thing, I could play it back and have it sink in. You could also make comments online, and people would make a comment back. It’s not like you were totally by yourself.”

The Department of Parish Vitality and Mission is able to monitor students’ progress through the software program, and improve areas that are revealed as stumbling blocks. “It really helps us as a diocese to see where our people are,” Father Wojcik says.

Not only did *To Teach Who Christ Is* fund the research and development phase for the website, the campaign allows the Archdiocese to offer the classes for a marginal fee and provide scholarships to teachers and catechists.

from the Center for Ministry Development, who is also providing the courses for this institute. Those who received scholarships are required to commit to two years in the parish they serve.

Participant and scholarship recipient Matt Goto has been the Youth Ministry Coordinator at Ascension Parish in Oak Park for six months. Not only did the institute teach the theory and reasoning behind having a diverse youth ministry program, it provided him with the tools needed to set up such a program.

“The contacts that I made on the weekend sessions were amazing,” he adds. “It was like icing on the top of an already decadent and delicious cake!” #

Please pray for the following pastors and parishes participating in Wave VI!

Father Peter B. McQuinn, All Saints-St. Anthony, Chicago

Father Metod Ogorevc, Blessed Anton Martin
Slomsek Slovenian Mission, Lemont

Father John W. Dearhammer, Church of the Holy Spirit,
Schaumburg

Father Richard J. Lo Bianco, Divine Savior, Norridge

Father Daniel W. Long, Jr., Epiphany, Chicago

Father Tomasz Sielicki, Five Holy Martyrs, Chicago

Father Lawrence M. Lisowski, Immaculate Conception
and St. Joseph Parish, Chicago

Father Matthew Nemchausky, Mater Christi, Riverside

Father Oswaldo Guillen, Maternity B.V.M., Chicago

Father Hector Navalo, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago

Father Michael J. Shanahan, Our Lady of Lourdes, Chicago

Father Jeremiah M. Boland, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Glenview

Father Robert Heinz, Our Lady of the Brook, Northbrook

Father Robert Fedek, Our Lady of Victory, Chicago

Father Michael A. Blicharski, Polish Mission, Willow Springs

Father Gerald G. Walsh, Prince of Peace, Lake Villa

Father Jose Murcia Abellan, Queen of the Universe, Chicago

Father Kevin Feeney, Sheil Catholic Center, Evanston

Father Martin E. Michniewicz, St. Alexander, Palos Heights

Father Brian P. Ardagh, St. Alphonsus, Lemont

Father Shawn Gould, St. Bede, Ingleside

Father Kenneth Carlson, St. Benedict, Blue Island

Father Antoni Bury, St. Bruno, Chicago

Father Frank A. Kurucz, St. Cajetan, Chicago

Father John B. Atoyebi, St. Clotilde, Chicago

Father Charles W. Watkins, St. Columba, Chicago

Father Daniel Fallon, St. Cornelius, Chicago

Father Theodore L. Ostrowski, St. Denis, Chicago

Father Richard M. Yanos, St. Edna, Arlington Heights

Father Armand Ramirez Ruiz, St. Francis de Sales, Chicago

Father Dominic J. Grassi, St. Gertrude, Chicago

Father Eryk Czarnecki, St. Gertrude, Franklin Park

Father Franciszek P. Florczyk, St. Helen, Chicago

Father Joseph M. Jackson, St. Ignatius, Chicago

Father Andrzej Bartos, St. James (Fullerton Avenue), Chicago

Father Thomas F. Baldonieri, St. James, Highwood

Father David B. Krolczyk, St. James, Chicago Heights

Father Wayne F. Watts, St. John Berchmans, Chicago

Father Grzegorz Gorczyca, St. John the Evangelist, Streamwood

Father Marek Janowski, St. Ladislaus, Chicago

Father Michael J. Novick, St. Lawrence O'Toole, Matteson

Father Paul de Porres Whittington, O.P., St. Margaret of Scotland,
Chicago

Father Hugo Morales, St. Mary of Celle, Berwyn

Father Jerome J. Jacob, Jr., St. Mary of the Annunciation,
Mundelein

Reverend Mariusz P. Stefanowski, St. Monica, Chicago

Father Joseph Tito, St. Nicholas, Evanston

Father Salvador D. Hallegado, St. Nicholas of Tolentine, Chicago

Father Paul G. Seaman, St. Pascal, Chicago

Father Kurt D. Boras, St. Patrick, Lemont

Father James Merold, St. Patrick, Wadsworth

Father Tony Markus, St. Pius X, Stickney

Father Thomas A. Bernas, St. Rene Goupil, Chicago

Father Neil E. Fackler, St. Robert Bellarmine, Chicago

Father Noel B. Reyes, St. Stephen Protomartyr, Des Plaines

Father Francis Li, St. Therese Chinese Catholic Mission, Chicago

Father Krzysztof Kulig, St. Thomas Becket, Mount Prospect

Father Thomas R. Rzepiela, St. Thomas of Villanova, Palatine

Father William Lego, St. Turibius, Chicago

Father Patrick Render, St. Viator, Chicago

Father David P. Pavlik, St. Victor, Calumet City

Campaign gifts can establish named scholarship endowments



Individuals or families can establish a permanent named scholarship fund with a gift to the Catholic Educational Scholarship Trust. Many donors who establish a new endowment choose to name it for an individual, their family or a saint.

The board of the Catholic Education Scholarship Trust reviews all endowment naming opportunities, and makes any decisions regarding naming endowments. There is a minimum contribution level for creating a named endowment, and those who create named endowments may create some designations for the distribution of scholarships.

Donors have created the San Juan Diego Scholarship Fund, which supports students of Hispanic heritage in the Archdiocese, and the Father Augustus Tolton Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to African American students. Others have created funds to support students in specific regions.

For more information on creating a named scholarship endowment, please contact the campaign office at (312) 534-8500 or toteachcampaign@archchicago.org. #



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CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Overall campaign goal: \$350,000,000

Total raised to date: \$337,183,714*

Percent of goal: 96.3%

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

Cash received to date: \$98,717,671

Parish campaign goal: \$250,000,000

Raised to date: \$194,808,657*

Number of gifts: 56,700

Percent of goal: 77.9%

Cash received: \$69,338,091

Major gift goal: \$100,000,000

Raised to date: \$126,066,443*


Number of gifts: 66

Percent of goal: 126%

Cash received: \$29,379,579

*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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