

TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

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

May 2017

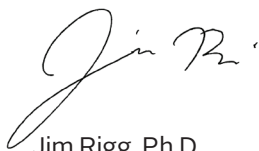
Dear Friends,

Spring is a joyous time of year in our Catholic schools. As we complete the 2016/17 school year, we celebrate the many successes of our students, teachers, and supporters. We also look to the future with hope and optimism, due in part to the success of the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign. This campaign is already providing benefits to our families. In the coming school year, the campaign will support new scholarships through the “Phoenix Scholarship Fund”. These scholarships are based upon the financial need of our families, and will help us achieve our mission to provide a top-notch education to all who wish to come.

To Teach Who Christ Is will also be funding innovations in academic programming in our schools. These innovations will include new ways of recruiting and supporting school leaders, enhancing early childhood education, and teacher coaching models to assure the best possible instruction.

We have many reasons to celebrate our Catholic schools. Thank you for your outstanding support of our campaign. May God continue to bless our treasured Catholic schools!

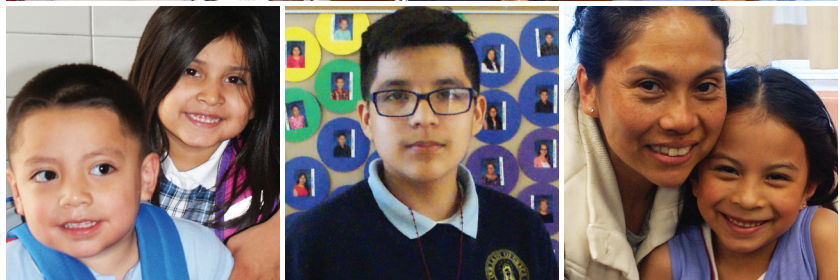
Yours in Christ,



Jim Rigg, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Chicago

Caritas/Phoenix Scholarship Granted to Nearly 30 Students at Our Lady of Grace

Our Lady of Grace School was established in 1910 as a result of a request from families living near the parish who wanted to open a school for their children. Archbishop Quigley kindly granted their request and the school has been home to tens of thousands of children for over



Our Lady of Grace, led by Principal Sr. Rita Range (pictured above) granted scholarships to 29 students as a result of the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign.

a hundred years. Today, there are 197 students enrolled at Our Lady of Grace, with a staff of lay teachers led by Principal Sr. Rita Range, a Dominican Sister who has been with the school for 20 years. Sr. Range and staff dedicate their time to ensure each child’s education incorporates personal, academic and spiritual development.

“We create the right environment for every child to become a confident learner, contribute to the community and develop good moral character,” said Jennifer Moran, Director of Development and Marketing. “The education Our Lady of Grace students receive enriches every aspect of their lives, and, in turn, the life of our entire community. When we see our students become active in their communities and

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committed to their Catholic faith, we know we have done our job.”

To continue the school's legacy and empower their students to lead educated lives of faith, service and leadership, the school turned to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign for funds for their Caritas/Phoenix Scholarship.

The Caritas/Phoenix Scholarship was created to provide Archdiocesan schools with the financial support needed to grow enrollment and continue providing an affordable Catholic education to all families, especially those dealing with grave financial stress.

Thanks to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign, Our Lady of Grace currently has 29 students receiving the scholarship. Throughout the application process, families of these students expressed the importance of providing their children with a Catholic education, but believe it was out of their financial reach. Our Lady of Grace is proud to be able to offer tuition assistance to families, making it possible for every child seeking to build a stronger relationship with their loving God, the opportunity to do so.

“We often get calls, letters and visits from alumni telling us how their years at our school shaped who they've become,” said Sr. Range. “We are truly grateful to all who support the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign. You've made it possible for the children of our community to receive a quality education that challenges them to achieve their full potential and become successful, confident individuals that shape the future of our society.”

To learn more about Our Lady of Grace, please visit olgchicago.org.

Donor Profile: Melvin and Shirley Koenigs

Melvin and Shirley Koenigs have been married for 47 years, keeping God at the center of their relationship. To continue to grow as a couple and strengthen their faith, the Koenigs have always made an effort to involve themselves in parish groups and volunteer at church initiatives.

Even though they're approaching their late 70s, the Koenigs continue their involvement with the Archdiocese of Chicago, recently donating their time and effort to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign. The couple's parish, St. John Brebeuf in Niles, was a part of the first wave of the campaign, leading Melvin and Shirley to become involved in inviting fellow parishioners to join in the success of the campaign.



Melvin and Shirley Koenigs have been parishioners of St. John Brebeuf for over 45 years. Their involvement in the parish encouraged others to become involved in the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign.

“We've been parishioners of St. John Brebeuf for over 45 years and have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the parish grow and flourish,” said Melvin Koenigs. “It's thanks to campaigns like *To Teach Who Christ Is* that we've had opportunity to continue improving our parish and local communities.”

St. John Brebeuf raised \$1,129,760 and made significant renovations to the parish. Renovations include internal and external facility repairs, structural enhancements to the school/religious education facility and support of the Uncle Pete's Ministry, St. Vincent De Paul and GLADD program.

In addition to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign, Melvin has been an officer of the Holy Name Men's Club for over 25 years and an officer for the Knight of Columbus Council for nearly 20 years. Among other activities, Shirley has been a committee chair for the Catholic Women's Club for many years.

“While our involvement has decreased the past few years, we look forward to continuing to support any and all efforts that spread God's word,” said Shirley Koenigs.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Overall campaign goal: \$350,000,000

Total Raised to Date: \$415,279,624*

Percent of Goal Pledged: 119%

Pledges Paid to Date: \$142,564,690

Percent Paid to Date: 34%

*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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