

TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

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

June 2020

Redemption Key Learnings and Efforts

June marked the end of our Wave III five-year redemption phase and we want to thank parishes for continuing to partner and work with us. We wanted to provide you with information on what we're doing on our end to increase redemption among parishes.

In an effort to continue working towards each parish's campaign goal, we recommend parishes market the priorities of their local *TTWCI* campaign and their progress in their church bulletin, website, pulpit announcements, on social media and through periodic celebrations of success. Parish support managers have been visiting parishes and giving priests information on marketing best practices. Parish support managers are currently focused on the following:

- *TTWCI* campaigns in Wave III (redemption phase ended on June 30, 2020)
- *TTWCI* campaigns in Wave IV (redemption phase ends on December 31, 2020)

In addition, the archdiocese's Stewardship and Development Office would like to thank you for your continued support of the many programs that happen as a result of your commitment to the *To Teach Who Christ Is* initiatives. We are humbled by your passion and your dedication to your parish. If you have any questions, or would like to request help in boosting redemption efforts, please contact the campaign office at 312.534.8500.

Renew My Church Parish Comes Together to Raise Funds for Campaign

In July 2018, St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish was created through Renew My Church by unifying St. Celestine Parish (located at 3020 North 76th Court in Elmwood Park) and St. Cyprian Parish (located at 2601 Clinton Street in River Grove). Prior to becoming one church, both parishes were both involved in the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign and have worked together to continue collecting pledges.

"It was a big challenge becoming one church the first few months," said Father Paul Duy Cao, priest at St. Mother Theodore Guerin. "We tried to navigate through office policies while being mindful that one



Pictured above are some of the renovations made to St. Celestine Church and St. Cyprian Church. Through Renew My Church, both churches have come together to become St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish.

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of the parishes had to close their school. With the cooperation of our staff, we are becoming one parish and continue to work together to raise funds.”

Both parishes have raised a tremendous amount so far with St. Cyprian raising \$201,773 and collecting 76 percent of that amount, and St. Celestine raising \$365,154 and collecting 75 percent to date. St. Celestine has used funds to update their church hallway by adding handicap accessible options and connecting the church to the school, allowing students to easily travel back and forth without leaving the building. In addition, St. Celestine has used funds to repair concrete on the premises, update the roof and expand the church to create more meeting space and additional bathrooms, including a handicap accessible bathroom. St. Cyprian has used funds to renovate their parking lots, repair the church roof, and renovate their steeple.

“As the campaign continues, the hope is that all goals for both churches can be completed,” said Father Paul. “We are very grateful for the *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign because it has allowed us to move forward with much-needed repairs during a time when money hasn’t always been fluid. The repairs we are making to both facilities will help us better minister our parishioners and students.”

The parish continues to promote the campaign on their website, outlining each church’s goals, and Father Paul gently reminds the parishioners of the importance of giving to the campaign in the bulletin and at mass.

To learn more about St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish, please visit stguerinparish.org.

Tax Credit Scholarship Testimonial

The Cabrerias have been dedicated supporters of St. Stanislaus Kostka School for years with their three oldest children attending and graduating from the school, and their youngest, Evelyn, currently enrolled in fifth grade. Following in her older siblings’ footsteps, Evelyn has had a great experience at St. Stan’s, filled with a great learning environment, opportunity to grow in her faith, and support from her teachers.



“My husband and I are hard-working parents who value the importance of a Catholic education,” Maria Cabrera says. “We would not be able to give our children this incredible experience without the help of the Tax Credit Scholarship. It is a huge weight lifted off our shoulders to know we will not have to struggle financially to provide our children with a Catholic education.”

The Cabrerias especially appreciate the smaller classroom environment, support their children have received over the years and most importantly, the opportunity Evelyn and her siblings have had to learn more about faith and their God-given gifts.

COVID-19 Update: Support Your Parish and the COVID-19 Relief Fund

Please visit archchicago.org/support to support parish offertory, the COVID-19 Relief Fund or both as your means allow. Your generosity is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for your support.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Overall Campaign Goal: \$350,000,000

Total Raised to Date: \$425,279,755*

Percent of Goal Pledged: 122%

Pledges Paid to Date: \$256,907,548

Percent Paid to Date: 73%

*includes cash, documented pledges and bequests

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