

OUR CAMPAIGN FOR

THE CHURCH ALIVE!

FOR ONE CHURCH *Alive* IN SIX COUNTIES

GOOD WORKS

Annual Report to Donors – Winter 2018



TOGETHER... WITH

Collaboration, Courage & Compassion!

When the *On Mission for The Church Alive!* planning initiative began nearly three years ago, I invited all of us to be collaborative, courageous and compassionate.

As we had witnessed earlier in *Our Campaign for The Church Alive!*, tens of thousands of faithful responded, providing honest feedback on how we can dream big and say “Yes!” to the invitation of Jesus to build His Church.

In many ways, *On Mission* reflects the principles of *The Church Alive!* campaign, which continues to bear the fruit of your sacrifice. We are facing challenges together, with courage and compassion.

By responding generously to the needs of each other, we evangelize and help to bring about the kingdom.

In these pages you will read stories demonstrating how we are excited about our faith, and how our gifts are making a positive impact in our parishes, schools and other faith communities.

Thank you for your trust and continuing support.

Looking forward to our efforts together in being *On Mission for The Church Alive!*, and grateful for our belief that “Nothing is Impossible with God,” I am

Your brother in Christ,

+ *David A. Zubik*

Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh

*Dream big
& say “Yes!”*

A SACRIFICE THAT COUNTS



The growing success of *Our Campaign for The Church Alive!*, the historic initiative to build the Church of Pittsburgh, is reflected in the stats and stories from across the diocese.

More than 45,000 families and individuals representing about 130,000 Catholics have made sacrificial campaigns gifts to date of **\$149.8 million** toward pledges totaling \$234 million. Funds are helping to strengthen long-term needs of parishes, schools, and other institutions—to help spread the Gospel, revitalize sacramental life, support education and formation in the faith, train clergy and lay leaders, and serve all of our sisters and brothers.

New grants continue to help meet needs diocesan-wide:

- **Expanded outreach efforts at five colleges** in the diocese are sparking new interest in the faith of young people through the presence of missionaries, campus ministers and chaplains. New Bible study groups are being formed. Discipleship training is underway.
- Funds are supporting vocations from all walks of life, including **vocations to the priesthood**. Various retreats and online promotion are drawing new attention in high schools, colleges and in the workplace as men discern God's call in their lives.
- *The Church Alive!* campaign has funded the expansion and renovation of the retirement home for diocesan priests, **St. John Vianney Manor**, as more priests are set to retire in the coming years.
- More people are learning, loving and living Jesus through innovative **evangelization programs** as parishes work together to bring the Gospel message to those who are far from God.
- An expanded and modernized **medical clinic** is being built in **Chimbote, Peru**, as part of our diocese's 50th anniversary Mission Milestone Investment. It is designed to serve more than 1,000 patients daily.

The volunteer board of directors for *Our Campaign for the Church Alive!*, Inc. carefully studies grant applications, approving only those requests that demonstrate need, collaboration, sustainability and potential impact.

All funds are used only for the purposes described in the diocesan and parish case statements, and campaign expenses remain low at less than seven percent.



ON MISSION FOR
**THE
CHURCH
ALIVE!**

Investing in Mission

Since Bishop Zubik announced the launch of *Our Campaign for The Church Alive!* in December 2012, clergy and lay leaders have worked together tirelessly to ensure its success as part of a greater vision to make *The Church Alive!* in the six counties of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Similarly, the goal of *On Mission for The Church Alive!* is to invest more resources in mission and ministry to better share the good news and bring more people to Jesus. *On Mission* builds on the momentum and excitement generated by *The Church Alive!* campaign.

Our parishes have experienced big changes, especially since 2000. Mass attendance across the diocese decreased 40 percent, while participation in the sacraments declined 40 to 50 percent. Half of all parishes now run operational deficits, and within seven years the number of diocesan priests in active ministry is expected to drop in half, to about 112 priests.

To address these trends, *The Church Alive!* campaign and *On Mission* planning initiative were begun. With secularism on the rise it is more important than ever to reach out to our sisters and brothers.

As we receive God's gifts gratefully and return them with increase to the Lord, the campaign is providing the *On Mission* initiative with critical resources to help strengthen parishes and ministries, transforming our faith communities into centers of outreach to inactive Catholics and those who do not know Jesus.





GIFTS TO DATE

As of December 13, 2017, of the \$234 million pledged to *Our Campaign for The Church Alive!*, Inc., **\$149.8 million** in payments has been received. The volunteer board overseeing these funds has awarded diocesan charitable grants totaling nearly **\$44.8 million** since the start of the campaign (pages 4-5). Parishes have been allocated **\$63.1 million** for their local case statement priorities. Funds will continue to be returned to parishes across our Diocese as gifts are received and accounts reconciled.

Summary of Results – as of December 13, 2017 – \$ in millions

	Pledged	Received	%
Parish phase	\$ 193.3	\$ 130.3	67%
Bishop phase	40.7	19.5	48%
Total	\$ 234.0	\$ 149.8	64%

“God Has Blessed Me, Over and Over”

At 96 years young, **Henrietta Gardner** has experienced life to the fullest. Her six children, 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren (“and two more on the way!”), give her plenty to be thankful for, and tries to give back always.

That’s why she offered a sacrificial gift to *Our Campaign for The Church Alive!* through her parish, St. Vincent de Paul in New Castle.

“I have given to church and charities all my life,” said Henrietta, who worked many years as a seamstress. “And like Bishop Zubik says, I’m trying to learn, love and live Jesus.”

The family motto is “the family that prays together, stays together,” and Henrietta gives thanks that her family still goes to church.

“God has blessed me, over and over,” she said. “I am so grateful for all He has done for me.”



Keeping Connected on Campus

The college years are a pivotal time when students either strengthen or begin to lose their faith as they experience independence and learn their identity. That’s why *Church Alive!* campaign investments in campus ministry programs are critical to keeping young adults **connected to the church**.



Grants are funding outreach efforts at Slippery Rock University, Robert Morris University, Washington & Jefferson College (W&J), Waynesburg University and California University of Pennsylvania. At Slippery Rock, missionaries from FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) are forming Bible study groups and training young disciples.

At W&J, Waynesburg and Cal U, a new director of campus ministry is coordinating Masses, service projects and mission trips.

“We’re forming relationships based around Christ,” said Slippery Rock sophomore **Ryan Ball**, “and growing in faith, knowledge and love.”

Above: Slippery Rock students Maria Petrarca (left) and Kailyn Soros.

Our Campaign for The Church Alive! Diocesan Grants Awarded 2014–16:

Case Component	Program
Need-based Tuition Grants	Infusion of 60% more tuition assistance into the Bishop's Education Fund, providing urgently-needed grants helping more students to afford a quality Catholic education
Seminarian Formation	Funds to increase priestly vocations outreach Increasing the Shepherds Care Fund II for recruiting, educating and forming our future priests Funding Seminarian Days of Recollection
Technology for Secondary Schools	Support for cyber security, tech-based physical plant security & upgraded networks and tech infrastructure at all 12 Catholic high schools in diocese
Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School	Funding toward the construction of CWNCHS and debt service as start-up over the first five years.
Education for Our Priests & Committed Lay Leaders	Pilot programs for Lay Minister and Clergy training <i>Good Leaders, Good Shepherds</i> and <i>Tending the Talents</i> programs
Students with Special Needs	Support for McGuire Memorial to help clients with disabilities develop job-readiness and daily living skills St. Anthony School Programs – tuition assistance for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities DePaul School for Hearing & Speech – special gap-funding assistance for families of toddlers; challenge grant to increased planned giving program
Catholic Campus Ministry	Expanded outreach at Robert Morris University, California University of PA, Washington & Jefferson College and Waynesburg University Support for FOCUS missionaries at Slippery Rock University
Grants to Parishes in Need	Financial assistance to strengthen five parishes in Greene County Start-up funding for Community Center serving neighborhoods in Hazelwood
Retired and Senior Priests	Modernization and expansion of St. John Vianney Manor retirement home for priests
New Evangelization Program	Grant for evangelization programs at 12 new locations Elimination of fees as obstacle for marriage annulment applications Dirty Vagabond Ministries – street ministry for at-risk youth in Garfield/Pittsburgh and Sharsburg neighborhoods Catholic Men's Fellowship – expand annual Gathering of Men, and training of group leaders Spreading Pope Francis' <i>The Joy of the Gospel</i> Improving pastoral ministry at Holy Apostles Parish by expanding outreach to the elderly Cultural Diversity – Train the Trainers workshop St. George Trek scholarship program to help Catholic Boy Scouts become more aware of their vocation, including to the priesthood
Catholic Communications	Upgraded technology serving the <i>Pittsburgh Catholic</i> newspaper Outreach to elderly, disabled, shut-ins through daily Mass & rosary online Expand and market TV/Cable/Web ministry Christian Associates TV programming Upgraded technology for Cathedral Mass broadcast Investment in Evangelization – dissemination of Bishop's pastoral letter, <i>The Church Evangelizing!</i> in English and Spanish
Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center	Construction and equipping of dental suites and partial funding to support a full-time dentist serving uninsured patients Assistance with elevator replacement to maintain access to vital services
Catholic Charities New Roselia Program Endowment	Pro-life assistance to homeless single mothers, providing housing, counseling support and training to achieve stability in their lives
Catholic Charities Mother Teresa Endowment	Emergency assistance fund to help with utility bills, food and medication when other sources are depleted
Our Sisters and Brothers in the Missions	Catholic health care mission efforts for the destitute poor in Chimbote, Peru, to modernize and expand the health care clinic, home visit program and service for abused, abandoned or orphaned children

Our Campaign for The Church Alive! Diocesan Grants Awarded 2017:

Case Component	Program	\$ Funded
Seminarian Formation	Modernizing seminary classroom technology	\$ 22,000
Education for Our Priests & Committed Lay Leaders	Priest, Deacon & Lay Leader Collaboratives Lay leaders training for spiritual formation of children and youth	666,970
Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School	Funding toward the construction of CWNCHS and debt service	2,000,000
Grants to Parishes in Need	Implement National Black Congress pastoral plan to reach youth in Pittsburgh Support of Hispanic ministry in diocese <i>On Mission for The Church Alive!</i> initiative, strengthening and growing the Church	2,303,200
New Evangelization Program	Establish School of Missionary Discipleship Catholic Men's Fellowship – training of parish group leaders Capital investment to preserve the Pittsburgh Crèche, replacing failing electrical equipment and lighting Provide USCCB and nationally-acclaimed <i>Spirit of Truth</i> curriculum materials and training for Catholic teachers and catechists	326,500
Catholic Communications	Digital advertising Modernization of Diocesan TV studio and new editing suite	545,000
Total Diocesan Grants 2017		\$ 5,863,670
Total Diocesan Grants 2014–17		\$ 44,770,400

Examples of Impact



- Thanks to donors' sacrificial gifts, the **Bishop's Education Fund** has received a cash infusion of more than **\$11 million**, increasing the fund by 60 percent and helping hundreds of additional students in need of financial aid to benefit from a Catholic education. The permanent endowment fund will generate an additional \$550,000 annually in need-based tuition assistance. **Regionalization of Catholic elementary schools**, beginning in the North Hills, also will help to strengthen and sustain Catholic education for future generations.

Making new friends at Holy Cross Academy in Ross.



- Sharing the Good News** in a digital world requires new methods of communicating. Campaign grants have allowed new web sites to be developed for the diocese, vocations office, regional schools in the North Hills and the *Pittsburgh Catholic* newspaper. TV studios have been upgraded at St. Paul Seminary and St. Paul Cathedral, and social media and digital advertising expanded.
- To better care for our sisters and brothers in **Chimbote, Peru, a new wellness clinic is being built** as part of the diocese's 50th anniversary Mission Milestone Investment. A grant is helping replace the original clinic that was built to serve 30 patients a day—more than 1,000 people will be able to be treated daily in the new facility. Clinical services will include radiology, mammography, cardiology and pediatric care.

Changing lives in Chimbote.





Caring for Priests Who Have Cared for Us

The need for housing senior priests in the diocese is growing as the large ordination classes of the 1960s and '70s approach retirement. Thirty-nine priests still in active ministry are older than 70, and five are in their 80s.

The expansion of **St. John Vianney Manor** in Crafton will help take care of the men who have cared for God's people. A new wing includes a large dining room, two lounges, an exercise facility and nurse's station. Four residential suites were added for a total of 35, all of which were refurbished with walk-in showers, new heating and air conditioning, energy efficient windows and new flooring. It is the first major renovation of the facility since a third floor was added in 1980.

Father John Petrarulo, a manor resident who relocated during the construction, is grateful to donors. "The whole complex astonished me," he said. "Everything is fresh, brightened up. It's very inspiring."



EARNING YOUR TRUST

The volunteer board of directors of **Our Campaign for The Church Alive!**, Inc. follows the principles of Christian stewardship by safeguarding gifts, using them responsibly and ensuring accountability and transparency in communicating with donors. Some of the region's top experts in finance, accounting, civil and canon law and the Church serve on the board, overseeing the policies, procedures and practices of managing campaign donations. Directors receive recommendations from the Grant Review Committee, ensuring that grants align with the diocesan case for support.

In December 2017, the board's Audit Committee reported a clean audit by the public accounting firm Maher Duessel, which noted that donors' intentions are being honored. In addition, pastors and administrators confirm that the parish portion of campaign funds are being applied according to authorized parish case statements. If any changes needed, an approval process is required.

To learn more about the grant making process, visit ChurchAlivePgh.org/grants/php. Copies of the audit are available by emailing your address and parish name to Stewardship@diopitt.org.



Bringing Jesus to Others

Collaboration is at the heart of *The Church Alive!* initiatives, and perhaps no better example can be found than in Butler County, where four parishes are working together to deepen and spread the faith.

St. Wendelin in Carbon Center, St. John in Coylesville, Mater Dolorosa in Chicora and St. Joseph in North Oakland jointly presented ChristLife, which helps Catholics encounter Jesus, follow him and tell others about him.

"Working together, especially on evangelization ministries...has breathed new life into our parishes," said **Father Matt McClain**, pastor of St. Wendelin and St. John.

In Lawrence County, seven parishes in the New Castle area, Pulaski and Hillsville presented ChristLife, along with four parishes in the North Hills. A similar program, called Alpha, is offered at other parishes.

A pilot evangelization program supported by the Campaign is also underway at St. Maria Goretti Parish in Pittsburgh; St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin, Whitehall; Mary, Mother of the Church, Our Lady of the Valley and St. Damien of Molokai in the Mon Valley; Our Lady of Fatima in Hopewell Township and St. Frances Cabrini, Center Township; St. Patrick, Canonsburg; and Immaculate Conception, Washington.

Above: ChristLife participants in the North Hills share their stories of faith.

Coming Together in South Pittsburgh



Members of four merged parishes in South Pittsburgh are following Bishop Zubik's call to courageously step forward in faith. The new **Holy Apostles Parish** is experiencing a rebirth as parishioners embrace change, merge ministries and welcome back inactive Catholics.

Formerly members of St. Wendelin, St. Basil, St. Norbert and St. Albert the Great parishes in Carrick, Overbrook and Baldwin, volunteers are visiting more homebound elderly, bringing Communion and arranging for clergy to offer reconciliation and anointing of the sick. Family members are so pleased that some are attending Mass again.

As ministries in the four churches come together, organizers are pleased to have more volunteers and resources to serve the community. "The idea of change is worse than the change itself," said **Father Steve Kresak**, pastor of Holy Apostles. "We are not limited by bricks and buildings—we are doing the work of Christ."



Celebrating faith and family at the monthly Festival of Praise at Holy Apostles Parish.

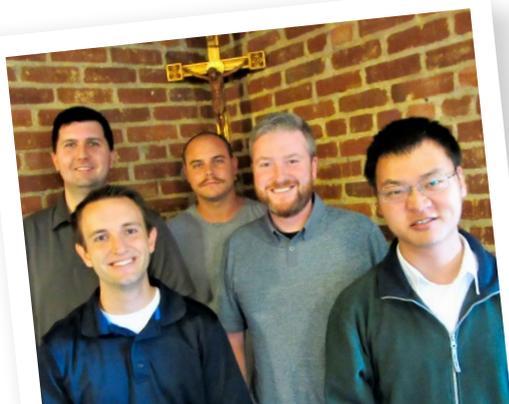
Supporting Priestly Vocations

More men are listening to God's call to find their vocation in life, whether it be to the single life, marriage or the priesthood, and support from *The Church Alive!* campaign is making a measurable difference.

Attendance at **Quo Vadis Day** and **Christmas Discernment retreats** has risen over the last several years, with programs customized to audiences of high schoolers, college students and post-college men. The **High School Silent Retreat** was piloted in 2017 and filled beyond capacity.

Digital tools such as online advertising are being used, the PGHPriest.com web site was redesigned, and ordination videos are produced annually.

Video conferencing equipment was installed at St. Paul Seminary to provide remote access to classes and meetings at Duquesne University. Seminarians also are benefiting from a Latino cultural immersion program, and Days of Recollection to help strengthen their lives of prayer and virtue.



Building on a Legacy of Learning

With fewer students enrolled in Catholic schools, the need is greater than ever for effective religious education and ministry to youth and young adults.

The Campaign allowed for the expanded **Religious Education for Our Catholic Family Fund**, formerly the Fathers Farina Fund, which is helping to educate not only catechetical administrators, but also youth ministers, college campus ministers, Catholic school principals, religion teachers and parish catechists.

An initial grant supports masters-level scholarships in theology, religious education or related fields. It is also helping to fund ministry-specific training, including Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and family models of catechesis, and the purchase of the best available catechetical books, teachers' manuals and classroom DVDs.

The original fund was created by Father Edward Farina, a strong supporter of parish CCD programs, as a memorial to his four older brothers who preceded him in the priesthood. The fund recently ran out of money. However, thanks to our donors, *The Church Alive!* campaign was able to create a sustainable endowment fund.

Christine Patsch, who directs the faith formation program at St. Cecilia Parish in Rochester, has benefited from the former Fathers Farina Fund.





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First day of school at new Blessed Trinity Academy K-8, Glenshaw.

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GOOD WORKS

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