



***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.***

***-Hebrews 13:8***

## A Message from Father Dennis Dirx

This newsletter will provide you with a first glimpse at an exciting capital stewardship campaign sponsored by the Milwaukee Archdiocese called *Faith In Our Future*. What is truly exciting about this fundraising effort is that it is designed to support individual parishes and Archdiocesan-wide initiatives at the same time. It is both a “top down” and “bottom up” approach to strengthening Catholic education and lifelong faith formation.

From a “top down” standpoint, the archdiocese plans to use 40% of the funds raised to create new initiatives such as Catholic Schools of Excellence Centers, better programs of preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage, and spiritual enrichment opportunities for adults. From a “bottom up” standpoint, 60% of the money raised will remain with each Parish to fund its own list of priorities. Some of the projects our Parish hopes to accomplish include:

addressing parish-wide accessibility issues, creating a Media Resource Center in our school building, re-carpeting the Sanctuary Floor, increasing endowment and reserve funds, and creating a Eucharistic Adoration Chapel.

As you learn more about this campaign and consider your level of support, know that together we can do great things. Please open your heart to what God might do through you, in support of our parish and our diocese.

## A Compelling Need. . .

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee's *Faith In Our Future* campaign will strengthen parishes, schools and lifelong faith formation efforts throughout the archdiocese. These initiatives are among Archbishop Timothy Dolan's pastoral priorities for the Catholic Church of southeastern Wisconsin. In addition to strengthening the local Church, this campaign will support the global Church. From parishes to schools to the archdiocese, quality education and faith formation

ensures the passing of our Catholic faith to future generations.

*Faith in our youth.* Young people carry our hopes and dreams into the future. They deserve the best education possible to realize their potential. *Faith In Our Future* will enhance formation and education to cultivate young lives of faith, and also equip students with the skills they'll need tomorrow. We most truly show faith in our youth when we provide them with a sound Catholic education.

*Faith in our adults.* Faith is capable of amazing growth. It may lead a young man to a seminary, or inspire adults to a deeper relationship with God, or encourage a lay person to seek leadership training. *Faith In Our Future* funds a renewed emphasis on lifelong faith formation. The campaign makes possible expanded learning opportunities to support Catholics on their journey of faith.

*Join us in faith!* There's no

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## Information Distribution in November

Your time is valuable and limited, so we have designed a packet containing several important items that describe the "Faith In Our Future" campaign. Each packet contains a letter from Father Dennis, a "Faith In Our Future" prayer card, a question slip, and devotional material. Every family in the parish will receive one of these packets. This means you won't have to attend extra meetings to obtain this

information.

Packets will be available on the weekend of November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Please pick one up after the mass you attend that weekend. This will help us save time and reduce postage costs. If you are unable to pick up the packet at the church, we will mail one to you.

Once you receive your packet, please look over its

contents, discuss this project as a family, and make praying the "Faith In Our Future" prayer part of your daily routine. If you have questions, please write them on the question slips provided and return them to the parish office. We want to hear from you and your questions.

*"My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."*

*-- Philippians 4:19*

## "Not Equal Gifts, But Equal Sacrifice"

During the next few months, we will join all the parishes in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee as we explore the spirituality of stewardship together.

The simple and profound theme that underscores "Faith In Our Future" comes from the Bible's teaching about proportionate giving and the blessings of sacrifice. No gift impresses God in terms of dollar

amounts, but as extensions of the love and obedience with which they are given and proportion of resources from which they come. God, in other words, looks on the heart.

Please join us in prayer, study, and worship. Begin now to pray that God will guide our parish and leave Christ's imprint on individual hearts. Ask God to keep us on the path of obedience

and trust. Pray that the "Faith In Our Future" program will accomplish what it is meant to do: to focus our vision on God's work and keep us aware of the privilege of our part in it.

Please remember that your experience with personal sacrifice is not a one-time check or contribution, but a profound way to explore and deepen the gift of giving.

## Children and Youth Activities

The children and youth of our parish will also participate in activities surrounding this campaign. In doing so, they will discover the excitement of working as a community in building our parish; learning about stew-

ardship and finding new ways to express their love and enthusiasm for both God and their parish. They will also hear about how the initiatives we support will contribute to their spiritual and community life.

Information on Children and Youth activities will be sent home with each child soon. Watch for it, encourage your child to participate, and be sure to include the campaign in your family conversations and prayers.

## “Faith In Our Future” Team

The success of our campaign will rely on the faithful participation of many in our parish. We would like to say a special thanks to these who have already stepped forward to say “Yes!”

**CAMPAIGN LEADERS:**  
Norm and Susan Balthasar  
Matt and Patty Linn  
Joe and Tara O’Neill

**ADVANCE COMMITMENT:**  
Ty and Mary Linn  
George and Mary Poorman

**ADMINISTRATORS:**  
Lisa Lesjak  
Kathy Wyatt

**INVOLVEMENT:**  
Tom Krueger

**CONTACT TEAM LEADERS:**  
Mike Boyle  
Tim Byrne  
Mary Devine  
Joe Johnson  
Tom Linn  
Dick and Mary Ann Mathews  
David Mitchell  
Peter Mullaney  
Trish Ognar  
Margaret Sankovitz

**CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY:**  
Grace Collopy  
Lynn Frieeseke  
Kim Mackowski  
Sally Zale

**FOLLOW-UP:**  
Patrick Kessenich  
Marcia Velde

**YOUTH ACTIVITY:**  
Mimi Hayes

**INFORMATION LEADERS:**  
Mark and Margy Cain  
Larry and Meg Fox  
Joe Krueger

**PACESETTERS:**  
Paul and Colleen Linn  
Steve and Ruth McGuire  
Mike Schulte  
Michele Weinschrott

**PRAYER LEADER:**  
Jim Linn

**PRINT COMMUNICATIONS:**  
Julie Landes  
Lisa LaVine

**SPECIAL EVENT:**  
Tony and Amy Coffaro  
Jeff and Linda May

**VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS:**  
Kate Jugens  
Kevin & Toni Walzak

*“Let not your hand be open*

*to receive and clenched*

*when it is time to give.”*

*-- Sirach 4:31*

## Please Say “Yes!”

The success of “*Faith In Our Future*” depends on you!

In the coming months, hundreds of fellow parishioners will dedicate their time and talents in an effort

to inform the parish of the challenge before us as we undertake “*Faith In Our Future*” Capital Stewardship Campaign. But they can not do it all alone – they need your help.

There are so many different ways you can share time, talent, and resources. When you are asked to become part of this campaign team, please say “Yes!”

*All contributions will be held in trust for the use and purposes set forth in the Faith In Our Future Campaign and for no other purposes. The Faith In Our Future Campaign funds Catholic education and faith formation within the Church of southeastern Wisconsin.*

### “Faith In Our Future” Four Great Questions

***If not this, what?***

***If not here, where?***

***If not now, when?***

***If not me, who?***

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## A Compelling Need. . . (continued from first page)

education that cares for both mind and spirit like Catholic education. Supporting this campaign is the most valuable investment you can make. We invite you to prayerfully consider your role and that of your parish in the *Faith In Our Future* campaign.

### **A \$105 Million Campaign to Fund Pastoral Priorities**

*Faith In Our Future* is a campaign to support priorities at both the parish and archdiocesan levels: 60% of the funds will be directed to parishes for their needs; 40% will be used to fund archdiocesan ministries.

*Parish Ministry* Enhancing and expanding parish ministries through parish stewardship campaigns for capital, direct ministry, and endowment priorities.

*Catholic Schools* Enhancing and sustaining the excellent work of our Catholic schools through scholarship and tuition assistance, financial awards to fund strengthened school support services, capital needs, and innovative programming and initiatives within our schools.

*Lifelong Faith Formation*  
Endowed and immediate

funding for the John Paul II Center for adult formation; endowment support for Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, awards to parishes for religious education programs, and awards for initiatives that strengthen faith formation.

*Support for the Global Church*  
Just as individual parishes will be asked to share their resources to support the needs of the 10-county archdiocese, Archbishop Dolan has directed that the archdiocese set aside a portion of its funds for outreach beyond our archdiocesan borders.

## Faith In Our Future Prayer

O loving and generous God,  
source of all life, holiness and goodness,  
we thank you for the many gifts you give us  
throughout our lifelong journey of faith.

With **faith** in our future,  
we commit ourselves to the support of Catholic education  
and our own lifelong faith formation.

With **hope** in the here and now,  
we ask you to nourish us in your Spirit  
so that we may be faithful stewards of your gifts.

With **love**, may the sacrifice of our joyful giving  
be an outward sign of the true treasure we hold in Jesus.

O faithful God, keep us always mindful  
of the good that can happen  
when we allow you to work through us  
as one family united in faith.

We entrust our prayer through the intercession  
of Mary, the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God,  
and St. John the Evangelist, patron of our archdiocese,  
as we pray through Jesus Christ  
who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Amen.