



DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST

St. Joseph's Old Cathedral is participating in *One Church, Many Disciples*, along with every parish in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. This first ever major campaign will build a Shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, support faith formation ministries, and strengthen local parishes, including ours. We join with faithful from across the archdiocese who are also helping to ensure our local Church is strong and vibrant for generations to come.

As an Archdiocese, we form a faith community of 200,000 Catholics in central and western Oklahoma; we truly are *One Church, Many Disciples*! With the Beatification of Blessed Stanley Rother, each of us has the opportunity to share in his legacy. What an occasion to live Jesus' call to missionary discipleship!

Please take a moment to review the impact *One Church, Many Disciples* will have on our parish. This campaign has my full support and, as your Pastor, I hope you will embrace this opportunity here at St. Joseph's Old Cathedral.

Rev. M. Price Oswalt, KCHS



OUR PARISH ROOTS

Rev. Nicolas F. Scallon arrived in newly formed Oklahoma City on April 22, 1889. He quickly began locating the Catholic settlers, and the first Masses were celebrated in a tent which housed McGinley's General Store. By August 4th of that same year, Fr. Scallon celebrated Mass in a wooden church he and his fledgling flock of 16 families had built on three lots that they purchased for \$225.

By late 1901, St. Joseph had outgrown the wood-framed building, and excavation began for the foundation of a new brick building. This new church was solemnly dedicated by Oklahoma's first Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Theophile Meerschaert on Dec. 18, 1904, and in 1905, when Pope Pius X raised the Vicariate of the Oklahoma Territory to a diocese, St. Joseph became the first cathedral in Oklahoma.

The bombing of the nearby Murrah Federal Building caused tremendous damage to St. Joseph's Old Cathedral. While the tabernacle candle remained lit, the explosion raised the roof several inches damaging it and much of the interior. Stained glass was blown out, intricate plaster work fell down, and the pipes from the organ were found in the pews. Restoration took almost two years, but the newly restored cathedral was re-dedicated on December 1, 1996. In December 2004, a special centennial Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Beltran at St. Joseph's Old Cathedral.





PARISH LIFE TODAY

Today, St. Joseph Old Cathedral has grown into a truly vibrant and thriving part of Oklahoma's capital city. Its cosmopolitan and culturally diverse membership enlivens this growing downtown parish. Each year, hundreds of visitors from all over the nation and the globe attend Masses here. Some simply stop in to admire its great beauty and to appreciate it for what it is as an enduring testament to God's ever-present love.



OUR CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

We now have an excellent opportunity to participate in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City's first ever major campaign, *One Church, Many Disciples*. This Archdiocesan-wide campaign will enable the archdiocese to build a shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, and meet other shared ministerial needs. Through participating in this campaign, St. Joseph's Old Cathedral will raise significant funds towards the current needs of our beloved community. We are seeking five-year pledges to achieve our goal of \$760,000. St. Joseph's Old Cathedral will receive 20% of all funds raised up to the goal, totaling \$152,000. In addition, 50% of every dollar raised above our goal will be returned to our parish.

OUR SHARE OF THE FUNDS

Through the *One Church, Many Disciples* campaign, we will not only play a significant role in this historic moment in the Church's history, but we will also be able to support exciting new projects at our own parish, St. Joseph's Old Cathedral.

With St. Joseph's Old Cathedral's share of the funds raised in this campaign effort, we will contribute towards the effort to replace the heating and air conditioning units in the church. Remaining funds will be used for ongoing maintenance and repairs.

New heating & air conditioning units

The antiquated systems will be replaced in order to provide a more comfortable environment for worship and ministry.

