



SPIRIT *of* GIVING

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY



Spring 2023



Thank you for taking a few minutes to read this Spirit of Giving newsletter. Published from time to time, the newsletter aims to provide feedback to you who have supported the work of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City through your giving.

In this edition, we give an update on fundraising in 2022, including the One Church, Many Disciples campaign. We also review some of the challenges facing the archdiocese, parishes and mission churches.

We make a concerted effort to improve our systems and processes over time. Please feel free to reach out to me with suggestions for improving how we manage fundraising efforts in the archdiocese.

Peter de Keratry, *Executive Director of Stewardship and Development*
 pdekeratry@archokc.org

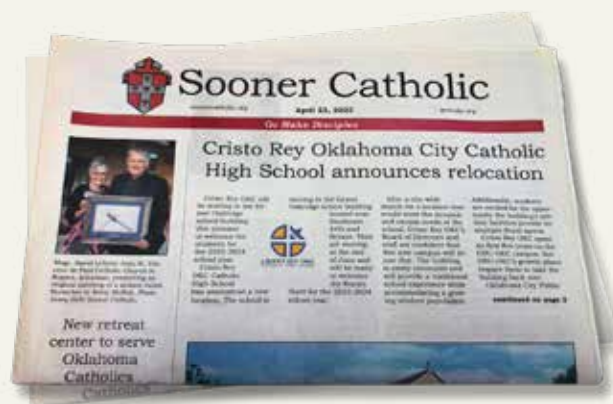
CATHOLIC PHILANTHROPY GROWING IN OKLAHOMA

2022 was a banner year for philanthropic support from the Catholic community in the archdiocese.

With a goal to raise \$3.75 million, the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal raised \$3,963,104 from 8,122 families. Thirty-five parishes exceeded their goal and 22 raised more than 80% of goal.

Another highlight of the appeal was the support from members of the Archbishop's Circle. These are families who give \$1,200 per year (\$100 per month) or more to the appeal. In 2022, 820 families were part of the Archbishop's Circle contributing \$2,013,158 to the appeal. This represents 51% of the total raised. Funds raised in the Annual Catholic Appeal will provide better training for catechists and more support for those using archdiocesan training, meeting and retreat facilities. The appeal also will help provide formation for the next class of permanent deacons, and much more.

Also in 2022, the Sooner Catholic Communications Appeal raised \$112,690. This appeal helps with the cost of producing the Sooner Catholic newspaper, websites, social media, videos, live streams for special events, and more. The 2022



appeal also tithed 10% of its proceeds to support Oklahoma Catholic Radio.

The Seminarian Education Appeal in November raised \$238,604. These funds directly impact the seminarians preparing for service in the parishes of the archdiocese. Other support for seminarians comes from the Saint John Vianney Endowment at the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. The endowment received an additional \$462,142 in contributions in 2022, bringing its current value to nearly \$2 million.

The Tax Credit Scholarship program is a state Scholarship Granting Organization providing needs-based scholarships to help children attend



Catholic school. Thanks to generous benefactors, in 2023 we expect to provide 600 or more scholarships, an increase of 100 more than last year.

"The Tax Credit Scholarship has dramatically increased our ability to provide a Catholic education to 32 students who could not otherwise attend our school, by funding scholarships that in the past went unfunded."

*- Principal Shannon Statton
Sacred Heart School, El Reno*

Support for the Annual Catholic Appeal, Sooner Catholic Communications Appeal and Seminarian Education Appeal are just a portion of the philanthropic giving by the Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. On top of these programs are the massive support for the ministries of Catholic Charities, the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, the Center of Family Love and numerous other ministries, hospitals and schools.

If you would like to learn more about giving, or how you can consider your philanthropic legacy, please feel free to contact us at stewardship@archokc.org or visit our website archokc.org/stewardship.

ANNUAL SCOUTS MASS

The annual Scouts Mass is held in the Saint Francis de Sales chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The Catholic Committee on Scouting also meets at the center. Because of support provided by the Annual Catholic Appeal, the pastoral center is able to host the scouts and dozens of other groups for meetings, Masses and retreats.



Tax Credit Scholarship Program

In 2022 the TCS program raised \$2 Million, which will help more students attend one of the 19 Catholic schools in the archdiocese.



Make a gift. Get a state income tax credit. Change a child's life.
Learn more at www.tcsok.org
or call (405) 709-2700





BLESSSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE



The week of February 12, 2023 will be remembered as a moment of significant consequence for the entire Catholic community in the state.



SUNDAY

The vespers service Sunday evening at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help set the tone for a full week of activities. The service was a prayerful experience. The overnight vigil was attended by thousands who came to pray with the human remains of Blessed Stanley.



MONDAY

A celebration Mass for the priests of Oklahoma was held as Blessed Stanley's body was reinterred into the altar of the shrine chapel. Archbishop Coakley, Bishop Konderla and more than 150 other priests celebrated the first Mass in the chapel and consecrated the altar.



TUESDAY

Members of the Rother family came from Okarche and across the country for a special Mass with their relative. Many in the family expressed being overwhelmed by the beauty of the space for Blessed Stanley.





WEDNESDAY

Staff of the archdiocese attended a special Mass in the Rother chapel. Later in the evening, benefactors were invited to a preview of the church, chapel and pilgrim center and museum.



THURSDAY

Arriving bishops from across the country visited the shrine with Archbishop Coakley. The highlight was when more than 30 bishops gathered in the Rother Chapel to pray.



FRIDAY

The Mass to dedicate the church and consecrate the altar had a procession with more than 350 bishops, priests, deacons, religious and others. Several hundred guests remained outside to watch the Mass on screens.



SATURDAY

Volunteers from Sacred Heart and Holy Angels parishes came to learn about the shrine and how Mass and other activities will occur. Saturday also saw several hundred pilgrims come for a first visit and the first vigil Mass at the shrine.



SUNDAY

All the Sunday Masses at the shrine were well attended, including more than 2,500 (standing room only) at 12:15 celebrated by Archbishop Coakley. Archbishop Gonzalo de Villa y Vasquez of the Archdiocese of Guatemala City had a special Mass at 3 pm for the Guatemalan community.

ONE CHURCH, MANY DISCIPLES

In the summer of 2016, Archbishop Coakley initiated a planning process for the first comprehensive capital campaign in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The “One Church, Many Disciples” campaign became the major focus of the archdiocese.

“One Church, Many Disciples was a great name because the effort was about so much more than fundraising. It was about our faith community banding together in the mission of discipleship, of sharing with others the invitation to know Jesus Christ.”

- Sabrina Olay, co-chair

It’s well known throughout the archdiocese that the campaign has been an extraordinary success. With an initial goal to raise \$55 million, the campaign ultimately had \$91 million in pledges and more than \$72 million has been received. But the size of these numbers does not tell the full story.

The story of our “One Church” banding together to make “Many Disciples” is one of shared sacrifice to achieve shared goals. The campaign made possible not only the beautiful restoration of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral and the building of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine, but also local facility and ministry projects in

Campaign Progress

\$55,000,000	Original Goal
\$80,000,000	Challenge Goal
\$91,000,000	Total pledges
\$72,000,000	Paid to date

every parish and mission church across the archdiocese. Church sanctuaries have been restored, parish halls have been renovated, pews have been repaired, classroom and meeting space has been expanded, playground equipment has been purchased, parking lots have been replaced, and significant safety improvements have been made.

At its root, however, these projects funded by the campaign are about building up the community of faith and sharing our faith with others. This shared effort, this shared sacrifice, has been a tremendous blessing to the Church today and for future generations.

Thank you to all who made this possible!



ONE CHURCH, MANY DISCIPLES

**Make your
gift online!**



www.archokc.org/campaign-payment



PARISH FACILITIES GRANTS

A highlight of the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal was that 35 parishes surpassed their local goal.

The parish “over goal” amount for the 2022 appeal was designated for a new grant program to help financially struggling parishes with facilities projects. This year, the over goal amount of \$192,000 was matched by a generous donor who seeks to help parish communities across the archdiocese. The total from both sources is \$384,000 and has been placed at the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

The foundation’s Parish Life Grants Committee has established an application process to award grants to these financially struggling parishes and mission churches. The program is designed to assist local churches with major projects they would have difficulty accomplishing on their own. A great example is the first grant awarded – to Saint Anthony of Padua parish in Okeene, whose church dates to 1922.

Since 2011, when Father Jarek Topolewski became pastor, the community has held several fundraisers to maintain and restore the historic church. The parish installed a new roof on the church in 2011, and since then the community has worked to build a parish center. It has taken years of tremendous effort to cobble together the funds to do so.

In the middle of construction, however, the roof on the church failed. Because of a bad installation job, the roof must be replaced.

The Parish Facilities Grant Program has awarded Saint Anthony a grant of \$43,000, or half of the roof project cost. The parish still has to work to provide the other half, but this help is tremendously beneficial to the community.

“All of us have heard many times when the Annual Catholic Appeal takes place: ‘What do we as a rural parish get out of it?’ Well recently we got our answer. When St. Anthony of Padua Church needed to replace a roof, the grant could not come at a better time. Thank you very much for helping us.”
- Father Jarek Topolewski

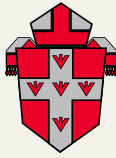


ARCHBISHOP’S MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL MASS

Mass honors professionals

Each year, Archbishop Coakley celebrates special Masses to honor health care workers, legal professionals and first responders. These Masses are made possible because of gifts to the Annual Catholic Appeal.





Go Make Disciples

STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

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SPRING 2023 • *Newsletter*

A Free Estate Planning Resource

As Catholics, we are called to be good stewards of all in our possession, and an estate plan is frequently a missed opportunity to act as a faithful steward.

AN ESTATE PLAN CAN HELP YOU:

- Designate guardians for children and pets
- Dictate funeral wishes in alignment with our faith
- Protect and pass on your valuables
- Create a planned gift to support Catholics in Oklahoma, for years to come.



**Catholic
Foundation**
OF OKLAHOMA



Protect your blessings with a free will-writing tool.
Visit cfbook.org/freewill to get started.

