

Happy New Year!

I am pleased to provide an update to the Rebuilding Our Church Capital Campaign since the volunteer orientation session you attended back in September.

These past few months, Archbishop Don, Campaign Co-chairs, Campaign Cabinet team members and DCG representatives have been meeting with those who could potentially provide a major, transformational gift to the campaign. To date we have received some gifts, we have a number of individuals in the discernment process, and we have more on our list to have conversations with.

Presentations and informational sessions have been held with archdiocesan staff and clergy, Holy Rosary leadership parishioners and retired priests. All have been encouraged to make a commitment to the campaign. Over 65 donors have answered that request while others are still discerning their gifts/pledges.

***I am excited to share we have secured over \$4.3 Million (25% of campaign goal) so far. Attached you will find a gift chart with a column showing the levels of gifts we have received to date. We anticipate being ready for the public phase by late March, which means we are already beginning to plan for volunteer training.***

Please consider volunteering at your parish level to help this campaign succeed. For those who have already stepped forward - Thank You! We will need each volunteer to visit approximately 15 individuals/couples to ensure that they know about the importance of the campaign, that their questions are answered, and that they are invited to support it. Other volunteers will be needed to coordinate and report on the information coming back from the visits. Attached are the **draft volunteer descriptions** for your consideration.

While the campaign may seem to be primarily about bricks and mortar, our hope is that the personal visits will also increase parishioner engagement within each parish. We encourage you to consider what other topics to discuss during the campaign visits. For example, some of those visited might be interested in becoming more involved in the parish but have been shy to come forward. Some may have feedback or great ideas about how to improve parish life or ministry. Others may have been unaware of how important their contribution actually is, both to the archdiocese and to their parish. An encouraging visit from a fellow parishioner can make a big difference in any of these cases.

Whether or not you are able to serve as a volunteer visitor, we ask for your enthusiastic support for the project when it becomes public this spring. Because you are a leader in your parish, others will be taking their cue from you. If you are not enthusiastic yet, please do connect with me to get your questions answered, or to sign up for volunteer training.

This campaign is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to come together as people who care about the Catholic church in southern Saskatchewan, and want to set it on a firm foundation for the next 100 years. I'm excited to be part of this effort, and look forward to hearing from and getting to know you over the coming months. I will continue to share updates on a regular basis.

Many Blessings,

P.S. We now have a "behind the scenes" video tour showing areas of the cathedral building most visitors don't get to view: <https://youtu.be/4iq22YH7hf8>. Also, if you didn't get the chance to watch the Archbishop's Appeal videos showing the amazing work coming out of the current pastoral centre location, you can still see them here: <https://archregina.sk.ca/giving-how-donate/archbishops-appeal>

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