



Thank you!

Your support of the Family of Faith campaign continues to make important contributions to the vitality of parishes right across our archdiocese.

Your faithful participation in your parish's campaign helps to ensure that projects and activities in our parishes move forward.

Parish Campaign Update

Our February 2019 edition of *Family News* is being included with the distribution of the 2018 charitable tax receipts to our donors.

Most donations to the campaign were in the form of five-year pledges, and are being fulfilled in regular installments. Over the course of the campaign, more than \$170 million was pledged. As anticipated, the value of some pledges changed. This has happened because parishioners move out of the archdiocese, pass away or their financial circumstances change. The current total pledged or paid is approximately \$157 million. Of this amount, more than \$100 million has already been received in cash. This is an amazing achievement.

Under the 'sharing formula' with parishes, once a parish reaches its goal, it receives 75% of funds received above that goal. 68 parishes have now exceeded their parish goals, helping them to implement the plans they outlined in their parish's 'case statement.'*

Over \$34 million has already been flowed to individual parish accounts. Thus far parishes have spent approximately \$19 million on parish priorities, \$5.7 million of which was used to repay parish debt.

**A case statement is the description of how a parish plans to spend its share of funds. These plans were outlined in the parish's campaign brochure shared with all parishioners at the outset of the parish's campaign.*

St. Margaret's of Scotland Parish

in Toronto is a very busy parish whose Pastor is Fr. Andy Macbeth. The parish community participated in the first wave of 20 parishes that conducted Family of Faith campaigns.

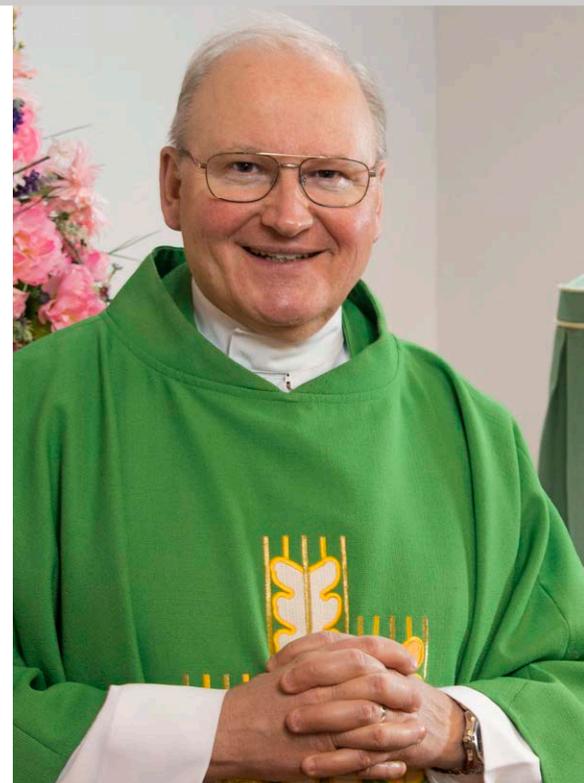
To determine how the parish would use its campaign proceeds, Fr. Macbeth consulted with his Finance Council and heard from many parishioners. Like many parishes, St. Margaret's earmarked its funds for important capital projects that would make important repairs to its buildings and enhance parish life.

"We chose to repair the roof of the church, rectory and hall. We also needed to address leaking basements in both the church and St. Eugene's Chapel. Our

parish hall kitchen was also identified for renovation since it is, like in many parishes, a focal point for hospitality pastoral works," said Fr. Macbeth.

To date, the parish has invested over \$142,000 of its campaign proceeds. "I felt it was important to put the funds to use as they became available so that parishioners would see the results of their support for our campaign."

Keeping parishioners informed of the state of the campaign has also been effective, according to Fr. Andy. "We have provided regular updates, used campaign posters and I've written letters of thanks to our donors to ensure parishioners are aware of how their funds are being used."



Current Questions



John Ecker is Director of the Family of Faith Campaign & Special Projects. He receives many calls and emails from parishioners and pastors from across the archdiocese. Here are some of the most topical questions.

1) How do I update my address or payment information? When will my pledge be complete?

Donors can update their record by contacting our Donations Processing Centre. The best way is via telephone at 416.934.3400 x555. The office can also be contacted via online at campaign@archtoronto.org but donors are discouraged from sharing personal financial information via email.

2) How do I learn how our parish's campaign is doing?

The best source for up-to-date information is the parish pastor. They are asked to keep their parishioners informed about the parish campaign. The campaign office provides the parish with reporting tools (signage, bulletin messages, pulpit announcements, etc.). Financial progress reports are also provided to pastors twice per year.

3) How can a parish case be changed, if needed?

Over time, a parish's needs may change. To change a case statement, the pastor must consult with parishioners and receive permission from his Regional Bishop and the Chancellor of Temporal Affairs. The new priorities must be communicated directly to parishioners. Pastors who may be considering changes to their case are encouraged to first connect with John Ecker.

4) How much has the campaign spent on work at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica?

The Family of Faith campaign's 'case statement,' noted that \$25 million from the campaign would be used for the restoration of St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. Those funds have been allocated, as planned.

St. Edward the Confessor Parish

in Toronto had no trouble identifying its priorities for funding from the Family of Faith campaign.

Fr. Pat O'Dea is the pastor at St. Edward's and he had only been in the parish for a year or so when he consulted broadly with parishioners about campaign priorities.

Based on that feedback, the parish chose a mix of initiatives to address both the physical and pastoral needs of the parish. "The campaign helped us implement our EDGE Program for students in grades 6-8. We have also hired a youth minister and plan to implement the LifeTeen Program too."

A major capital investment was also required to fix the parish's parking lot. "We were able to repair and repave our lot, install brighter, more efficient LED lighting and provide better access for parishioners with disabilities," said Fr. O'Dea.

As the funds continue to accumulate in the parish's campaign, Fr. O'Dea will proceed

with other campaign priorities that include interior painting, replacement of carpeting and installation of new, efficient lighting.

To keep parishioners informed and engaged, Fr. O'Dea has used campaign posters and banners and provided timely announcements to parishioners. He also wrote personal letters to donors this past Christmas to acknowledge their support. "After all, we have only been able to do what we've done with the generous support of our parishioners."

St. Edward's was also selected as one of the 10 communications hubs for the archdiocese. The hubs are connected via internet and use the latest in video and communications technology. At St. Edward's the facilities have been used for a wide range of activities—from sessions with the Office for Catholic Youth to gatherings for parishioners to watch live Lectio Divina broadcasts with Cardinal Collins.

Family of Faith Campaign

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