



## Your support is working

"I want to express my thanks to all of the donors supporting our Family of Faith campaign. Your commitment is an inspiration," said Cardinal Thomas Collins. "The response from the parishioners has been very generous."

The Family of Faith campaign plan includes many important initiatives in support of the Archdiocese of Toronto's Pastoral Plan. Cardinal Collins said, "It's important that we implement those priorities as the funding from the campaign becomes available and put our parishioners' contributions to work as soon as possible."

Jim Milway is the Chancellor of Temporal Affairs at the Archdiocese of Toronto. Part of his job includes ensuring funds from the Family of Faith campaign are allocated in keeping with the campaign plan. The campaign was first conducted in ten Pilot Phase parishes followed by four additional 'waves' of parishes. The chart on p. 2 shows how the Pilot Phase and the first two waves performed. "Most parishes that have completed their campaigns exceeded their goals. As a result, parishes are receiving more funds than anticipated. That is because once a parish campaign reaches its goal, 75 per cent of funds above the goal are allocated for parish priorities," said Mr. Milway.

"It's terrific news," said Mr. Milway. "The Pilot Phase and those in the first two waves were estimated to collectively receive \$11 million. They will now receive almost three times that amount because they have been so successful." This success means that instead of 25 per cent, these parishes will receive 43 per cent or \$29.2 million.

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Marlena Loughheed, Communications Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Toronto, shows Cardinal Collins the completed website for St Jerome's parish, the first parish to launch in the new website network.

## Project Connect launches first parish websites

Currently, in a society that spends countless hours online, 25% of parishes in the Archdiocese of Toronto do not have a website. Project Connect, funded by the Family of Faith campaign, is the archdiocese's response to this reality. Project Connect consists of a new main archdiocesan website ([www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)) connected to individual parish websites.

The main archdiocesan site went live in February, 2015. There are 20 pilot parishes in production and at least one new parish site has been launched every week since September. Approximately 100 sites are expected to be up and running in the next six months.

The Family of Faith campaign has allocated \$1.5 million to Project Connect. \$246,000 has been used to purchase the hardware and content management system, and \$100,000 will be spent annually over 10 years for maintenance and support.

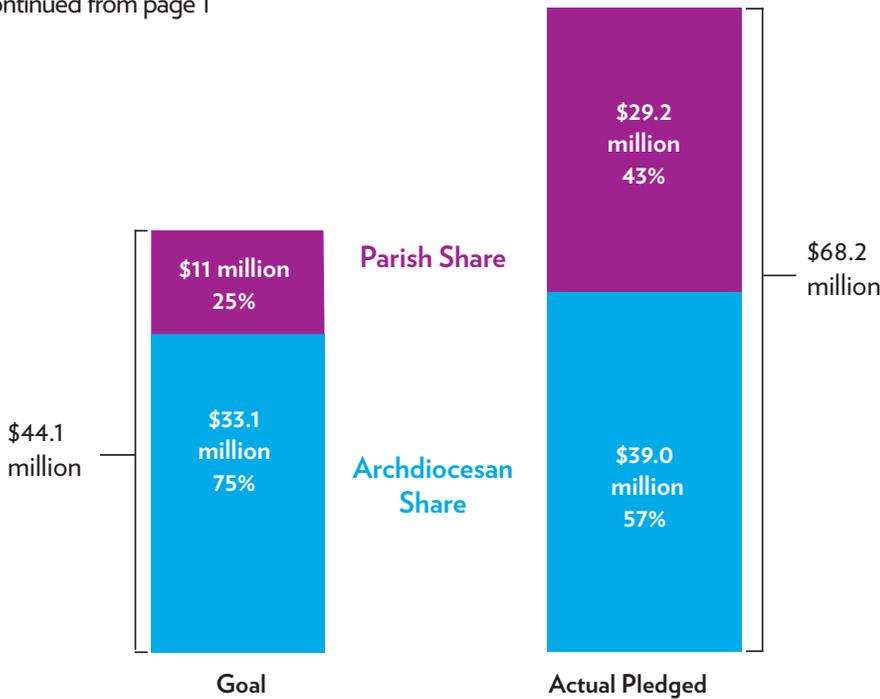
The new system has many important features and functions.

Shift workers faced with a Sunday workday will be able to find a Saturday evening Mass at a nearby parish. Parents looking to sign up their son or daughter for sacrament preparation or a local youth group will be able to find a group by looking online. With the new system, parish staff can easily update content themselves, as no coding is required to update the sites. If they choose not to update their parish content, their websites will still stay fresh and relevant, since the archdiocese will update defined content on each parish site (such as archdiocesan-wide events).

Thanks to your support for the Family of Faith campaign, Catholics across the archdiocese are becoming more connected every day.

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This graph includes goals and actual pledged for Pilot Phase, Wave 1 parishes and Wave 2 parishes.

Mr. Milway works closely with Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick, who chairs the Family of Faith Allocation Advisory Committee. The committee is comprised of members of clergy, lay volunteers and senior archdiocesan staff. Here is an update on how key priorities in the Family of Faith campaign are being addressed:

- By November 2015, just over \$3 million will have been allocated to Pilot Phase,

Wave 1 and Wave 2 parishes for parish use;

- Applications are being accepted from pastors to receive financial support to hire Parish Youth Ministers. Thus far, 12 applications have been received from pastors and 10 have been approved to receive subsidies from the \$5 million fund for Parish Based Youth Ministry;

- The archdiocese also shared application criteria with parishes seeking a loan from the \$10 million fund to assist with extraordinary expenses related to necessary capital projects. St. Mark's Parish in Toronto is the first parish to receive support via a \$145,000 interest-free loan. The money will support the installation of an elevator, which will make the church more accessible;
- \$7 million has been allocated for renovations at St. Michael's Cathedral.

Previously announced allocations include:

- The Ryerson University chaplaincy had an urgent need for improved space to house its outreach centre. To address the need, \$1 million was flowed to upgrade an archdiocesan building near the campus;
- Guardian Angels Parish in Brampton received \$2 million (non-interest bearing loan) for new church construction (see story below);
- The Family of Faith campaign has flowed \$246,000 of \$1.5 million dedicated to improve web technology and infrastructure. All parish websites will move to a common platform with improved connectivity among parishes.

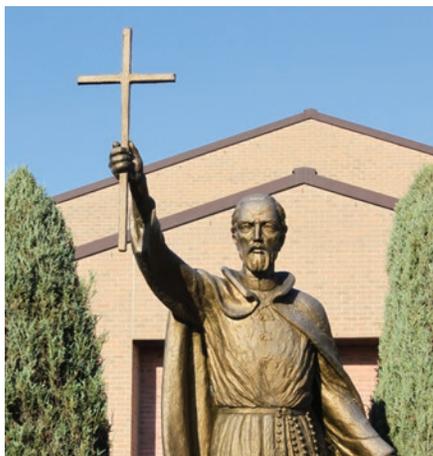


## Family of Faith funds will help Guardian Angels parish in Brampton build church sooner

The Family of Faith campaign has earmarked \$20 million for interest-free loans to help parish communities accelerate church construction. With funds from the Family of Faith campaign, the archdiocese is loaning \$2 million to Guardian Angels parish in Brampton. In thanking His Eminence, Cardinal Thomas Collins for the support, Fr. Jan Gogolewski, Pastor, said, "The \$2 million will help us build our new church more quickly. Our parish family needs a home and the Family of Faith campaign's investment will help us build Guardian Angels sooner than we could have otherwise."

# Volunteer Perspective: Chairing a Campaign Committee

A parish's Family of Faith campaign is most successful when pastors engage their parishioners in helping to lead the parish campaign. Fr. Paul Dobson is the pastor at St. Isaac Jogues Parish in Pickering, a Pilot Phase parish. He enlisted the support of Claude Rochefort, a parishioner, who served as the chair of the parish's Campaign Executive Committee.



My wife Rita and I were invited to meet with Father Paul and the Parish Campaign Director from the Family of Faith campaign office to learn more details about the campaign. After making a pledge I was asked by Father Paul to be the chair of the parish's Campaign Executive Committee (CEC). From that point on I worked closely with Father Paul and the director to build the CEC and help lead the campaign.

Our campaign exceeded our expectations. Our target was \$815,000 and we raised over \$1.37 million in gifts and pledges. That's 169% of our goal! A positive offshoot of the campaign was the opportunity for committee members to

reach out and enhance relationships with fellow parishioners. We were amazed at the response of our parishioners to participate in the campaign. This was particularly evident during our Commitment Weekend when pledges contributed to over 50% of our parish target. The campaign also strengthened the bonds between our parish and the archdiocese.

In many instances parishioners were surprised, given the need to address projects such as renovations to St. Michael's Cathedral, that this solicitation for support had not occurred previously. Parishioners were impressed by the leadership role of the Cardinal as well as Father Paul in the campaign. The projects to be funded from our parish share of the campaign also resonated. These include improved bathroom accessibility, improved lighting and greater outreach to the poor in our community.

Reflecting on what made our campaign successful, I'd share this advice with other parishes now running their own Family of Faith campaigns:

- Pastor has to assume a leadership role;
- Listen to and work closely with your Parish Campaign Director;
- Build a strong dedicated, diverse campaign team who are committed to reaching the parish goal;
- The Committee needs to meet on a regular (weekly) ongoing basis to measure, monitor and, if necessary, work with your director to modify the parish plan;
- Progress needs to be communicated to the parish on an on-going basis;
- Reach out to everyone in your parish and ask for their support;
- Conceive, believe and inevitably you will succeed;
- Pray for a successful campaign.



*Liemy Tagsa is a parishioner at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Toronto. Mr. Tagsa made a gift to his parish's Family of Faith campaign in the form of a life insurance policy. He recently contacted the campaign office after reading an edition of Family Update, our weekly summary of campaign activity.*

"It is so encouraging to see the responsiveness of the Catholic community towards the Family of Faith campaign. I was initially overwhelmed by the enormous goal set by the Archdiocese of Toronto. However, I now feel so humbled and blessed by the energy and enthusiasm displayed by Roman Catholics in Toronto. The astounding achievements of both priests and parishioners are a testament of how the Catholic community—when it comes together in a united and cohesive effort—can reach goals that may seem both daunting and insurmountable. It is a demonstration of how the glory of God is reflected through people who belong to a *family of faith*."

## Have you made your gift yet?

If you have not yet made a gift to the Family of Faith campaign, visit [ourfamilyoffaith.ca](http://ourfamilyoffaith.ca) to find out what your parish is doing as part of its own campaign. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Contributions can be made at your parish or by emailing [campaign@archtoronto.org](mailto:campaign@archtoronto.org) to request a pledge form.

# Campaign was a “challenging yet successful undertaking”

We recently caught up with Fr. Andrew Cyruk. He has now led successful Family of Faith campaigns in three parishes.



1) *You are responsible for three parishes and one mission church in the archdiocese. Which ones?*

I am pastor of Guardian Angels Parish in Orillia, Saint Columbkille Parish in Uptergrove, and Saint Francis of Assisi Parish in Washago and Sacred Heart Mission in Warminster.

2) *You have now run Family of Faith campaigns in all three parishes. What was that like?*

It was a challenging yet very successful undertaking. And, I believe we have all learned a lot about the pastoral plan which will guide our archdiocese for years to come. I believe many parishes are constantly faced with the need for different major and minor campaigns/ fundraising. We have also realized the vital connection that exists between all parishes.

3) *Overall, what kind of response did you get from your parishioners?*

Most of my parishioners were very excited about the different projects presented in the case for support for the campaign. There is something in it for young and older people. Youth ministry was of a special interest to many.



4) *Why is the Family of Faith campaign important for all Catholics in the archdiocese?*

I see the Family of Faith campaign as a great and historic event. The campaign makes us aware of many pastoral and temporal needs across the archdiocese. We are not isolated in our efforts to preach and live the Good News. There is also a great desire to grow together through continued faith formation.

5) *Any final thoughts?*

This campaign has been a great undertaking for both clergy and lay volunteers. I hope the “momentum” will continue on a local level as we work together for our parishes. I also want to thank the donors who have contributed to the campaign. The generosity we have seen is unprecedented and it is a great tribute to their faith and support for our Church.

## Family of Faith Campaign

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## Editorial

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## 2015 Tax Receipts

We will be issuing 2015 tax receipts for Family of Faith donations by the end of February 2016. Most gifts to the campaign have been in the form of pledges, payable over five years. Tax receipts will be issued for the value of gift amounts, up until Thursday, December 31, 2015.

## Family of Faith Campaign

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