



CHURCH OF EPIPHANY NEWSLETTER

Church of the Epiphany

February 27, 2010

A WORD FROM FR. JEFF

"Today's celebration is more than an occasion of gratitude for graces received. It is also a summons to move forward with firm resolve; to build a future of hope for coming generations."

-Pope Benedict XVI
Yankee Stadium,
April 20, 2008

Dear Beloved Community of Epiphany,

As we profess in our Epiphany Creed, we are a family of believers who "acknowledging our oneness with God and all creation" respond to our baptismal calling by "proclaiming the good news that Jesus is Lord and that he is with us."

We are a people of God who commit ourselves to "sharing the hope and joy of the resurrection event with all who thirst for the fullness of life." But how do we do this?

We share the hope and joy of the resurrection event through:

- § "Liturgical expressions that celebrate the Lord's life, death, and resurrection, and that illuminate these mysteries in our lives." But what if our youngest children cannot yet attentively sit through an entire Mass? What if our most elderly or physically challenged parishioners cannot readily enter our worship space?
- § "Lifelong learning experiences that foster spiritual growth at all levels of human development." But what if we do not have enough gathering areas for groups to come together for this learning, or a space where parishioners can casually share their faith stories from the week?
- § "Just and creative responses to the needs of the suffering, the poor, the disheartened, and the oppressed," and "social activities that will enhance development as a community family." But how can we inspire these creative responses and provide for community social development activities without the ability to readily gather in fellowship so as to support one another and build up our common sense of mission?

A disciple asks, "Lord, what do you want to do through me?" This is what I am inviting all of us to consider as we together work and sacrifice to make our Epiphany vision a viable reality today. We stand on the shoulders of giants. Tomorrow's Epiphanyites will stand on ours. Responding from our gratitude for the blessings God has bestowed, we are each invited to give according to our means; not equal gifts but equal sacrifice. Many hands make the burden light!

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A Compelling Need. . . Archdiocesan Need

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

-- Acts 20:35

The Archdiocese of Louisville's Building a Future of Hope Bicentennial Campaign will strengthen parishes, schools, and the Archdiocese.

The first priority of the campaign is parish needs. At least 50% of funds raised in the campaign will stay with the parishes. Parishes will participate in one of four waves from the fall to late spring of 2010.

In our parish conversations we articulated a deep desire for connectedness; with God, the world, and one another.

Responding to this desire the parish leadership named as a conversation action step the expansion of our gathering area through connecting our worship center to our community center. We now have the opportunity through the Campaign of Hope to take this step. In this way we can continue to make our dream articulated in our vision statement a reality today. By expanding our gathering area through connecting our worship center to our

community center we can lay the groundwork to:

- Create a more accessible gathering area with new bathrooms
- Create a welcoming coffee area
- Create a nursery
- Create a proper cry room and sacristy
- Create an improved kitchen
- Create expandable seating for Sunday Masses
- Create additional storage
- Create better handicap parking

The base goal for the entire campaign is \$66,000,000, which will likely increase as each parish develops its own case. Epiphany seeks to raise \$1,800,000.00.

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“Not Equal Gifts, But Equal Sacrifice”

During the next few months, we will join all the parishes in the Archdiocese of Louisville as we explore the spirituality of stewardship together.

The simple and profound theme that underscores Building a Future of Hope comes from the Bible's teaching about proportionate giving and the blessings of sacrifice. No gift impresses God in terms of dollar

amount, but as extensions of the love and obedience with which they are given and proportion of resources from which they come. God, in other words, looks on the heart.

Please join us in prayer, study, and worship. Begin now to pray that God will guide our parish and leave Christ's imprint on individual hearts. Ask God to keep us on the path of obedience

and trust. Pray that the Building a Future of Hope effort will accomplish what it is meant to do: to focus our vision on God's work and keep us aware of the privilege of our part in it.

Please remember that your experience with personal sacrifice is not a one-time check or contribution, but a profound way to explore and deepen the gift of giving.

Our Campaign Chairs Say “Yes!”

Pay It Forward

I said yes to being the co-chair of the Epiphany campaign because of the concept “Pay It Forward.” In 1986, Archbishop Kelly made it possible for me to work in Dublin, Ireland for the Catholic Youth Council for a year by helping to fund that effort. I worked as a volunteer on the faith development team with the CYC and would not have had that opportunity had Archbishop Kelly not made it possible. Sometimes, your gut tells you to do something even if you are not sure of the end result. I am thankful his inclination was to invest in me. It has paid off.

. Well, with this campaign, my gut...or my “internal yes” signaled to me that this campaign was worth my investment of my time, talent and energy. Epiphany, as part of the Archdiocese of Louisville, is my faith home and the members of Epiphany (parishioners and staff) are my faith family. I have been a parishioner since 1982. As with all families, we have had our struggles and our celebrations over the years...and will continue to as we continue on our faith journey. I invite you to join me in this campaign in whatever way works for you...as we continue to build on our faith tradition and “pay it forward” for the next generation of Epiphanyites. Your investment will pay off. I promise.

Tricia Burke
Campaign Co-Chair

“Give to the Most
High as He has given
to you.”

-- Sirach 35:9

To Our Epiphany Family,

It was during this past Advent season that we were asked to consider being a part of the leadership team for the *Building a Future of Hope Campaign*. As you may remember, it was during this season of preparing our hearts that we were called to “Be a mystic”—to look at the world from God’s eyes. Our first response to the invitation to chair this campaign was ‘no’. However, after reflecting more deeply and putting ourselves in a mystic’s mind frame, we began to reconsider. From God’s eyes would God want us to be involved in this endeavor and also from God’s eyes is this project one that God would want to see happen?

As we reconsidered our initial answer, we asked ourselves- having been at Epiphany for more than 20 years would God like to see us involved in a larger project for our church? Also, in discerning this commitment, we reflected on how God might view this building project. Would God want there to be more space to gather and more opportunity to spend time with one another? Would God want there to be improved handicap accessibility? Would God want to see us building for our future by creating permanent nursery space for our families who are attending church and/or meetings here? Would God like to see an improved kitchen making it easier to run our social gatherings and community building events? Our discernment led us to answer ‘yes’ to these questions. Finally, knowing half of the monies raised during Epiphany’s campaign would go to our Archdiocese, we considered how God might view our support for the larger local church. The specific needs of our Archdiocese include helping to fund seminarian education, priests’ retirement, multicultural ministries, local parishes in need, a legacy fund for Archdiocesan initiatives and international Catholic missionary work, as well as tuition assistance for Catholic schools. Would God like there to be continued growth in our 200 year old Archdiocese that would strengthen and nurture our church today? We felt the answer to these questions were ‘yes’ as well.

We are excited about the good that can come from this capital campaign, and have been empowered by Fr. Jeff's enthusiasm for this project as a way of bringing our community together. There is a real plan to get our entire community of Epiphany engaged and to bring together our gifts to share. We invite all of you to find some way to contribute. Our true goal is to spread this enthusiasm for our future and have every family of Epiphany be a part of this campaign in some way. We encourage you to "be a mystic" as this campaign unfolds! And may God bless you...

Neil and Anne Ramsey
Campaign Co-Chairs

"Building a Future of Hope" Team

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have; God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind."

- - Hebrews 13:16

The success of our campaign will rely on the faithful participation of many in our parish. We would like to say a special thanks to these who have already stepped forward to say "Yes!"

CAMPAIGN CHAIRS:
Tricia Burke
Anne Ramsey
Neil Ramsey

ADVANCE COMMITMENT:
Dick Brien
Lori Brien
Bob Cook
Diane Cook
Paul Franz
Bryan Fulkerson
Chris Fulkerson
Ceci Hagan
Tim Hagan
Julie Marzano
Mark Marzano

CONTACT TEAM LEADER:
Carol Harris

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY:
Betty Conniff
Barbara Herzog

CAMPAIGN ADMINISTRATOR:
Patrick Evans

INVOLVEMENT LEADER:
Marlene Miller

FOLLOW-UP LEADER:
Therese Brennan

INFORMATION LEADERS:
Judy Clickner
David Hileman
Melinda Hileman
David Holliger
Jean Holliger
Jay Stuart

PACESETTER LEADERS:
Connie Fowler
Phil McHugh
Suzanne McHugh
Dennis Riggs
Kitty Riggs

Lisa Scherer
Coleen Underhill

PRAYER LEADERS:
Lucio Caruso
Therese Caruso
Chris McDonell
Melani McDonell

PRINT COMMUNICATIONS:
Laurie Atwell
Mark Atwell
Bernadette Monday
Larry Monday
Cathy New

SPECIAL EVENT LEADER:
Anna Hundley

YOUTH LEADER:
Chris Luken

VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS:
Paul Carlisle
Jeff Squyres
Anna Workman

Please Say "Yes!"

The success of Building a Future of Hope depends on you!

In the coming months, hundreds of fellow parishioners will dedicate their time and talents in an effort

to inform the parish of the challenge before us as we undertake Building a Future of Hope Bicentennial Campaign. But they can not do it all alone – they need your help.

There are so many different ways you can share time, talent, and resources. When you are asked to become part of this campaign team, please say "Yes!"

"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be...Much will be required of the person entrusted with much..."

-- Luke 12: 34, 48

Building a Future of Hope - Four Great Questions

If not this, what?

If not here, where?

If not now, when?

If not me, who?

I Want to Help!

I want to join the

(Team name)
Name

Phone

Email

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip

(Please place in the Collection Basket/Take or Mail to the Parish Office)

A Compelling Need. . . (continued from page two)

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Archdiocesan Case

The Archdiocese also has developed its case. Archdiocesan needs of \$16,500,000 includes the following:

Seminarian Education (\$5,500,000): Funds will be used for the education and training of seminarians.

Priest Retirement (\$4,500,000): Funds will be used to increase the restricted fund for priests' retirement and help reduce the assessment burden on parishes.

Parish Assistance (\$3,000,000): Funds will be used to assist parishes that face emergencies or unanticipated changes in the needs of the people they serve.

Multicultural Ministries

(\$1,500,000): Funds will provide support to parishes and the Archdiocese for programming and services designed to serve the rapidly growing Latino population and to support new initiatives at the Catholic Enrichment Center, which serves West Louisville.

Long-Term Legacy Fund (\$2,000,000): Funds will provide seed money for long-term needs such as land that will be enhanced in future years with planned giving efforts. This fund also includes a \$500,000 gift to the Cathedral for its public mission and a 10% tithe (ten percent of the amount raised in the legacy fund) to international missions.

In addition to these archdiocesan initiatives, the campaign includes \$5,900,000 for tuition assistance for families in need; \$6,600,000 for the 2008 and 2009 Catholic Services Appeal campaigns, which will be suspended during this Building a Future of Hope Campaign, and a \$4,000,000 allowance for campaign expenses. These expenses include printing, postage, event costs, and a fixed fee for professional counsel. Supporting this effort is the most valuable investment you can make. We invite you to prayerfully consider your role and that of your parish in this campaign.



“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with first fruits of all your produce; then will your barns be filled with grain, with new wine your vats will overflow”

-- Proverbs 3: 9-10