

GOOD WORKS

An Impact Report to Donors – Fall 2016

TAKING CARE OF OUR SHEPHERDS



Aux. bishop William Winter reviews architectural drawings with Fr. Philip Przybyla.

After laboring tirelessly in the Lord's vineyard serving their people, retired priests of the diocese will benefit from a much-needed expansion of **St. John Vianney Manor**.

Work is underway on the facility on campus of St. Paul Seminary in Crafton, built in 1961 and later converted into a retirement home for the clergy.

Sacrificial gifts to **Our Campaign for The Church Alive!** are funding the expansion of four new residential suites for a total of 36; another 20 could be added in the future.

Renovations include a new elevator, kitchen, dining and living rooms, exercise facility and walk-in showers in the rooms.

There are about 100 retired priests in the diocese, with many more to join them in the coming years.

"Many of our retired priests continue to assist in parishes by celebrating Mass and hearing confessions," said **Father Philip Przybyla**, director of St. John Vianney Manor. "We are quite grateful to our campaign donors for their support."

Campaign Grants Help Young People

Keeping Catholic high school students safe and connected on-campus and online is the goal of new grants from **Our Campaign for The Church Alive, Inc.** board of directors.

The grants will fund **technology needs** for all 12 Catholic high schools in the diocese, including cyber security, technology-based physical plant security, as well as adequate network and technology infrastructure. The upgrade will provide students with a support system that will accommodate today's information formats and evolve with the changes ahead.

The funding provides the necessary network capacity and configuration, including appropriate Internet access, perimeter security and installation of business-class anti-malware to support a secure computing environment. The technology will enable high schools to meet current and future curriculum and educational goals, and provide opportunities for collaborative learning within the campus, among and between our high schools and throughout the world.

The board also approved other grants:

- **Students with Special Needs-** Start-up funding to support the McGuire Memorial Community Solutions NOW Program (Need Opportunities for Work). NOW will provide specialized employment services for people with disabilities to develop job-readiness and daily-living skills as they transition to work.
- **New Evangelization-** Funds to support two Boy Scouts taking part in the St. George Trek at Philmont Scout Rank in New Mexico. The biannual backpacking event with priests, religious and seminarians helps develop organizational and leadership skills in high school-age Catholic Scouts while nourishing their spirituality.
- **New Evangelization-** funding to replace electrical and lighting components for the Pittsburgh Crèche. In our increasingly secular world it is an important, visible sign of Christ's presence, with up to 250,000 visitors a year paying homage.



REACHING OUT IN GREENE COUNTY



Parishioners from Greene County parishes traveled to PNC Park in July for Faith Night.

Campaign donors are helping young people and senior citizens in what is historically one of the poorest counties in Pennsylvania.

Five parishes in **Greene County** have received a diocesan campaign grant to support religious education, youth development and retreats. Funds will also be used to reach out to the elderly, the poor and homeless, for a program to promote the sanctity of human life, and the Catholic Men's Fellowship.

Emergency warming centers also will be built at **St. Ann**, **St. Ignatius of Antioch** and **St. Thomas** parishes, similar to one at **St. Hugh Parish**.

"We want our church community to be the center of activity as we witness our faith," said **Deacon Tom Raymond**, deacon administrator of the Greene County parishes. "We are focused on outreach and collaboration."

Boundless Catholic Generosity

Donors' sacrificial gifts to *Our Campaign for The Church Alive!* were in the spotlight recently at the 54th annual conference of the International Catholic Stewardship Council, held in New Orleans.

Board member **Marie Milie Jones**, General Secretary/Vicar General **Father Lawrence DiNardo** and Director of Stewardship **Pat Joyce** presented "Boundless Catholic Generosity: What Happens When the Focus is on Mission and Not Money."

Attendees heard how the campaign was envisioned and conducted in prayer, many donors made sacrificial commitments over five years, and that our priests and deacons have led from the beginning.

"We learned that if Catholics clearly understand the 'why' of a campaign and that funds will be used as promised, they will respond with Catholic generosity," Dr. Joyce said.

On Mission for The Church Alive! Enters New Phase

The consultation and feedback phase is underway for *On Mission for The Church Alive!*

Last month 21 District Consultation sessions were held across the diocese to introduce clergy and parish team leaders to the scope of the planning initiative.

From Oct. 10 through Dec. 1 all 192 parishes in the diocese are hosting **Parish Consultation sessions**. Parishioners are encouraged to attend and check their parish bulletins for dates, times and locations of the meetings.

During the Parish Consultation sessions draft models are being presented through a video, proposing potential groups of parishes that may come together to form a new parish. The models include proposed clergy and lay staffing and facilities that are necessary to support the potential new parish.

Parishioners have an opportunity to submit questions in the sessions and provide feedback, a vital step in the On Mission consultation process.

For further information visit OnMissionChurchAlive.org.

ON MISSION FOR
THE CHURCH ALIVE!

Positive Impact at Home, Across Our Diocese

Regina Stover has been a strong advocate of the campaign from the beginning. She and husband **Denny** co-chaired the effort at **Our Lady of Grace Parish** in Scott. After seeing the impact of their gifts, they're even more excited and grateful.

"What I've loved about the campaign is that it supports parishes and the entire Catholic community," Regina said. "The diocesan case is helping to educate our seminarians and priests, provide tuition assistance for needy Catholic elementary students, and improve evangelization, among other components. And at our parish, we've almost fulfilled our case."

Led by **Father Richard Infante**, the parish campaign has allowed them to replace roofs, school windows, lighting and air conditioning in the church, and upgrade the fire alarm system.

"Our parish funds have gone toward these much-needed capital projects, and the diocesan portion is being invested in ministries and programs," Regina said. "It's something for everyone."