CELEBRATING
God’s People Coming Together in Faith + Hope

Rooted in Faith Forward in Hope

Strengthening the Catholic Church in Northeast Ohio

Students from Metro Catholic School
**Campaign Milestones**

**JULY 2008:** FEASIBILITY STUDY PROCESS BEGINS.

**OCTOBER 2009:** FINAL CAMPAIGN CASE STATEMENT AND PLAN PRESENTED TO ALL PRIESTS.

**DECEMBER 2009:** $125 MILLION GOAL ESTABLISHED.

**AUGUST 2010 - DECEMBER 2012:** CAMPAIGN IS ROLLED OUT IN PHASES TO ALL PARISHES.

**DECEMBER 2011:** $63.7 MILLION PLEDGED, REPRESENTING 50% OF TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL.

**JUNE 2012:** $125 MILLION GOAL SURPASSED.

**OCTOBER 2012:** OVER $150 MILLION PLEDGED.

**JANUARY 2013:** QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTIONS BEGIN TO PARISHES AND DIOCESAN CASE STATEMENTS.

**APRIL 2013:** ACTIVE CAMPAIGN CONCLUDES WITH OVER $170 MILLION PLEDGED.

**JANUARY 2013 – DECEMBER 2017:** PLEDGE REDEMPTION PHASE.

**DECEMBER 2017:** $147.5 MILLION COLLECTED (TO DATE).

**THANK YOU!**

A special thank you to our dedicated pastors and priests for their weeks and months of commitment to a campaign that had its base in parishes. The tremendous success of Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope is due in large part to their generosity and leadership that inspired parishioners in a way that will continue to bear fruit for the Church in Northeast Ohio.
Dear Friends,

A few years ago every Catholic in the Diocese of Cleveland was asked to support an historic campaign called, *Rooted in Faith–Forward in Hope*. The goal of this comprehensive initiative was to raise $125 million to transform the Church throughout the eight-county region of Northeast Ohio.

*You did it! And, you did more!*  

God’s people came together in hope and faith to raise $170 million to support their parishes and to joyfully serve the corporal and spiritual needs of Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

*Congratulations!*

Your generous response strengthened parishes that added new roofs, paid off mortgages, built up endowments for their schools, provided greater outreach to their neighborhoods, and enhanced their beautiful worship spaces. In a broader sense, your gifts brought new technology and security to our Catholic schools and provided tuition assistance to families in need. You helped retired priests with financial security in their later years while giving seminarians broader support in their studies and discernment. By helping Catholic Charities to build new facilities while shoring up needed repairs and improvements in older facilities, you helped to welcome people who are struggling and in need of our social concern and care. Not least of all, your *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* gift continues to open doors to new ways of spreading the Catholic faith, ensuring the strength and growth of the Church in Northeast Ohio for years to come.

*Thank you!*

Thank you to Bishop Lennon for his foresight and courage in initiating this campaign, the largest ever conducted in the Diocese of Cleveland. I also extend my sincere gratitude to you, the people of God, and to your pastors, lay leaders, priests and volunteers, who trusted in God’s goodness and the heart of the faithful in bringing this campaign to fruition.

There are thousands of stories to be told throughout the Diocese about the difference *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* is making today and for the future. This *Celebrating* publication merely touches on a few of those stories, meant to inspire you in faith and confidence that the work of the Diocese of Cleveland has truly been strengthened by its people and their generosity.

May God bless you always.

I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Nelson J. Perez

Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.
Bishop of Cleveland

*YOU ARE BEING ENRICHED IN EVERY WAY FOR ALL GENEROSITY, WHICH THROUGH US PRODUCES THANKSGIVING TO GOD. - 2 CORINTHIANS 9:11*
Parishes used a percentage of funds raised to support their most urgent priorities; resulting in greater economic stability and vitality for parishes.
ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH EXPANDS TO SERVE OTHERS

Thanks to funding from Rooted in Faith — Forward in Hope, St. John Vianney Parish in Mentor has broadened its service to the community. One phase of the church’s renovation and expansion project resulted in a larger food bank and a client services meeting space. The ‘small supermarket,’ as the food bank has been called, gives clients the opportunity to do their own shopping, while the meeting room offers a private area for clients to meet with volunteers of St. John Vianney’s St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Two other phases of the project saw the transformation of the old church into a 100-seat chapel and the renovation of some former church space into offices and meeting rooms. “Our staff had increased in size over the years, and there was a shortage of office space, as well as meeting rooms where the 80-plus parish organizations could meet,” explains Fr. Tom Johns, pastor of St. John Vianney Parish. These larger, highly efficient spaces mean greater opportunities for the roughly 10,000 parishioners of this active parish. In addition, those in need in the community can take advantage of the heightened resources provided by the food bank. “The new facility allowed us to better serve the clients we had and the many new clients who came to us for assistance when there were more difficult economic conditions for them,” Fr. Johns says. “We can display produce, dairy products, meats, and canned goods in a way that clients choose the items they need and use rather than giving each client a bag of groceries which may or may not be wanted. Since the addition, we have doubled the number of families we serve.”

Through Rooted in Faith — Forward in Hope, St. John Vianney can carry on and even grow its mission of serving others. “The Rooted in Faith funds allowed us to undertake the three phases of renovation without having to go to the people of the parish with requests for pledges,” Fr. Johns says.

Eva Dolan
eva Dolan served as Honorary Campaign Co-Chair for Rooted in Faith — Forward in Hope.

“God's work, via the Rooted in Faith campaign, now completed after five years, was done by the collaboration of clergy, religious, and laity. Financial need in almost every corner of the Diocese was addressed and aided. One very effective idea was the parish incentive plan which does not deny the very generous caring pledges and payments of all peoples involved. I am blessed to have been a part of this project. Hurrah for the Church in Northeast Ohio.”
Supporting the expansion of Catholic Charities programs, the acquisition of new sites, and renovation of existing sites to better serve people in need.
Today, Alice is living the life she has always wanted — sober. That was not always the case for this 61-year old married mother and grandmother. “I was in so much pain that I didn’t want to live,” admits Alice who was abusing drugs to mask the pain of her life and from Lupus, an autoimmune disease.

After undergoing detoxification at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, Alice entered Matt Talbot for Women, a Catholic Charities residential short-term substance abuse treatment center. There she was educated about the physiological and psychological pathways of addiction. She also discovered who she was and how to live.

Matt Talbot for Women and Matt Talbot for Men offer the most intensive treatment level available and help hundreds of people fighting addiction each year. Those struggling with addiction come from all walks of life – the suburbs, young college graduates and older individuals – magnifying the statement that addiction does not discriminate.

Alice is grateful for the caring and professional staff at Matt Talbot. “They tell you what you need to hear, not necessarily what you want to hear,” says Alice, who moved from Matt Talbot to a sober house, and now is celebrating six years of sobriety. “Today, I am able to enjoy the sun and the rain,” she says. “I am content with me just as I am. I don’t ever want to be like I was before. I had no hope and wanted to die. Matt Talbot gave me life.”

In January 2010 Matt Talbot for Women moved to the Catholic Charities’ St. Augustine Health Campus. Funds from Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope allowed for continued expansion and improvements to the program. In 2016, Matt Talbot for Women expanded, opening a second treatment facility to meet the growing needs of the community. Both Matt Talbot for Women and Matt Talbot for Men are on the front line of the opioid crisis, providing an atmosphere of compassion and pathway for healing.

Phil and Tomiko Maynard

Phil Maynard served as a Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope Campaign Cabinet Member, and is a Catholic Community Foundation Board Member and Former Board Chair. Phil and Tomiko are members of Nativity of the Lord Jesus Parish in Akron.

“This was the first campaign of its kind in the history of the Diocese of Cleveland. Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope focused on the positive things, the great things that happen every day in our Diocese and parishes. The generosity of so many people throughout the campaign helped us to meet real needs in our community: educating young people, taking care of our priests, and reaching out to people in need of food and shelter. Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope was truly transformational for our Church and for our Diocese.”
STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH

Sharing our faith with current and future generations through evangelization programs, lay faith formation, and by sustaining a Catholic presence in urban neighborhoods.
The plans were set for about 100 students representing the University of Akron Newman Center to attend Pope Francis’ historic visit to Philadelphia in 2015. Charter buses had been rented and arrangements made for an overnight stay at the National Museum of American Jewish History.

MarySarah Menkhaus, then vice president of Akron Newman, believed just one thing was missing: a papal flag for the group to fly in Philadelphia. “My friends and I were on Amazon, frantically searching for a flag, and we couldn’t find anything,” she recalls. Finally, a friend’s mother found one online and had it delivered the day before the trip.

The flag was the finishing touch on a life-changing experience. “It was probably the biggest community I have ever felt in my life,” MarySarah says about walking among throngs of people who had come to see the Pope.

For Akron Newman member Andrew Kustec, the experience was similar to the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. “Everyone is there for the same reason. There’s so much energy,” he says. The Pope’s words about the sanctity of life hit home with Andrew. “It was so beautiful to hear,” he recalls. “In our society today, the family is very much taken for granted. His words reinforced the Christian value of the family.”

“The joy on the Pope’s face was so real,” says MarySarah. “I kept thinking, ‘What if we all had this joy of Christ in us that we were able to have as a visible sign to others?’ That’s what I’ve been reflecting on since then.”

 Ranked by BestCollegeReviews.org as the 18th best Newman Center in the country, Akron Newman received a grant from Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope for members to attend a Campus Ministry Leadership Institute at St. Xavier University in Chicago. Seeing Pope Francis in Philadelphia may have been a huge highlight for the ministry, but it’s clear Akron Newman continues to stay engaged with activities that reinforce its mission.

Tim and Donna Panzica

Timothy I. Panzica is the current Catholic Community Foundation Board Chair. Tim and Donna are members of St. Rita Parish in Solon.

“Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope created a culture of giving and contributed to a better understanding of the ongoing needs of the Church in Northeast Ohio. The campaign gave us an appreciation for our need to be generous with our treasure. Through the parish share component, we were able to see the ‘local impact’ of generosity as parishes supported their own critical needs. People also gave generously to support the other case components, allowing the Church to expand its outreach to the poor, provide for children in Catholic schools, care for priests in formation and retirement, and ensure the growth of our Catholic faith.”
CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Providing tuition assistance to a greater number of students and providing grants to schools for technology, facility enhancements, and educational enrichment.
Adam is a happy third grader who took part in the Christmas play at Metro Catholic School, located on Cleveland’s near west side. “He really likes it there,” says his dad, also named Adam. What’s more, his son is getting a good education in a structured environment, something that is important to this single dad of two young children. “They teach respect and manners,” he says. “Metro Catholic is very involved with the children. They’re on top of things. You don’t get that a lot everywhere.”

Mary Lou Toler, co-director of Metro Catholic, says that the tuition assistance program serves a vital need in the community. “A large percentage of families at Metro Catholic use the Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program or EdChoice vouchers to pay tuition. However, when children transfer to the Cleveland area and want to come here, they may have missed application deadlines. Rather than turning those families away, especially the ones whose financial situation puts them on the margins of society, we are able to bridge the timing gap with Diocesan Tuition Assistance,” she explains.

The Diocesan Tuition Assistance program benefits families like Adam’s, who want to see children thrive in a Catholic school environment. For Catholic schools, the program reinforces their goal of providing a faith-based education. “Metro Catholic invests a lot in its students as we cover a gap between tuition and actual cost,” says Ms. Toler, “so the funds help us in our mission to blend learning with faith and faith with life, according to the abilities and the needs of each child.”

Adam’s family was provided opportunity through the Diocesan Tuition Assistance program, which gives financial assistance to families for children to attend Catholic schools. The program has recently expanded due in large part to funds raised through Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope, allowing more children to experience the academic and spiritual enrichment of a Catholic education.

Tom and Sandy Sullivan

Tom Sullivan served on the Campaign Lay Advisory Committee and is a member of the Catholic Community Foundation Board of Directors. Tom and Sandy are parishioners at St. Raphael Parish in Bay Village.

“Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope was an investment in our children and our grandchildren. The Church in Northeast Ohio has been strengthened, and access for young people to obtain a Catholic education has been broadened through a deeper support of tuition assistance. We can look back at this time in our history with pride and know that what we have accomplished together will have a lasting impact. The story of Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope tells future generations that we had concern for the world in which they live.“
THOSE WHO **SERVE**

Supporting seminarians and deacons in formation, and investing in the Retirement Fund for Priests to ensure that priests who enriched our lives are supported in retirement.
Fr. Terry + Fr. Murphy

INSPIRING LIVES OF SERVICE THROUGHOUT THEIR PRIESTLY VOCATION

At its most fruitful, religious vocation leads to a lifelong process of learning while serving others. Just ask Fr. John Murphy, who resides at the Center for Pastoral Leadership (CPL). Retired since 2003, he has served as a spiritual director to seminarians for many years. He annually audits courses at Borromeo Seminary, continuing to build his knowledge of scripture, dogma and moral theology. “It’s good for my own spiritual growth,” Fr. Murphy says.

Helping seminarians expand their spirituality remains important to Fr. Murphy, as does encouraging Catholics to consider a religious vocation. “We need a strong emphasis on encouraging high school and college students to give the seminary some thought,” he says.

Through the Priest Retirement Fund, Fr. Murphy is able to continue his contributions to the Diocese while receiving regular support from the Diocese. “I am eternally grateful for that and for the assistance that it continues to provide for retired priests,” he says.

In his ongoing work, Fr. Murphy inspires seminarians who will carry on the mission of the Church. In 2005, Fr. Terry Grachanin was one such seminarian. Formerly a graphic designer, Fr. Terry entered Borromeo Seminary with the idea that he would give it a try for a year. The rest is history.

Ordained in 2013, Fr. Terry currently serves as a parochial vicar at St. Brendan Parish in North Olmsted. During his time as a seminarian, Fr. Terry enjoyed a breadth of opportunities within the Diocese. “I worked in parishes with RCIA, taught in grade school classrooms, visited the sick at Marymount Hospital, and had a year-long internship at St. Christopher Parish in Rocky River,” he says.

While attending Borromeo, Fr. Terry was helped by the Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope component that provided for the formation of seminarians. The financial support enabled Fr. Terry to focus on his studies with less worry about the cost to do so. “It takes time and money to help a seminarian discern and go through the priestly formation process,” he says gratefully.

Linda and Dave Kaltenbach

Linda and Dave Kaltenbach are parishioners at St. Patrick Parish, Wellington. The Kaltenbachs are pictured here with Fr. Jim Reymann.

“We were struck by the needs of parishes other than our own and saw how Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope would benefit people in all parishes, especially those in urban areas. Our own parish share at St. Patrick’s in Wellington provided for much-needed capital improvements. Now, support from Rooted in Faith to the Priest Retirement Fund is helping provide for our friend, Fr. Jim Reymann, in his retirement after serving as our pastor for over 40 years. What an incredible legacy for our Diocese.”
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights presented here are condensed to reflect the activity related to Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope as of December 31, 2017. Audited financial statements of the Catholic Community Foundation are available online at www.CatholicCommunity.org/Financials.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

The Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope Oversight Committee, chaired by Ronn Richard, president and CEO of the Cleveland Foundation, met semi-annually throughout the Campaign to review financial statements and ensure stewardship of donations. The audit included special procedures that were performed each year during the active phase of the campaign to assure that contributions were properly recorded and distributed in accordance with the case statement. The Catholic Community Foundation, which managed Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope, embraces the values of Accountability & Transparency as we serve donors and carry out our mission to foster faith-based stewardship in the community for the spiritual, educational and charitable needs of all.

AMOUNT PLEDGED

$170 MILLION

AMOUNT COLLECTED

$147.5 MILLION

DISTRIBUTION BREAKDOWN

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</table>

Andy Rebholz

Andy Rebholz, Chief Executive Officer of TravelCenters of America, is a member of the Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope Oversight Committee and a parishioner at St. John Neumann Parish, Strongsville.

“Ensuring compliance with donor intent was the Oversight Committee’s highest priority. Our most important responsibility was to ensure the utmost level of accountability and transparency of funds contributed by the generous faithful of the Diocese. These efforts were critical to the impact and success of the campaign.”
In the midst of great challenges, *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* renewed the Church of Northeast Ohio; and perhaps most significantly, broadened a spirit of collaboration born out of trust and unity. No one could have fully anticipated the blessings that followed.

With God’s grace and the momentum of success, the future continues to call us to build God’s Church on earth. There will be bold decisions to be made, but our vision has now been broadened to see beyond ordinary. At his installation Mass less than a year ago, Bishop Perez stated, “The Church of Cleveland has been around for 170 years, blessed by great bishops, hundreds of thousands of priests and faithful people. I am blessed to continue to build upon the foundation they laid for us, a foundation and history that I am excited to join and dedicate myself to fostering.”

Let us move forward together as one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church knowing that over the past decade, we have taken steps to transform our community.

Patrick Grace
Executive Director, Catholic Community Foundation

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thank you to the people whose tireless efforts made *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* a success. Priest assignments and lay employment shown here reflect the start of the campaign (2010).

**Most Reverend Richard G. Lennon**
Bishop

**Most Reverend Robert W. Gries, O.S.B, M.Ed., V.G.**
Auxiliary Bishop

**Most Reverend Anthony M. Pilla**
Bishop Emeritus

**Most Reverend A. James Quinn, J.C.D, J.D., V.G.***
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus

**Most Reverend A. Edward Pevec, Ph.D., V.G.***
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus

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*Deceased

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*Deceased

About the Catholic Community Foundation
The Catholic Community Foundation fosters faith-based stewardship in the community for the spiritual, educational, and charitable needs of all. We are dedicated to enriching the lives of others by encouraging faithful philanthropy: helping donors continue Jesus’ mission on earth by connecting their support to ministries and services of the Diocese of Cleveland.

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