



# The Open Door

Open wide the door to Christ! - St. John Paul the Great

OCTOBER 2019

VOLUME 3.1

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## “Trust in the Lord with all your heart”

*I tried to model my life on St. Francis' approach to the Lord Jesus, but did I really trust Him completely?*

by Fr. Ed Fride

**As I write this**, today is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, my personal patron saint. His efforts began a charismatic renewal that touched the lives of thousands of people who experienced the Lord Jesus and the power of His Holy Spirit.

Right after I met the Lord Jesus, He called me to the priesthood, and I spent the next four years at St. John Vianney, the college semi-

nary in St. Paul, MN. I then started the graduate seminary but left after a semester because I wasn't sure what the Lord Jesus wanted for me as far as priesthood went. I knew He was calling me to the priesthood, but what kind? Religious or diocesan, active or contemplative, etc. I needed some questions answered before I went on. So I got a job and continued to pursue my

education. I tried to model my life on St. Francis' approach to the Lord Jesus, trusting Him completely and totally living for Him.

**I thought I was** doing more or less all right with that until one day in prayer the Lord Jesus said to me, “I am not first in your life.” This totally surprised me. I thought He was, and if anyone had asked me if He was first, I would have said,

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“We exist to joyfully worship God and carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.” - Mission Statement of Christ the King

*Nothing was more destructive to my relationship with the Lord Jesus than adopting an approach that essentially had said, "Take care of yourself first, and then give Him the leftovers"*

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Fr. Ed Fride is Pastor of Christ the King.

## "Trust in the Lord with all your heart"

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"Of course He is!" But then He showed me that when it came to prayer, it was what I did after everything else got done. I prayed every day, but some days it was not much more than "Good night, Jesus..."

He showed me that He deserved the best of my day, not the leftovers—even if that meant (argh!!) getting up early to pray. He made it clear that an hour a day spent with Him was really necessary if I was going to let Him truly have my heart. That was a transforming experience.

**Then one day** in prayer He said to me, "You don't trust Me." Again, I was rather taken aback and asked what that meant—I thought I trusted Him completely! But then He showed me that when it came to my responsibility to financially support the Kingdom, especially my local parish, like my previous experience with prayer, I did it with the leftovers! He pointed out that there is a reason why giving was connected for the Jews with the idea of first fruits: that He deserved the best, not the leftovers.

I had excused myself by saying that I'm just a student, etc., etc. As I prayed I got the sense that the Lord was asking me to show Him where in the Scripture

there's a tithing exemption for employed students?

I reasoned that my finances were too tight and so I'd make up for it later when I could afford it. Indeed, there were days when I would be at the bank waiting for the direct deposit from my hospital job to clear so that I could eat that night; it was really tight. Then He led me to Psalm 24: "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," reminding me that He is in charge of everything.

**Things worked out better when I chose to trust Him.**

That was the "nice" part of the lesson. Then He led me to Malachi 3:8: "Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me. But you say, 'How are we robbing Thee?' In your tithes and offerings." The idea that my refusal to responsibly tithe was robbing Him came as a shock. In the past, I had typically dismissed those verses by saying, "Well, that's just Old Testament stuff." The Lord Jesus made it clear that He did not find my approach particularly convincing. Imagine that.

So I started to tithe. I figured that the worst that could happen was that I'd miss some meals, which was ok since I needed to drop some

weight anyway! But what I experienced instead was that things worked out better when I chose to trust Him.

**Nothing was more** destructive to my relationship with the Lord Jesus than adopting an approach that essentially had said, "Take care of yourself first, and then give Him the leftovers," which I had been doing. It really amounted to a significant dimension of my life that was under my lordship and not His, and we all know how well that goes!

His actions gave me one more iteration on a constantly repeating theme: things go better if you do things His way! I hope at some point to actually fully live that! This approach, however, should not be confused with any kind of "prosperity gospel" approach, which basically amounts to a "give in order to get" approach. Rather, we choose to live in obedience to His Word simply because He deserves it and it's the right thing to do.

In His mercy, He continues to gently teach us and repeat these lessons in our lives. Hopefully, every time He does, we get just a little bit better and get it just a little more right, as we draw closer and closer to the King, Who is our Savior Who loves to save!

## Investing in the Kingdom

## Teresa Gjernes &amp; Peter Salata serve A1:8

**Please tell us a little about your background.**

**Peter:** I'm 19, the sixth of seven children. My family joined Christ the King before I was born, so CTK is the only parish I've ever known. I was homeschooled until 10<sup>th</sup> grade and then attended Washtenaw Technical Middle College. I graduated in 2018, and I'm now in my final year at Eastern Michigan University.

**Teresa:** I'm 22, the fourth of eight children, and I was homeschooled through high school. Our family started coming to Christ the King when I was about 5. Seeing the whole church enter into prayer, even kids, was so cool for me. I was used to seeing people being really committed to prayer (my parents belong to a community called Companions of Christ the Lamb), but it seemed to me like something more for adults.

**Were you involved in Fuel or Life Teen when you were in middle and high school?**

**Teresa:** We didn't have Fuel yet; it began when I was about to start high school. However, I snuck into Life Teen as a middle schooler. ☺ One night when my parents brought my older siblings to the Tuesday night prayer meeting, they had to bring me along, so I stayed in the back and loved it! I convinced my parents to keep bringing me. After I'd been there maybe six times, I let [former youth minister] Brad Schmidt know that I was a middle schooler. He let me stay, but



Teresa Gjernes and Peter Salata are serving this year as interns with Christ the King's A1:8 ministry to high school teens. We took some time recently to ask them about their own experience of youth ministry and what they are doing as interns with A1:8.

said that there would occasionally be times when he would ask me not to come.

**Peter:** I didn't go to Fuel the first half of 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I then went in January because all my friends said that they were going. It turned out that they didn't show up, but once I got there, I kept going. It was the first time that I saw people my age praising and worshipping God, and I dove right in.

The Fuel Team was so influential for me. When I was in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, one of the high schoolers on the Fuel Team asked if I wanted to have prayer for the gift of tongues, and I received it. I knew teens in high school who didn't have the gift of tongues, but because of that Fuel Team member, I did. Similarly, in Life Teen, being around young adults who were interested in you was super-helpful.

**Teresa:** The Life Teen Core Team really inspired me. Having these young adults working with the high schoolers was super special. I loved that the Core Team really cared about us.

**What first got you interested in youth ministry?**

**Peter:** When I was homeschooled, I had been involved in soccer, theater, etc. When I went to WTMU, I didn't have those things to do, and I wondered what I would do to fill my time. I was talking to Brad about it, and he invited me to serve on the Fuel Team. Fuel Team was incredible. Working with middle schoolers was great and being surrounded by a team to support you ... that was one of the highlights of high school.

When I left Life Teen, I wasn't thinking about youth ministry.

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*"Don't underestimate the work the Lord is doing through you. I've been affected so much by people who have ministered to me."*

—Teresa Gjernes

*"Don't set limitations on what God can do in your life based on past experience."*

*As soon as you put God in a box, you're in trouble. Letting Him out of the box is very freeing."*

—Peter Salata

The A1:8 Team would love the help of a few more people with hearts for ministry. Contact John Hoving ([jhoving@ctkcc.net](mailto:jhoving@ctkcc.net)) if you might be interested in leading a small group on Sundays or helping with prayer ministry on Tuesdays.

## Investing in the Kingdom

# Teresa Gjernes & Peter Salata serve A1:8

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Then, I was asked to lead a small group on the 2019 Spring Retreat and it was a really good experience.

**Teresa:** One night while I was still in high school, I went to a Tuesday night prayer meeting and from the moment I got out of the car, people came up to me, one after another, asking if they could talk to me and if I would pray with them. At the end of the night, I sensed the Lord saying that He didn't want me to be there for myself any longer, but for others.

When I graduated high school, I wasn't yet eligible to serve on the Core Team, so I asked John if I could stay on to help out the Fuel Team, which I'd been on. I didn't know if he would be open to that, but he seemed really excited to have the help.

### What interested you in the A1:8 internship?

**Peter:** When the intern position was posted, I clearly sensed that it was what the Lord had for me. Everything then fell into place in terms of my school schedule, etc.

**Teresa:** I had to discern if I should even apply for the internship because it meant leaving Fuel – not just the middle schoolers, but the Fuel Team. But I sensed the Lord saying, "Don't you want to see what's happening in the Fuel Team spread to all the high schoolers?"

### What are you doing as interns?

(They both laugh.)

**Teresa:** John let us know that we're figuring this out as we go!

**Peter:** We meet with John every week for three hours to pray and then discuss plans for what's coming up. On Tuesday nights, we're part of the Core Team at the A1:8 prayer meetings.

**Teresa:** On Sunday nights when both the middle school and high school programs meet, John wants to have the freedom to go back and forth between them where needed, so we're coordinating the Sunday night high school program.

**Peter:** For the first semester this year, we're doing a high school Alpha on Sunday nights. We want kids to be able to come freely and ask the questions that they want to have answered. Alpha is good for that, especially for the basic questions of Christianity.

**Teresa:** On Monday nights, we're attending the Encounter School in Brighton. I'm excited to share what they're doing.

**Peter:** The first quarter at Encounter is all about identity. It's so easy to forget your identity in Christ.

**Teresa:** We'll be working to bring that back to the teens.

### What has been your favorite part so far?

**Peter:** I really enjoy getting to know the high schoolers. A1:8 is a very relational ministry; everything is about getting to know the teens. I love praying with people and seeing God break through.

**Teresa:** I love the Encounter School, and meeting with John and Peter, and getting excited about what the Lord is doing!

### What are you looking forward to for the rest of the year?

**Teresa:** I'm really looking forward to the Fall A1:8 Retreat. It's going to be so good.

**Peter:** Seeing how God will transform A1:8. I don't know what that means, but we've sensed Him saying that it's what He wants to do.

### If there was one thing that you could say to the folks reading this interview, what would it be?

**Teresa:** Don't underestimate the work the Lord is doing through you. I've been affected so much by people who have ministered to me.

**Peter:** Don't set limitations on what God can do in your life based on past experience. As soon as you put God in a box, you're in trouble. Letting Him out of the box is very freeing.



## Investing in the Kingdom

# Anna gets a Catholic education at FGRHS

by Anna Nalukwago

## For you to be reading this

from me is something out of the ordinary. I came to the U.S. when I was six, an orphan from Kampala, Uganda. Only 7% of Ugandan girls attend school, and I would not have qualified.

Here I am now, having attended Fr. Gabriel Richard High School with a scholarship from FGR and subsidies from Christ the King—something I never dreamed could happen, but that was part of God's exquisite plan for my life. My time at FGR allowed me to grow in a deeper relationship with God in such a way that now, as a college student, I am able to live my faith confidently and openly.

One of the unique aspects of Richard that I experienced was its community life, not only as a school, but as a class. About six months ago, the sister of one of my classmates passed away unexpectedly. At the funeral, about 85% of the senior class and several faculty members came in support of her and her family.

Going to Richard also enhanced my faith through serving as a Kairos leader, leading me to help



In December 2006, Anna Nalukwago came to Ann Arbor to undergo extensive surgery and stayed with the Servants of God's Love as part of their ministry to medically fragile foster children. The sisters later adopted Anna, who is currently a freshman at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona.

*Here I am now, having attended Fr. Gabriel Richard High School with a scholarship from FGR and subsidies from Christ the King—something I never dreamed could happen, but that was part of God's exquisite plan for my life.*

my peers grow in their faith. I never realized the great gifts I received at Richard, such as,

having teachers who truly cared about you personally and believed in you, even at times when you didn't believe in yourself.

Through the eyes of a kid who never thought she would be granted an education, I cannot put into words how thankful I was to go to FGR. My hope is that other kids will be able to have the same experience in their education as I have had. I am so grateful to any of you in the CTK community who support FGR, both directly and through the parish!

## Did you know?

- In fy2018-2019, Christ the King provided \$182,101 in Catholic school subsidies.
- The parish gave financial assistance to 19 Catholic homeschooling families and 49 traditional Catholic school families.
- On average, 90 teens attended the Tuesday evening A1:8 prayer meetings.
- More than 100 teens attended the fall and winter high school retreats.

# God is wealth itself

*As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.*

*I can imagine that "God is love," but is He wealth as St. Catherine of Siena says?*

by Bill Pressprich

*"Oh gentle Jesus, it is really true that you are our peace, our tranquility, our serenity of conscience. No bitterness or sadness or poverty can touch the soul in whom you live by grace. It stands to reason that such a soul should have perfect happiness and ample wealth, for God is happiness itself without a trace of sadness or bitterness, and God is wealth itself, never failing, safe from any thievery."*

— St. Catherine of Siena

**It is easy** in our consumeristic society to become anxious about our material needs. Many take on excessive debt and live paycheck to paycheck. As a society, we often don't make good use of our time nor of our gifts and talents.

St. Catherine points us to the truth: God is wealth itself. I can more easily imagine that "God is love," but I don't often think of Him as wealth. But of course, this is true. Did not God give everything for us, including sending His only begotten Son to die for our sins? Will He not also provide for our material needs? (see Matthew 6:26)

"From those to whom much is given, much is expected." (Luke 12:48) As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. Robert Morris, in his book *The*

*Blessed Life* explains:

*There are more than 500 verses in the Bible concerning prayer and nearly 500 verses concerning faith, but there are more than 2,000 verses on the subject of money and possessions. Jesus talked about money in 16 of his 38 parables. Clearly, from the Bible's standpoint, we need to understand money and how to handle it.*

Our approach to money and indeed, all the resources provided to us, is an important indicator of how we relate to the Lord Himself.

*The real goal of living generously is to become more like God.*

**There are three** underlying principles to consider in the stewardship of our talents and treasure:

- **Everything in our life belongs to God, not us.** We own nothing. God owns everything. We are simply stewards.
- **We are here for a purpose.** God has a plan and mission for our lives. That mission is to bring the good news of the love and mercy of God found in Jesus Christ to the world.

- **Gratitude.** As Psalm 116 says, "How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good done for me?" We don't give of our resources to the Lord out of a sense of fear or compulsion but rather with gratefulness and genuine appreciation for all His goodness to us personally.

*The real goal of living generously is to become more like God.* We want to draw closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, to dedicate or re-dedicate every aspect of our lives to God. When we give, we become more like God, for "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

**Think about how the Lord** wants you to personally respond to the call to be a good steward. It is important not only to pray about this, but also to discuss it with others. If you are married, talk to your spouse. If single, talk to someone you trust.

Jesus holds up "proportionate giving" as the ideal. Consider the widow's mite. (Luke 21:1-4) Even though the widow gave very little, Jesus praised her because she "gave from her substance." If the Lord has blessed you with more financial resources, then He is

*Continued on the back cover*



Bill Pressprich is chair of the Parish Pastoral Council and a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

# Christ the King 2018-2019 Financial Report

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS OF JUNE 30, 2019

	2017	2018	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash & funds on deposit with Diocese	\$810,342	\$976,384	\$1,208,676
Accounts Receivable	-	3,298	-
Total Assets	\$810,342	\$979,682	\$1,208,676
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$ 91,810	\$ 90,061	\$ 29,468
Deferred revenues	1,664	944	7,866
Total Liabilities	93,474	91,005	37,334
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
With donor restrictions	345,195	626,989	786,125
Without donor restrictions	371,673	261,688	385,217
Total net assets	716,868	888,677	1,171,342
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$810,342	\$979,682	\$1,208,676

### Notes:

Net assets with donor restrictions grew significantly as Witness to Hope payments were credited to our account at the Diocese.

### REGULAR GIVING

The table below may assist you, along with your prayerful consideration, in determining the amount of your regular Sunday offering:

## Did you know?

- As of June 30, 2019, Christ the King had 882 registered households.
- Our average Sunday Mass attendance (adults and children) in October 2018 was 1,494.<sup>1</sup>
- 751 year-end giving statements were issued for 2018.
- Approximately 19% of our donations for the year were received in December and 11% in March, with the remaining 70% coming in the other 10 months.
- Almost one-third (32%) of our income was donated through Online Giving last year.

<sup>1</sup>October is the month that all parishes count Mass attendance for Diocesan records.

### INCOME VS. PROPORTIONAL GIVING

Suggested Weekly Gift to Parish (rounded to the nearest \$ amount)

annual household income	1%	5%	10%
\$ 10,000	\$ 2.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 19.00
\$ 15,000	\$ 3.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 29.00
\$ 20,000	\$ 4.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 38.00
\$ 25,000	\$ 5.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 48.00
\$ 30,000	\$ 6.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 58.00
\$ 35,000	\$ 7.00	\$ 34.00	\$ 67.00
\$ 40,000	\$ 8.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 77.00
\$ 50,000	\$ 10.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 96.00
\$ 60,000	\$ 12.00	\$ 58.00	\$ 115.00
\$ 70,000	\$ 13.00	\$ 67.00	\$ 135.00
\$ 80,000	\$ 15.00	\$ 77.00	\$ 154.00
\$ 90,000	\$ 17.00	\$ 87.00	\$ 173.00
\$ 100,000	\$ 19.00	\$ 96.00	\$ 192.00
\$ 120,000	\$ 23.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 231.00
\$ 150,000	\$ 29.00	\$ 144.00	\$ 288.00

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# Christ the King 2018-2019 Financial Report

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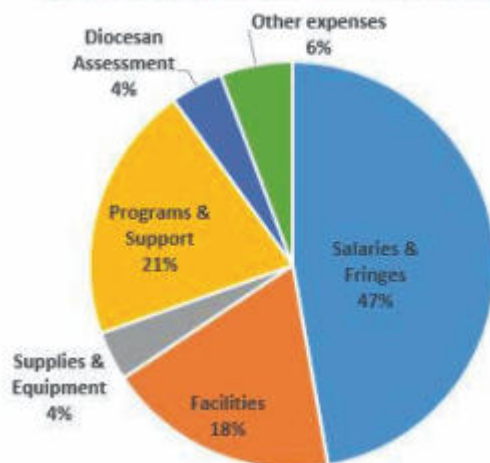
## REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019

	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Actual 2017	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
<b>Income</b>							
Regular Giving	\$1,327,652	\$1,295,355	\$1,327,008	\$1,309,099	\$1,402,516	\$1,449,837	\$1,464,200
Religious Education Tuition	19,493	20,155	21,444	18,992	19,000	19,209	20,700
Other Income	285,215	120,373	125,039	73,479	174,943	180,252	63,390
Total income	\$1,632,360	\$1,435,883	\$1,473,491	\$1,401,570	\$1,596,459	\$1,649,298	\$1,548,290
<b>Expenses</b>							
Administration: Church	a. 384,543	389,479	419,626	445,530	403,820	383,835	409,556
Buildings & Grounds	b. 170,560	176,764	213,044	230,769	221,549	239,104	236,058
Capital Expenditures	c. 145,250	274,089	74,661	30,882	147,500	109,089	25,390
Worship	d. 194,060	207,387	206,808	196,323	191,866	209,513	219,522
School Subsidies	e. 170,809	181,063	178,650	207,110	172,500	182,101	182,500
Christian Service	f. 19,252	19,576	31,829	37,217	32,965	45,121	38,781
Parish Life	g. 7,613	17,049	42,053	25,525	9,600	18,825	9,600
Administration: Faith Formation	h. 9,524	4,451	10,506	7,660	21,694	12,018	24,299
Evangelization & RCIA	i. 5,220	3,115	20,885	73,562	130,979	89,699	105,233
Adult Education	j. 28,155	38,394	81,957	75,963	93,809	67,989	73,962
Pre-K - 6th Grade Religious Ed	k. 44,044	40,267	63,352	58,164	52,120	45,381	45,500
Youth Ministry & Confirmation prep	l. 97,385	84,249	120,712	122,737	118,057	123,098	130,802
Total expenses	\$1,276,415	\$1,435,883	\$1,464,083	\$1,511,442	\$1,596,459	\$1,525,773	\$1,501,203
Net income over (under) expenses	\$ 355,945	\$ -	\$ 9,408	\$ (109,872)	\$ -	\$ 123,525	\$ 47,087

### Notes:

- Includes priest & administrative staff, diocesan assessments, insurance, telephone & internet charges, office supplies, interest charges, banking fees.
- Includes staff and other costs incurred in maintaining the buildings, equipment and furnishings, snow removal, landscaping, gas, electric, and water.
- Includes new office construction (2015), annex purchase (2016), residing and reroofing parish center and rectory (2017 & 2018), windows and IT upgrades (2019).
- Includes staff and costs for support of liturgies and music.
- Aid for families to help with the cost of Catholic schools and homeschooling.
- Includes benevolent funds, and cost for other ministries.
- Includes various parish events, receptions, including coffee & donuts.
- Includes various costs to support religious education and evangelization efforts such as: clerical support staff, phones, supplies, printing.
- Includes staff and other costs to support evangelization efforts, including Alpha and RCIA.
- Includes staff and other costs support Adult Discipleship efforts, including Upper Room, the parish mission, and retreats.
- Includes staff and other costs to support Elementary religious education, includes Catechists of the Good Shepherd expenses.
- Includes staff and other costs to support Confirmation preparation, middle school and high school prayer meetings and retreats.

## 2019 EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



## Did you know?

- In 2018-19, 103 students were in our two-year Confirmation program.
- 224 students were in pre-K through grade 6 Religious Education classes.
- 200 women and 100 men attended our men's and women's retreats.
- An average of 200 men, women, and children attended Upper Room Praise & Worship on the 2nd and 4th Friday nights of the month.

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# Hundreds enjoy first “Praise ‘n Play” Festival!

by Caroline Gambale-Dirkes

**On Friday, Aug. 9**, more than 330 people enjoyed food, fun, and fellowship at Christ the King’s first “Praise ‘n Play” Festival. The turnout far exceeded everyone’s expectations; as a result, we ran out of food just 30 minutes into the evening! Many thanks to Knights of Columbus Grand Knight Kelly Donnellon, John Kargul, Mary Jo Paquin, and other volunteers through whose help we were able to cook and serve another

Our Lord provided a perfect summer evening for the “Play” part of the “Praise ‘n Play Festival”! More than 330 parishioners and guests of all ages enjoyed a hot dog dinner, snow cones, carnival games, face painting, and a bounce house.



150 hot dogs.

After food and fun in the sun, attendees of all ages filled the Worship Space for a time of joy-filled praise. The evening ended under the stars with a showing of the movie *Mary*

*Poppins Returns*.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who worked hard to make this a successful event. Know that you are loved and appreciated!



Caroline Gambale-Dirkes is the Coordinator for Christ the King’s Upper Room ministry.



Following the food and fun, many of the participants of all ages moved to the Church for a joy-filled time of prayer and praise!

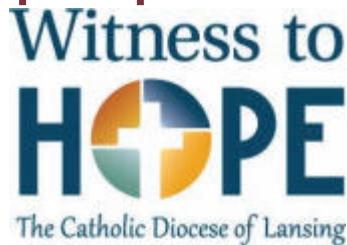
Photographs by Caroline Gambale-Dirkes

## Witness to Hope update

by Dcn. Larry Randolph

In 2017, Christ the King participated in the Diocese of Lansing Witness to Hope (WTH) capital campaign. This campaign was to raise money for both the Diocese and for capital projects here at CTK. CTK's total WTH goal was to raise \$4 million, of which approximately \$1 million was to go to the Diocese and \$3 million to CTK for three capital projects: expanding the Church narthex, finishing the Church lower level, and expanding the parking lots.

Although we met our Diocesan goal, we fell short of our local goal by \$1.3 million. So far, the parish has received about \$466,000 in pledge payments, plus about \$9,000 in



interest. Since at this point we have only enough money pledged to do one of the three projects, the Facilities Commission—Dorothy Babcock, Gint Gaska, Dcn. Larry Randolph, Greg Stout, and Tim Stout—is working to get more specific cost estimates for the narthex and lower level.

**As part of that process,** we have engaged architects to provide interior drawings and elevations so we can have a better idea of what

the spaces would look like. We are also looking at different options that could be included if funds allow. For example, one option for the narthex expansion would be to include a canopy out to the circle driveway.

The drawings have been completed, so we are now using them to get more detailed cost estimates. Once those are obtained, we will look at the difference between what the projects will actually cost and what the WTH campaign has actually brought in. With that information, we will determine what to do next.

Please keep this project in your prayers as we discern the Lord's will going forward.



Dcn. Larry Randolph is chair of the Christ the King Facilities Commission. He can be reached at [dcnlarry@ctkcc.net](mailto:dcnlarry@ctkcc.net).

## Christ the King 2018-2019 Financial Report

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### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Archdiocese for Military Services	\$ 4,465
Bethlehem Sister Parish	\$ 9,273
Uganda Sister Parish	\$ 775
Ugandan Seminarians	\$ 4,700
Mary's Mantle	\$ 25
Catholic Community of Flint	\$ 4,610
Jewish Synagogue	\$ 3,332
Worldwide Evangelization Appeal	\$ 807
Home Mission-Black & Native American	\$ 1,404
CRS Appeal	\$ 158
Peter's Pence	\$ 6,488
American Evangelization (Help Spread the Faith)	\$ 2,596
World Mission Sunday-Propagation of the Faith	\$ 3,135
Retired Religious	\$ 3,231
DSA	\$ 120,336
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 160,870</b>

The amount given for special collections shows that 10% of donations are going to support other charities.

### DIOCESAN SUPPORT

Our parish financially supports the Diocese of Lansing primarily in two ways. First through the Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA). Second through an assessment based on contributions made to the parish in the previous year. The assessment is levied in two pieces - a regular assessment and a special assessment for priests' retirement.

Year	DSA	Priests	
		Regular Assessment	Retirement Assessment
2015	\$ 110,314	\$ 48,562	\$ 6,147
2016	\$ 127,884	\$ 53,181	\$ 8,415
2017	*	\$ 54,821	\$ 10,409
2018	\$ 112,206	\$ 57,082	\$ 10,838
2019	\$ 120,336	\$ 54,080	\$ 10,268

\*In anticipation of the Witness to Hope Campaign the diocese did not have a DSA in 2017.



### Schedule of Major Events

- 10/5: First Saturday Holy Hour
  - 10/11, 25: Upper Room
  - 10/12: Diocese of Lansing Women's Conference, Lansing
  - 10/13: Family Fitbits
  - 10/26-27: Olivewood Sale
  - 10/31: All Saints Eve Party
  - 11/1: All Saints Day  
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION  
Parish offices closed
  - 11/2: All Souls Day
- For more information about these and other events, check the bulletin or go to [www.ckcc.net](http://www.ckcc.net).

## MAJOR EVENTS—OCTOBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sept. 29	30	Oct. 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Nov. 1	2

# Save the Dates!

### All Saints Day

Friday, Nov. 1

*Holy Day of Obligation*

Masses: 10am, 12 noon,  
7:30pm

### All Souls Day

Saturday, Nov. 2

Mass: 9am



### Servants of God's Love

#### Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, Nov. 9, 9:30am-3pm

Once every two years we get the opportunity to support the Sisters by buying their wonderful home-made crafts and goodies, including Sr. Sarah's sticky buns! Proceeds support their apostolates.



### Mass for Children Lost

#### during Pregnancy & Birth

Saturday, Nov. 16, 4:30pm

CTK holds a yearly memorial Mass for babies lost during pregnancy or immediately after birth. If you have lost a baby, regardless of the circumstances of your pregnancy or your loss, please come and share your grief with the community. Questions?

Contact Megan Mishler,  
[meggymish@1791.com](mailto:meggymish@1791.com).



Check future bulletins for more details about these great events!





## Christ the King Catholic Church

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### Coming in future issues...

- All Saints/All Souls
- Evangelization
- Inner Healing

Look for this and more in future issues of

## The Open Door

### Parish Staff

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We welcome your comments. Please send them to Theresa Hofer at [thofer@ckkcc.net](mailto:thofer@ckkcc.net).

*The Open Door* is the monthly newsletter of Christ the King Catholic Church.

## God is wealth itself

### Continued from page 6

calling you to give more. If not, then it's OK to give less.

Many parishioners at Christ the King practice the biblical teaching of tithing, which is a giving back of the "first fruits" –the first and best part of the fruits of our labors in thanksgiving and acknowledgment that all of our resources belong to God. These parishioners give 10 percent or more of their

gross income back to the Lord. As a practical guideline, we suggest 5 percent to your parish, 1 percent to the diocese, and 4 percent to other causes.

If you are not currently contributing to the Church or are new to the concept of proportionate giving, please prayerfully consider what the Lord may be calling you to now. Some peo-

ple start by giving 1 percent of their income, and then increase that over time.

In any case, *we will never judge anyone for how much they choose to give*. Instead, we are delighted that you are part of the Body of Christ and we pray for and encourage your growth as an intentional disciple of our Lord.