



The Catholic Community Foundation of SC is a separate 501(c)3 organization with an independent board of lay leaders who oversee the management and distribution of all funds to ensure transparency. All dollars raised from the campaign will be maintained in a separate account under the Catholic Community Foundation of SC to be used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the case statement. None of the money raised in the campaign will be used for any other purpose. Campaign funds will be received through the Catholic Community Foundation of SC and distributed to parishes and missions starting the first fiscal quarter after conclusion of the parish

“To evangelize is to make the Kingdom of God present in our world.”

POPE FRANCIS, EVANGELII GAUDIUM (THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

Case Statement

In July 2020, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston will celebrate its bicentennial year. Established by Pope Pius VII in 1820, our diocese has upheld God’s Word and built His Kingdom for nearly 200 years. Through our rich history, we are now 114 parishes and missions strong, with over 200,000 registered Catholics.

Our diocese is entering an era of significant growth. People from all over the country and the world are choosing to make South Carolina their home. Challenged by population growth and secularization, our parishes need the strength and capacity to both support the faithful and evangelize our neighbors by being the light of Christ for others.

Pope Francis said in Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel), “To evangelize is to make the Kingdom of God present in our world.” Therefore, we are compelled to accomplish this by living out our faith with generosity and joy.

Having served as your bishop for nearly a decade, I strongly believe in the need for the Church to prepare for the demands of this next century of Catholic evangelization. Through our \$60,000,000 Bicentennial Campaign, we will strengthen our parishes and missions across 46 counties to serve our people, enhance state-wide programs and ministries, and help those who suffer by acting as the hands and feet of the Body of Christ.

I challenge you to put Christ in the center of your life so that all whom you encounter can see Christ in you. I ask you to take responsibility for upholding the mission of our Church and join me in sharing the Gospel throughout South Carolina.

In the Lord’s peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert E. Guglielmone".

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone
Bishop of Charleston



Case for Support

\$60,000,000 TARGET

Living the Gospel through Social Outreach \$11,000,000

- Social Ministries Endowment
- St. Clare Home of Joyful Hope
- Clean of Heart
- Outreach Program Fund

Strengthening Our Parishes and Missions \$30,000,000

- Local Parish Needs
- Facilities Endowment

Forming Catholics to Believe in the Gospel \$19,000,000

- Catholic School Tuition Assistance
- Seminarian Education Fund
- Hispanic Ministry Endowment
- Formation Ministries Endowment
- Continuing Education for Diaconate & Lay Leaders



Strengthening Our Parishes & Missions

LOCAL PARISH NEEDS – \$30,000,000

The Bicentennial Campaign is an extraordinary and intentional effort designed to strengthen our existing Diocesan programs and parishes/missions, while taking strides toward sustaining our growing Diocese into the next century. For nearly 200 years, the Catholic Church has ministered to the state of South Carolina through its parishes, people, and social programs. Bishop Guglielmone is dedicated to maintaining and strengthening parish communities and ensuring the continued formation of our Catholic family so we can evangelize and provide outreach to all South Carolinians. The Bicentennial Campaign will bolster the strong foundation of the Church to support these priorities well into the future.

We in the Diocese of Charleston encounter the Gospel of Christ most energetically through our many and diverse parishes, where the Church's vision for South Carolina is most directly fulfilled. Through receiving the sacraments, we come to know what it means to be a Catholic Church. This campaign will provide an infusion of financial resources for parishes to fulfill the challenges and ambitions of their mission: to realize the Great Commission through teaching and baptism.

Each parish is in the best position to determine its most urgent priorities. For every dollar raised in the Bicentennial Campaign, proceeds will be shared fifty percent (50%) to the Diocese and fifty percent (50%) to the parish to fund local needs. This sharing begins with the first dollar raised.



Forming Catholics to Believe the Gospel



Since the arrival of Bishop John England in 1820, preaching and teaching the faith has been a cornerstone of our Diocese. It is one of the most important investments of the Church, and the foundation upon which all our evangelization efforts are built. Catholics are formed by the Sacred Scriptures, the homilies of our priests and deacons, religious education, and Catholic schools. The personnel of our parishes and schools help us to carry out our responsibility to lead others to know, love, and practice these values every day.

Catholic schools need to remain affordable, accessible, and attainable for all who value the opportunity to be educated in an academic environment that centers on a relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. These centers of evangelization strengthen our parishes and communities to be places where faith in Christ is formed, honed, echoed, and broadcast. When enrollment is low, the cost of tuition escalates. Our schools collectively are running at 60% of capacity. By making our schools affordable, we can educate and form 4,000 more children every year.

ESTABLISH FACILITY ENDOWMENT FOR SCHOOLS, PARISHES, AND MISSION – \$5,800,000

Through a facility endowment, parishes and schools have an opportunity to support programs sustaining technology infrastructure updates, security and safety improvements, and environmentally friendly energy-efficient modifications. A portion of this endowment, \$1,000,000, will be set aside in a non-endowed fund to support immediate needs a parish may have by supplementing the existing Emergency Assistance Fund so that schools, parishes and missions may preemptively address critical maintenance issues and continue ministering opportunities effectively to parishioners.

INCREASE THE ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC EDUCATION ENDOWMENT – \$2,600,000

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Education Endowment provides tuition assistance to families and parishes that demonstrate need. The Fund's balance is nearly \$3,500,000 and provides approximately \$175,000 in scholarships each year. This amount covers just 7% of the demonstrated need and does not make accommodations for differing family demographics. With an investment of \$2,500,000, an additional \$110,000 will be available each year – a 63% increase.

ESTABLISH A MATCHING WELCOME GRANTS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT TRANSFER STUDENTS TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS – \$300,000

Parishes with schools will be encouraged to participate in a matching Welcome Grants program. This program, scheduled to take place in school years 2020 – 2022, will provide matching funds to discount tuition for transfer students to Catholic schools. Schools will be limited to accepting students for eligible grades without waiting lists. Elementary school students will be eligible for a grant of \$750 in the first year (matched by the school for a total of \$1,500), and \$375 in the second year (matched by the school for a total of \$750). High

school students would be eligible for a grant of \$1,200 in the first year (matched by the school for a total of \$2,400), and \$600 in the second year (matched by the school for a total of \$1,200). After the second year, students will be



eligible to apply for school or parish financial aid, based on availability. By the close of the 2022 school year, an estimated 215 children would be enrolled in Catholic schools who would not have otherwise.

We have a broad and exciting vision for educational formation ministries that begins with families, where parents form their children, with the help of the Church, into disciples of Christ. This formation extends to all age groups so that children, youth, students on college campuses, young adults, older adults, and people being initiated into our faith are taught to hear and live the Word of God. Religious education guides us through life's transitions, and continually renews our relationship with God. Through an early, consistent, and continuous education in the values of the Gospel, we trust, with the help of God, that all Catholic vocations – marriage, priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and dedicated single life – will be stronger.

INCREASE HISPANIC MINISTRY ENDOWMENT – \$1,150,000

Originally created in 2009, the Hispanic Ministry Endowment was developed with an initial investment of \$2,000,000 “to help our Hispanic community become fully integrated in the life of the Church as they grow in the understanding of the Catholic faith and holiness.” As the Hispanic population in our Diocese continues to grow, having increased state-wide 187% from 2000 to 2016, and now comprising approximately 27% of our Catholic population, we must continue to work toward welcoming our Hispanic Community and facilitating their integration into our family of faith. Adding to the Hispanic Ministry Endowment will permit increased programs and additional training for our pastors to better serve our Hispanic





ESTABLISH AN ENDOWMENT TO EXPAND STATE-WIDE FORMATION MINISTRIES THAT SUPPORT YOUTH, COLLEGE CAMPUSES, INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, AND ALL THOSE WHO SEEK THE TEACHINGS OF THE GOSPEL – \$5,500,000

This endowment will be designed to enhance parish level education ministries, as well as implement diocesan-level ministries to support state-wide initiatives. The Catholic Community Foundation of SC will set aside \$875,000 of these funds to be disbursed from 2018 – 2022. This Fund will have four (4) primary initiatives, with the flexibility to adjust to future Diocesan needs:

1. Supplement parish education costs;
2. Establish two (2) additional Diocesan Missionary Teams serving college campuses state-wide and adolescents in the upstate;
3. Supplement the operating cost of additional religious events, such as Discernment Weekends, Family Life Formation Retreats, and events promoting Social Justice; and
4. Provide educational resources for those with special needs.

Recruitment to the priesthood is a top priority in the Bicentennial Campaign. We are in a period of growth for the Church but do not have the number of seminarians required to sustain this growth. We gratefully give thanks to God for the 20 young men currently discerning the priesthood but must double the number of seminarians, at a significant but indispensable annual expense. This cannot wait, as 40% of our diocesan priests reach retirement age in the next fifteen years, and 74% will retire in the next twenty years.

INCREASE THE SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND – \$2,300,000

Established in 2010, the Seminarian Education Fund is one of the ways the Diocese covers the cost of educating South Carolina Seminarians in addition to annual gifts through the Bishop's Annual Appeal. With a balance of nearly \$1,400,000, this Fund supports two full tuitions (estimated at \$38,000 each) per year, depending on where the Seminarian is enrolled. An increase of \$2,000,000 will enable our diocese to support an additional three seminarians every year.

ESTABLISH A CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND FOR DIACONATE AND LAY PERSONS – \$1,150,000



As we work to strengthen our culture of vocations, not just for Seminarians, but for those discerning religious life, marriage, and single life, the Church must ensure that we have adequate spiritual support for our diaconate and lay persons. Our priests, parishioners, and leaders need the support of more spiritual directors throughout our Diocese. The training to become a Spiritual Director is

approximately \$5,000 per person, and an investment of \$875,000 in endowed funds, and \$175,000 in immediately available support will provide training for up to seven more spiritual directors per year or support any other number of professional development opportunities for our ordained and non-ordained leadership.

Living the Gospel Through Social Outreach

“Our Faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society’s most neglected members.”

POPE FRANCIS, EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL)

Being formed in the mind of Christ will help us to see others as Christ, as did St. Teresa of Kolkata. In *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Holy Father reminds us that “Our Faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society’s most neglected members.” Across South Carolina, our brothers and sisters are suffering from homelessness, mental illness, drug addiction, crisis pregnancy, and incarceration, among other acute challenges.



ESTABLISH AN ENDOWMENT FOR SOCIAL MINISTRIES – \$6,650,000

Establishing an Endowment for Social Ministries will support outreach aimed at treating addiction, caring for the elderly, providing resources to the homeless, assisting immigration services, treating mental illness, and growing our prison ministry. This endowment will support the work of state-wide ministries such as Catholic Charities, as well as the local programs managed by our parishes as we serve South Carolina as the Body of Christ.

OUTREACH PROGRAM FUND – \$3,550,000

The Outreach Program Fund will serve several programs and facilities around the state that act as the Body of Christ. Clean of Heart, in Columbia, reaches out to our homeless brothers and sisters so that they can maintain hygiene with a free laundry and shower facility. The Diocese plans to build more Clean of Heart locations across the state in Myrtle Beach, Hardeeville, and Spartanburg. Several parishes as well as Catholic Charities, operate food pantries to serve those who are experiencing food insecurity. There are nearly 700,000 food insecure individuals living in South Carolina. Of the food insecure population, one in five are children. Partnering with every food bank throughout the state, the Diocese equips our parishes to offer food, employment resources, and healthcare assistance to break this cycle of food insecurity. The remainder of the Outreach Program Fund will serve as a savings account ready to fund important outreach initiatives.

ST. CLARE’S HOME OF JOYFUL HOPE – \$1,000,000

St. Clare’s Home of Joyful Hope, located in Greenville, provides pregnant women over age 18 housing and resources for one-to-two years after childbirth. In caring for these women, the St. Clare’s Home of Joyful Hope educates in chastity, parenting skills, first aid, job interviewing, budgeting, and furthering education. Approximately 20% of all babies born in South Carolina are born to first-time, low-income mothers. By providing eight (8) women in crisis at a time a “home” and many more a loving environment, the Catholic Church is taking strides in breaking the cycle of single parenthood, setting up mothers and children for healthy lives, and preserving the sanctity of life starting at conception.



Prayer Invitation

Pope Francis reminds us in Gaudete et Exsultate (On the Call to Holiness in Today’s World) that, “The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created. He wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence.” Having a deeper engagement in the life and work of the Church will help us heed the Call to be fully Catholic. Through our human service outreach and concern for the well-being of our neighbors we show Christ’s love to the world.

This is an exciting time for the Church in South

Carolina. Impelled by the Gospel and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have a grand opportunity to share the Good News across our state. Your support of this campaign will be known to God in terms of lives saved, souls moved, and saints made, and not only by facilities built and improved, programs implemented, and people served.

May we, the Catholics of the Diocese of Charleston, do what the prophet Micah instructed: “act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with [our] God.” (Micah 6:8)

