

Encountering Christ

Dear Friends,

Our gracious Lord has blessed us abundantly and, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have grown together, evolving into the giving and caring community of faith we are today.

Through our Pastoral Plan, *Encounter that Leads to Transformation*, we have experienced Jesus Christ in a more intentional way, and developed a roadmap for a vibrant and secure future for our diocese. In this spirit, we have launched the *Encountering Christ* campaign to benefit parishes and important diocesan ministries. The campaign goal of \$85 million will allow us to fulfill our mission as we outlined in the Pastoral Plan.

St. Andrew Kim Parish will benefit from *Encountering Christ*, and has a goal of \$185,000. Of this amount, 30 percent or \$55,500 will remain at St. Andrew Kim to meet locally identified needs.

Please take a moment to review the impact *Encountering Christ* will have in both St. Andrew Kim and our diocese.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez
Bishop of Austin



Reverend Francis Chung
Pastor, St. Andrew Kim Parish

The Diocese of Austin is a thriving and growing community of more than 500,000 brothers and sisters in Christ. Our faith-filled presence has had a profound influence on Central Texas, and we continue to welcome more and more faithful to our parishes and missions each year.

Our diocese has seen many changes over the last 70 years. In the last dozen years alone, the number of Catholics in our area has grown by more than 25 percent. To address the challenges and opportunities these changes have created, the diocese spent a year praying about, reflecting upon and discussing a vision for our future. This year of discernment resulted in *Encounter that Leads to Transformation*, our Pastoral Plan inviting all members of our diocese to a deeper encounter with Jesus Christ, leading to renewal and transformation of ourselves, our homes, our ministries and our community.



Photo courtesy of Joshua Guenther

Strengthened by prayer, *Encountering Christ* allows us — in a spirit of stewardship and unity — to build a vibrant and secure future for the Diocese of Austin.

This campaign will raise a minimum of \$85 million to fulfill the vision of our Pastoral Plan and share in:

- Supporting Our Clergy
- Strengthening Parishes
- Emerging Disciples
- Embracing Discipleship



\$12 million to support our clergy

The men who dedicate their lives to serving us need our support at all stages of their journey. By supporting our clergy from seminary through retirement, we will encourage seminarians and priests to experience the fullness of their vocation, lifting them up as they help us consider and live out our own calling.



\$14 million to embrace discipleship

Fostering encounters with Jesus Christ leads to a deeper engagement that will transform our ministry, resulting in true missionary discipleship. Witnessing our faith is an essential part of Catholic-Christian discipleship.



\$20 million for emerging disciples

Our responsibility as Catholics is to ensure future generations of disciples are well-formed, prepared and excited to embrace and share their faith with our world. We continually seek to support the spiritual development of our children and young adults as well as engage them in educational and formational opportunities.

\$35.5 million to strengthen parishes



Our diocese benefits from the diversity of our 123 parishes and missions, which are urban and rural, small and large, multilingual, with schools and without. Given the critical role of parishes, ensuring their strength and sustainability is of the utmost importance.

Each parish in the diocese is rooted in the church but has its own identity and charism — and unique needs.

Encountering Christ will have a significant impact on parishes, with \$22.5 million of the campaign's \$85 million goal remaining in parishes to address local needs. If we meet our campaign goal at St. Andrew Kim Parish, we will receive \$55,500.

Our mission is to nurture a diverse and welcoming community that is committed to following fearlessly wherever God is leading us and to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of Austin and the world! Our loving parish's devotion to Christ and his church is especially evident in our service to local Korean Catholics. Many parishioners who walk through our doors are here temporarily to study while others have been with us for years. New or old, our close-knit community is committed to remaining a unit as we journey forward together as a parish.

With our community changing and the growth of our parishioners in north Austin, we are in need of cash reserves to address these shifts at St. Andrew Kim. *Encountering Christ* will allow us to meet the future needs of our parish with endowed funds for real estate, maintenance and community programs.



\$55,500 for Future Parish Needs

In order to continue to serve the future needs of our dynamic community, we are planning to place the funds we receive from the *Encountering Christ* campaign into an endowment. This endowed fund will support us as we discover the next steps in our service to Korean Catholics in Austin and the surrounding areas.

AN INVITATION

Let us reflect on the many blessings the Lord has given us. Recognizing that all of our material goods are gifts from the Lord, we are asked in the Gospel to give back a portion of these gifts in thanksgiving for God's generosity and goodness to us.

Your gift is an opportunity to leave a legacy for the Catholic Church in Central Texas. Scripture tells us that Christian stewardship goes beyond giving of our surplus. It is a gift made from our substance.

It is in this spirit of Christian stewardship that we undertake this extraordinary campaign of *Encountering Christ*.

Supporting Our Clergy

Seminarians

Currently, 28 seminarians are discerning their vocation while preparing to serve as priests for the Diocese of Austin. The priesthood is essential to our Catholic faith, and additional vocations will be required in the coming years to meet the needs of our growing community. *Encountering Christ* will direct \$5 million toward the seminary endowment to encourage vocations, especially among the Spanish-speaking population; to offset the cost of education and formation; and to provide additional support for men who enter the seminary with student loan debt.



Retired priests

The men who are ultimately ordained to the priesthood for our diocese give their lives in service to our community. Even when their years of active ministry end, they never retire from their vocation to the priesthood but continue to serve us through prayer.



The diocese currently has 38 retired priests, with another 41 within 10 years of retirement age. A pension plan and trust provides a steady income that can be used for their housing and living expenses during retirement. However, this plan is currently underfunded for the number of priests who will access it in the future. *Encountering Christ* will add \$5 million to the pension plan and trust to meet the anticipated shortfall.

Since most priests reside in the rectories of the parishes they shepherd, many lack housing once they retire from pastoral ministry. The St. John Paul II Residence for Priests is a comfortable home and close-knit community where retired priests can share Mass, meals and activities; access transportation to and from appointments; and receive care and support for medical needs. In its present state, the residence will not have room for the number of priests who will retire in the coming years. The diocese will allocate \$2 million from the campaign to construct additional duplexes to accommodate another eight to twelve priests.

Strengthening Parishes

Expanding parishes

Recent population growth has stretched some parishes in this area beyond their physical and ministerial capacities. Knowing this is a reality we will continue to face for years to come, the diocese will reserve \$10 million from *Encountering Christ* to support the expansion of these parishes to accommodate new membership and ministries. A portion of campaign funds will also be set aside for the construction of new parishes in the future.



Rural parishes

Crucial to our Catholic community in Central Texas are our 80 parishes and missions in rural areas. Many have less than a thousand families, and may be the only parish for miles within their county. For these parishes, emergency costs can be too great to bear on their own. Although they have not experienced the same growth as urban and suburban areas, our rural parishes must remain open. Through *Encountering Christ*, the diocese will create a \$3 million endowment to provide additional operational and emergency support for rural parishes.

성 김대건 성당을 포함한 각 본당의 필요에 따른 모금액 배분



오스틴 교구내의 모든 본당은 보편 교회에 뿌리를 두고 있지만 그 본당의 고유한 정체성과 영성 그리고 고유한 사명이 있습니다.

Encountering Christ 캠페인은 총 \$85 million의 모금 목표액 중 \$22.5 million을 각 본당의 필요에 따라 사용할 수 있도록 하고 있습니다. 우리 본당의 경우 모금 목표금액을 달성할 경우, 본당의 필요에 따라 사용할 수 있는 \$55,500을 받게 될 것입니다.

우리의 사명은 하느님께서 우리를 이끄시는 곳이면 어느 곳이든 두려움 없이 따라가고 오스틴과 세상의 변혁을 위해서 헌신하는 예수 그리스도의 제자들을 키우기 위해서 헌신하는 다양성을 존중하고 누구나 환영하는 공동체를 만드는 것입니다.

그리스도와 그분의 교회에 대한 우리 본당의 헌신은 지역 한인 가톨릭 신자들을 위한 우리의 봉사로 드러나게 됩니다. 본당을 거쳐갔던 많은 신자들은 잠시 공부를 위해서 한인 성당에 있었지만 또 다른 신자들은 오랜 기간 동안 성당과 함께 해왔습니다. 새로 오셨거나 오랜 동안 함께 지내 온 신자분이거나 관계 없이 긴 신앙생활을 위해 함께 가야 할 공동체의 일원입니다.



향후 본당을 위해 사용할 \$55,500

우리 본당의 변화와 오스틴 북부 지역 신앙공동체의 성장과 함께, 우리는 이러한 변화에 잘 대비하기 위한 자금을 준비해야 할 필요성을 가지게 되었습니다. *Encountering Christ*는 건물구입, 유지보수 및 공동체 프로그램과 같은 본당에서 향후 필요한 목적에 사용할 수 있는 자금을 사용할 수 있게 합니다.

변화하는 커뮤니티의 요구에 부응하기 위하여, *Encountering Christ*를 통해서 모금액 금액은 모두 특별 기금 (endowment)으로 조성될 것입니다. 이 기금은 오스틴과 인근에 있는 한인 카톨릭 신자들을 위해서 쓰일 것입니다.



St. Andrew Kim Parish
Austin



“So we, though many, are one body in Christ.”

~ Rom 12:5