



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How much will my parish receive as part of this campaign?**

The *Living our Faith, Building our Future* Campaign will return 30% of all funds collected by the parish to the parish. Once a parish has attained its campaign goal, 70% of all funds raised over the goal will remain at the parish. The projects funded by the parish share of the campaign will be determined by parish leadership.

### **Is our parish target an assessment?**

No, the established parish targets are not an assessment. All parishes are asked to conduct a Good Faith Effort and work with their assigned Campaign Director to achieve their target to the best of their ability. If, after conducting a Good Faith Effort, the parish does not meet its goal, the parish will not be assessed the balance.

### **When will parishes begin to receive their share?**

Parishes will receive their share of the money quarterly throughout the redemption of the campaign.

### **How will the Diocesan Case elements be funded?**

Each element of the case will be funded on a *pro rata* basis as funds are received.

### **Is this campaign replacing the *God's Gift Appeal*?**

The *God's Gift Appeal* provides essential funding for existing ministries and the operation of the diocese on a yearly basis, and as such, will continue to be conducted during the time frame of the *Living our Faith, Building our Future* campaign. We ask that parishioners consider the importance of both, and contribute to the stability of the Diocese of Fargo both now and in to the future.

### **How will the campaign affect our parish offertory?**

Traditionally, offertory giving should remain consistent. Parishioners are asked to consider a sacrifice and commitment above and beyond their regular offertory giving and should not lower their offertory giving to their parish to make a gift to this effort.

### **Are pledges legally binding?**

Pledges are not legally binding. If the donor's financial situation changes such that a pledge cannot be satisfied, simply communicate with the Diocesan Development Office and inform them of the changes so they can adjust or cancel the pledge.

### **Will any of these funds be used for items other than the established case elements?**

No. The diocese is obligated to restrict these funds for the stated elements. The funds raised for the campaign will be used exclusively for the named case elements and expenses, including endowment funding for future use.

### **What is an endowment fund and why use endowment funding?**

An endowment fund is an investment fund that requires the principal remain intact and money/interest earned from investing the principal be used for a specific purpose. The diocese recognizes that some projects are ongoing and will need attention for years to come. Considering this, endowments have been established to safeguard the monies that are raised.

## **Who handles the redemption of the pledges?**

The Diocese of Fargo will be responsible for the redemption of the pledges. The Development Office will track pledges and gifts and handle the mailing/emailing of payment reminders over the 4-year pledge period.

## **Can I designate my gift to a specific case item?**

Yes. Our hope is a donor would support the campaign as a whole, but if a donor wishes to specify a portion, or all, of the gift, he/she must clearly specify on the pledge card how the gift should be designated.

## **How much should I give to the campaign?**

Parishioners are asked to prayerfully consider a gift plan in accordance with their own means, circumstances, and sacrificial levels. We also ask that parishioners maintain current offertory and God's Gift Appeal giving levels. This campaign asks parishioners to consider a gift above and beyond their current giving. Pledges are payable in monthly, quarterly, or annual installments over a 4-year period.

## **Why are pledges encouraged, instead of one-time donations?**

Pledges provide parishioners with the opportunity to make a more significant gift over time to the mission of the Church. In addition, pledges allow the Diocese of Fargo and local parishes to better budget and plan for meeting the needs that will be addressed by this campaign.

## **Are IRA rollover gifts an option for giving to this campaign?**

If you are 70½ or older, the IRA rollover is a great way for you to make a gift to support the ***Living our Faith, Building our Future*** campaign. For more information on making an IRA Rollover gift to the campaign, contact Steve Schons at 701-356-7926 or [steve.schons@fargodiocese.org](mailto:steve.schons@fargodiocese.org).

The IRA rollover is now permanent, and its key provisions are:

- The IRA rollover allows donors 70½ or older to transfer up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA on an annual basis.
- An IRA rollover gift is a tax-exempt distribution. Qualifying individuals can make charitable gifts using pre-tax IRA assets rather than taking a distribution, paying income taxes or using after tax assets to make a charitable gift.
- An IRA rollover gift can be used to meet all or part of an IRA's annual required minimum distribution (RMD). The age for the required minimum distribution is now 72 years old.

*Donors requiring further information may reach out to their parish campaign representative or contact  
Jeff Weber at [jweber@guidanceingiving.com](mailto:jweber@guidanceingiving.com) or 979-549-2640*

