

THE COLLABORATIVE PARISHES OF RESURRECTION AND ST. PAUL

INSPIRING HOPE Campaign

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why are we conducting a capital campaign NOW? Wouldn't it be better to wait?

- The Inspiring Hope Campaign has been planned since 2015 and officially kicked off in 2017. The goal is to conclude by the time the Cardinal turns 75 (the age at which bishops are required to submit their resignations to the Holy Father).
- When deciding whether to continue with the campaign's rollout or delay it further, the Cardinal has considered the challenges presented by the current environment in the Church, the needs this campaign seeks to address, the likelihood of these needs being addressed by some other means, and the feedback presented to him by early supporters to the campaign.
- One of the greatest challenges faced by the Church in Boston (and in most of the United States) is the great number of unchurched people – many of whom were born to Catholic parents but are not practicing.
- The top funding priority for Inspiring Hope is to invest in the mechanisms and resources parishes and schools need to reach these individuals and invite them back into a community of faith.
- We feel strongly that now is the time to expand evangelization and outreach efforts and that we cannot afford to wait for future generations to make these investments.

2. Are there budget areas we can reduce or alternative ways to pay for capital work and faith formation endeavors?

- Our regular collections and existing reserves do not generate enough additional revenue to maintain our physical plants. The parish's operating budget is stretched and it is difficult to fund capital projects. Our faith formation staff often do more with less. Borrowing is an undue burden on the operating budget.

3. Why would our parishes need an endowment?

- Endowments provide a permanent source of ongoing revenue that can help us weather economic downturns without necessarily having to reduce or eliminate essential staff positions or services. Additionally, spendable income from endowments could be used to provide funding for programs or maintenance without placing additional demands on the weekly contributions that fund the parish's daily operations.
- The present and future realities of participation in the Catholic Church in New England necessitate careful planning and strategic investments in order to maintain and/or grow services to parishioners and others whom the Church serves. Our hope and expectation is to address these needs now, during this unprecedented economic upswing.
- Many Protestant and Jewish congregations across the region have endowed funds that have been built up over decades, allowing them to employ similar levels of clergy and staff as those of Catholic churches – despite congregations that are generally smaller than our communities. These endowments complement the significant tithes offered by faithful members during good financial times and provide for continuity of service in difficult times.
- The endowment funds raised for each parish are merely intended to be a beginning. By educating parishioners about planned giving and by promoting the endowments, we will offer the faithful an opportunity to perpetually sustain Catholicism in Hingham through their estate plans.

4. How will each parish's endowment function?

- The permanent endowment will be managed by the Catholic Community Fund (CCF) and will generate disbursements to the parish on a regular basis. CCF's spending policy stipulates that 4% of the endowment's assets be disbursed for the purposes and designations for which the endowment was created. Any growth in the assets not disbursed will automatically be re-invested so that the endowment's corpus will grow over time. CCF will invest and oversee the parish's endowment and will charge a modest annual management fee of less than one percent.

5. What makes us think the Hingham Catholic community could generate \$2.5 million?

- The Hingham parishes of Resurrection and St. Paul are blessed with a generous and loyal faith community. Our past successes with raising money give us confidence that potential exists in the parish for supporting a comprehensive campaign. Additionally, the results of a campaign feasibility study have made us cautiously optimistic that parishioners are ready to support these projects.

6. Why are we collaborating with the Archdiocese on this campaign?

- We all benefit from being part of a stronger Church in Boston, and as part of being good citizens we support our Cardinal's vision for a renewed Church. Our parish campaign is dovetailing with the larger Archdiocesan campaign – the first one conducted in many years – because it makes sense to do so.
- Most diocesan campaigns require all parishes to participate and parishes are given a fundraising goal for monies that are not necessarily parish-focused. The current larger Archdiocesan campaign, still in its quiet phase, is taking a different tack, one where parishes can opt-in, raise money for their own needs, and direct a relatively small percentage of their fundraising to a portion of the larger campaign as they wish (just like any donor).
- Our collaborative has decided to contribute 25 percent of our campaign's proceeds to support the Parish Evangelization Fund and the Promoting Vocations Fund portions of the Cardinal's capital campaign.

7. Is there a certain order to the disbursement of our campaign's funds?

- All elements will be funded proportionally according to the (80/20%) sharing formula after the fee is applied. Once the cash receipts reach the goal amounts (\$1,700,000 for St. Paul / \$800,000 for Resurrection), the parishes will receive 100% of all disbursed funds from that point forward.

8. How is the INSPIRING HOPE campaign different from the Catholic Appeal?

- The Catholic Appeal is critical to funding the day to day operating needs of the ministries of the Archdiocese. Capital campaigns bring transformational resources for purposes above and beyond annual operating expenses.
- The INSPIRING HOPE campaign will strengthen the Church in greater Boston through one-time investments in significant capital, endowment and programming initiatives in support of parishes, schools, social services and clergy formation and retirement, and to strengthen our presence in the wider community.
 - The Catholic Community Fund (see below) will be responsible for collecting and disbursing the campaign funds in accordance to the Case for Support and donor intentions.

9. How much will it cost the parish to conduct a capital campaign?

- The direct costs and out-of-pocket expenses for each parish will be for campaign-related design, printing, postage, or events. There is a development administrative fee which will be applied to all cash receipts which offset the costs of managing the campaign, for the mailing and processing of reminders and payments over the pledge redemption period, and for auditing and bookkeeping expenses. A fee of 2.5% will be applied to the parish's portion of the campaign payments and a 5% fee will be applied to the *Inspiring Hope* portion of the campaign payments as they are received.

10. Will any of the money raised from the campaign go to lawsuits pending or in the future?

- No. All funds raised through the INSPIRING HOPE campaign here and elsewhere will be used entirely in accordance with the elements outlined in the case statement and in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

11. How can we be certain that funds raised will go to the areas presented?

- Civil and canon law (church law) charges our Cardinal Archbishop with ensuring that restricted donations are used for the stated purpose(s) and that they fulfill the directions made by the donor(s). The campaign's cash receipts will be overseen by the Catholic Community Fund's Board of Trustees who will ensure distribution to the designated case elements. The revenues and expenses will be reviewed annually by independent auditors.

12. How will I know when/how the funds dedicated for Resurrection and St. Paul Parishes are spent?

- The pastor and each parish Finance Council will review all reports on monies collected/received on the parish's behalf and will ensure that what we receive is in accordance with our agreed-upon sharing formula with the Archdiocese.

13. Where are the gifts deposited? To whom are the checks written? Where are they sent?

- Gifts and payments will be deposited in the Catholic Community Fund and disbursed to the appropriate entity or endowed fund according to each gifts' designation. Donors will make out their checks to *Inspiring Hope*. Pledges and initial payments will be collected at the parish while the campaign is active. Future payments will be mailed by donors directly to the Catholic Community Fund via a remittance form and envelope they receive with reminders. Donors may also choose to pay with other methods of giving such as credit card, stock transfers or automatic bank withdrawal.

14. What is the Catholic Community Fund and what is its leadership structure?

- The Catholic Community Fund, Inc. (CCF) is a 501(c)3 non-profit community foundation aimed at strengthening and preserving the Catholic faith in the 144 communities that make up the Archdiocese of Boston. In doing so, this organization receives, oversees, manages and distributes earned income from permanent endowment funds as directed by the donors. Such funds create an ongoing source of income for the missions they support – largely our parishes, Catholic schools, and Catholic social services – providing long-term stability for programs and operations. CCF is managed by a Board of Trustees that includes Cardinal Seán and lay leaders from across the Archdiocese. CCF will be responsible for collecting and disbursing the campaign funds and establishing new endowment funds in accordance with the Case for Support and donor intentions.

15. How will information be shared about the amounts raised and disbursements made?

- During the campaign, an Archdiocesan-wide newsletter will be sent to donors and pastors with updated information about how much has been raised. After the local campaign is completed, participating parishes will receive regular reports including the amount pledged, paid to date, the parish's share, and their disbursement amount. Also included will be a bulletin insert and recommended announcement speaking points to share the good news with their parishioners. Depending on their method of giving, donors will also receive periodic updates along with their reminders for remitting their pledge payments, and all donors will receive year-end tax receipts with a campaign update. Finally, the Catholic Community Fund's Board of Trustees will meet several times per year to review pledge redemption and disbursement reports as well as the annual audited financial reports to ensure pledges are collected efficiently and funds are distributed according to the Case for Support. The Catholic Community Fund will also produce an annual report to donors, which includes its audited financials.

16. How long do I have to fulfill my pledge to the INSPIRING HOPE campaign?

- Donors may take up to five years to fulfill their pledges, or fulfill them sooner. One may make payments on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis. One may also choose to vary the amounts pledged in any given year. Payments may be made through a number of different giving vehicles, including checks, credit cards, electronic funds transfers (automatic withdrawal), and stock transfers.

17. How many other parishes are participating in the INSPIRING HOPE campaign?

- Our parishes are two of 18 parishes invited to participate in the INSPIRING HOPE campaign's silent phases. There is strength in numbers, and together with other parishes that opt to conduct campaigns through the end of 2019, we are participating in transforming the Church in Greater Boston.