



GRATEFUL
for God's Providence

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

Diocese of Providence



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In just a few short years, in 2022, the Diocese of Providence will celebrate a truly historic milestone – the 150th Anniversary of its founding. It is my intention to observe this great occasion with a variety of charitable, educational, and liturgical events.

And to prepare for this historic moment, we are also launching a major Capital Campaign entitled ***Grateful for God's Providence***. The Campaign will have an overall goal of \$50 million, and its purpose is to provide greatly needed funding for several causes: the education of seminarians, support for our retired priests, tuition assistance for Catholic Schools, support for Catholic charities and social ministry, funding for the preservation of our beautiful cathedral, and, very significantly, for our parishes, the communities where Catholics regularly experience and practice their faith.

As you know, almost every non-profit and religious organization conducts a capital campaign from time-to-time to supplement its regular income, meet its basic needs and support its mission. But, in fact, it has been 20 years since our Diocese has embarked on a special capital campaign! We are long overdue. It is our time; it is our turn!

But this campaign, while raising sorely needed funds, is also an act of faith for us. It is an opportunity to express our “Catholic pride” in a very real and tangible way. It is an opportunity to renew our commitment to the Church, founded by Christ, and which continues to do so much good in our community, day-in and day-out.

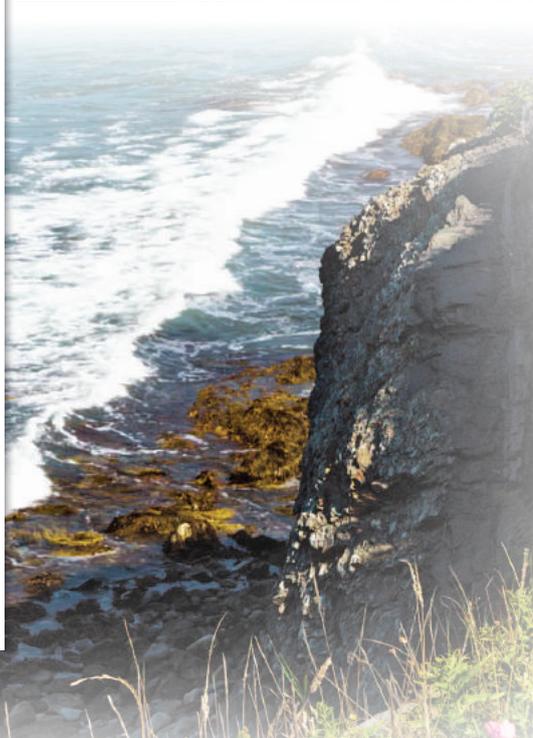
And, our Capital Campaign is an opportunity to say that we are ***Grateful for God's Providence!*** In so doing we honor the tremendous sacrifices of our Catholic ancestors that made our Church so prominent through the ages, and we ensure that the work of the Catholic Church in Rhode Island will continue to prosper well into the future.

In short, dear brothers and sisters, the needs are great and the time is right. Please support our historic Capital Campaign, personally, spiritually and financially. I know I can count on you to be part of this historic moment for our Church. Together, let us show the world that we are ***Grateful for God's Providence!***

With gratitude for your support, and with my prayers for God's blessings, I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

Thomas J. Tobin
Bishop of Providence



In 2022, the Diocese of Providence will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1872. Since it was established, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence has grown exponentially and has served millions of Catholics. Comprised of the State of Rhode Island, the diocese encompasses 136 parishes, over 1,085 square miles, serving approximately 190,000 Catholic households. Additionally, the Diocese of Providence has a number of diocesan, parish and regional high schools and elementary schools that serve our population. In addition to these institutions, the diocese is home to adult care facilities, homes for the aged, youth camps and community centers, a number of monasteries and residences of priests and religious brothers and sisters.

In appreciation and gratitude for the nearly 150 years of the Diocese of Providence, Bishop Tobin has aptly themed our capital campaign *Grateful for God's Providence*. This historic effort has a goal of raising \$50,000,000 to help strengthen our parishes, encourage our vocations to the priesthood by supporting our seminarians, providing for retired priests, supporting our ability to care for the "least of God's people," and continue to maintain and support our Mother Church, the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul.



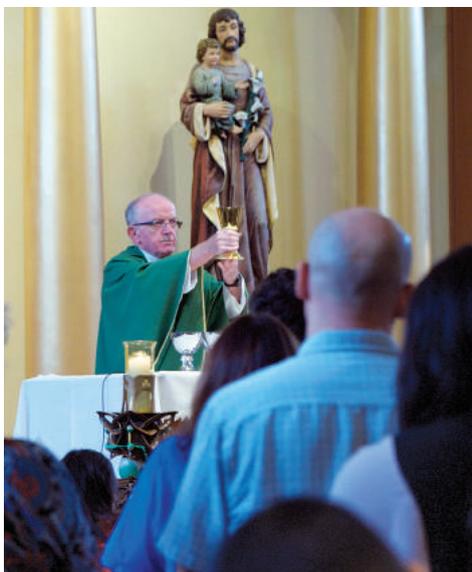
FORTY PERCENT OF ALL FUNDS GENERATED IN THE ***GRATEFUL FOR GOD'S PROVIDENCE*** CAMPAIGN WILL DIRECTLY AND POSITIVELY IMPACT LOCAL PARISHES THROUGHOUT OUR DIOCESE. EACH PARISH WILL BE ASSIGNED A "GOOD-FAITH TARGET." THESE TARGETS ARE "GOALS" NOT "ASSESSMENTS," MEANING EACH PARISH COMMUNITY IS ASKED TO SIMPLY DO THEIR BEST IN RAISING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF FUNDS.



SUPPORTING
OUR
PARISHES

~

\$20,000,000

Forty percent of all funds collected up to the assigned target will be returned to the parishes for their local needs. Once a parish surpasses its target, 60% of the funds raised above that point will be returned to the parish. The Diocese of Providence will collect donor contributions and disburse funds to the parishes on a quarterly basis for their own needs.

Some examples of how parishes may use the proceeds from the *Grateful for God's Providence* campaign include:

- Making necessary repairs to the parish plant.
- Expanding or renovating church facilities.
- Paying off historic or current debts.
- Establishing a maintenance fund for future repairs or projects.
- Creating a new parish ministry or strengthening existing ministries.

Through the parish-sharing component, the *Grateful for God's Providence* campaign hopes to realize a minimum of \$20,000,000.



THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING FOR THE PASTORAL AND SACRAMENTAL NEEDS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES BY PROVIDING FOR THE FORMATION OF MEN FOR THE PRIESTHOOD.



Seminarian formation is a six-to-eight-year process beginning in college and continuing with theological studies in major seminary. The cost of a major seminary education and formation has risen steadily to approximately \$56,500 a year per seminarian. The collective cost to the Diocese of Providence is approaching \$685,000 annually.

A financial analysis of the past five years indicates that the costs associated with forming and educating the future priests of the Diocese of Providence has incurred an annual operational deficit of approximately \$500,000. This deficit has been funded primarily by the Diocesan General Fund, Catholic Charity Appeal and by drawing on the seminarian

SUPPORTING
OUR
SEMINARIANS

\$8,000,000



education endowment fund. If nothing is done and due to other diocesan financial constraints, it will be impossible to continue to fund these deficits in the years ahead.

Funds generated from the *Grateful for God's Providence* campaign will primarily add to the existing endowment that exists to help seminarians enrolled in the advanced study of theology. Additionally, some of the generated funding will go to assist Our Lady of Providence Seminary and its mission. This campaign hopes to add \$8,000,000 to the current Most Reverend Robert E. Mulvee Fund for the Education of Seminarians to help meet the costs of forming and educating our current and future seminarians.

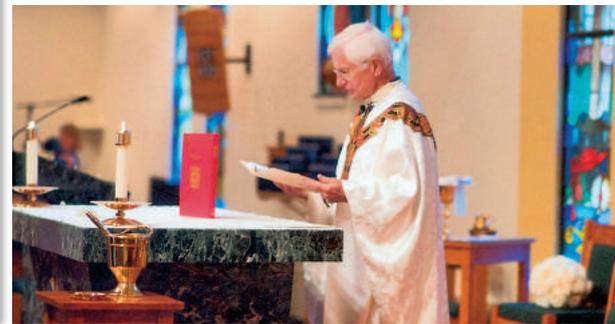


THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE IS BLESSED TO HAVE APPROXIMATELY 100 PRIESTS WHO HAVE EACH LOVINGLY SERVED AND HAVE NOW RETIRED FROM ACTIVE MINISTRY. OFTEN RETIRING BETWEEN THE AGES 70-75, MANY MEN WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE PART-TIME, BY ASSISTING IN PARISHES ON A REGULAR BASIS, WHILE OTHERS REQUIRE ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING HOME CARE.

Between 2017 and 2025, there will be approximately 50 priests, now in active ministry, who will be eligible for retirement. Due to the increasing number of retired priests, the shortfall of the retirement fund has increased to \$800,000 annually. These shortfalls have been subsidized through the Diocesan General Fund and Annual Catholic Charity Appeal. In order to finance the operations of both the priest retirement and medical programs, we must expand the current Our Lady, Queen of Clergy Retirement Fund Endowment by approximately \$8,000,000. The financial support will help address the retirement benefits and medical expenses of the current retired priests as well as the increasing number of retired priests into the foreseeable future.

SUPPORTING
OUR
RETIRED
PRIESTS

\$8,000,000



FOR OVER 165 YEARS, CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE HAVE PARTNERED WITH PARENTS AND GUARDIANS TO EDUCATE CHILDREN. TODAY'S SCHOOLS FOLLOW A RIGOROUS STANDARDS AND FAITH-BASED CURRICULUM THAT ADDRESSES THE SPIRITUAL, ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STUDENTS.

Nurturing a well-educated community that embodies the Gospel values of Christ is key to ensuring the future of our church. Each year, more families apply for financial assistance so their children may attend a Catholic school.

Our current financial assistance falls well below the calculated need; in fact, we are only able to help 10% of the families that apply for assistance. In this campaign, we are raising a minimum of \$5,000,000 for Catholic

CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS
TUITION
ASSISTANCE

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\$5,000,000



education tuition assistance. This will add to the current Anchor of Hope 21st Century Endowment Fund, assisting families and their students with tuition aid, based on demonstrated financial need.

We must ensure that we have schools that are available, accessible and affordable to every Catholic school student and parent who desires a Catholic education for their children regardless of their financial means.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUES
 TO BE THE FACE AND HEALING HANDS OF CHRIST TO THE PEOPLE
 OF RHODE ISLAND, MEETING THEIR PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS,
 ADDRESSING INJUSTICES AND ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE.



Annually, our Social Services provides:

- Support to families facing unplanned pregnancies and their newborn children up to age four.
- Counseling and healing to women who have experienced an abortion.
- Support and healing to those afflicted by alcohol or drug addiction.
- Assistance to over 8,000 individuals who may be seeking safety for themselves and their families from their war-torn native countries.
- Training in English as a second language helping individuals to become more marketable in the workforce.
- Safe housing and aid to refugees and immigrants in need, as well as services to aid them in finding dignified employment.
- Care for our senior citizens through providing Elder Services and respite breaks for their caregivers especially those caring for elderly/disabled family members.
- Friendly visitors for the isolated and homebound.

CATHOLIC
 CHARITIES
 AND
 SOCIAL
 SERVICES

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\$5,000,000

- Training to caregivers of the elderly and disabled.
- Senior citizen center for minority and low-income senior citizens.
- Support for the family members of those in hospice care.
- Heating assistance to needy families throughout Rhode Island.
- Nearly 20,000 homeless men are provided a safe place to sleep.

Overall, the Catholic Charity Appeal helps provide generous assistance to all who turn to the Church in their time of need. For a complete list of the individual ministries and specific services offered by the Catholic Charities and Social Services please visit the diocesan website at www.dioceseofprovidence.org.

The *Grateful for God's Providence* campaign hopes to expand the present endowment by \$5,000,000. These funds will help to ensure that our current programs and services remain at their current level for the foreseeable future.



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL HAS SERVED AS THE MOTHER CHURCH OF OUR BELOVED DIOCESE. IT SHARES IN THE RICH HERITAGE OF THE BISHOPS, PRIESTS, DEACONS AND RELIGIOUS WHO HAVE BEEN ORDAINED TO SERVE FOR GENERATIONS.



It is the place where all of the faithful can gather and be at home since it is the people's church. It was consecrated on June 30, 1889 and remains a spiritual treasure; historical icon and prominent symbol of our faith. For these reasons, we must continue to preserve it as a center of liturgy and spiritual life for the Church of Rhode Island.

A major area of concern, among others, is the slate roof on this

CATHEDRAL OF
SAINTS PETER
AND PAUL



\$4,000,000



magnificent house of worship. The original roof is over 100 years old and must be replaced. The Grateful for God's Providence campaign will earmark approximately \$4,000,000 towards preservation and maintenance of our beautiful Cathedral, as well as expanding the current Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul Endowment Fund to address future needs.



BISHOP TOBIN INVITES YOU, AS A FAITHFUL MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE, TO BRING YOUR GIFTS AND ADD THEM TO THE GIFTS OF OTHERS IN ORDER TO RAISE \$50 MILLION. AS A GOOD STEWARD, YOU ARE CALLED TO REFLECT ON THE ABUNDANT GIFTS FROM GOD, TO CONSIDER ALL THE WAYS YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN BLESSED, AND TO RETURN TO GOD IN THE SAME MEASURE THAT HE HAS GIVEN TO YOU; TO HELP PROVIDE THE FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE.

Everyone is asked to be a part of this effort, but not everyone is asked to give the same amount. This brochure includes a gift plan that can be used as a guide in making your decision. Please consider it carefully and, at the appropriate time, select the gift that best expresses your gratitude to God as experienced in your life today. Your gift can be made as a pledge payable over a four-year period on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annual basis. Reminders will be mailed to your home based on your pledge plan.



METHODS OF PLEDGING

PLEDGES VIA CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

Simply complete your pledge card and select the timeframe of your payments. If you choose to make a down payment via check, please make it payable to **Grateful for God's Providence**. If you would like to have your down payment and pledge payments billed to your credit or debit card, please visit our secure website at: <https://providencedioocese.thankyou4caring.org>. We are currently accepting Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.

Once completed, please return your pledge card by mail in the provided return envelope. The Development Office will send payment reminder statements and a special payment envelope in accordance with the payment plan you have chosen. For those choosing the automatic payment option via credit or debit card, you will not receive reminder statements.

Any questions or concerns about using your credit card, please contact the Office of Stewardship & Development at (401) 277-2121.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Donors may use stock and or mutual funds to pay their pledge. If the stock has been held long-term (over one year), the donor does not have to pay capital gains tax on the stock, and is allowed a tax deduction for the average value of the stock on the date received. Donors may also choose to sell stock in order to claim a loss, which may be beneficial for tax circumstances. In either case, the stock must first be transferred to the Diocese before being liquidated.

If you would like to initiate a donation of stock or securities, please contact Rich Popovic at (401) 277-2115 or rpopovic@dioceseofprovidence.org.

GIFTS OF PROPERTY, LIFE INSURANCE, WILLS OR BEQUESTS

Gifts such as property, life insurance, estate bequests or charitable remainder trusts are welcome. For substantial gifts of property other than marketable securities, the IRS requires an appraisal. Please contact Andrea Krupp at (401) 277-2121, extension 4615, for more information on types of planned giving to this campaign.

TAX ADVANTAGES OF CHARITABLE GIVING

Charitable contributions to our campaign are deductible for those who itemize their taxes. Because each situation is unique, we urge you to discuss various gift options with your family and possibly your financial advisors to determine what type of gift is most beneficial and most appropriate for your situation.

A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN WILL ALLOW EACH OF US TO JOIN OUR GIFTS WITH THOSE WHO MADE THE PARISHES AND PROGRAMS OF THIS DIOCESE A REALITY IN YEARS PAST AND WILL ENSURE THAT WE REMAIN A STRONG, VIBRANT AND FAITHFUL CHURCH IN THE YEARS TO COME.



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for God's Providence

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS
Diocese of Providence

We know that our greatest strength is our Catholic faith and the faith of our people. This campaign is centered primarily on the spiritual growth and development of our people's faith. We are relying on your generosity to create a legacy for this generation—a legacy of faith that will pass on to those who will cherish and take it into a new time, gratefully adding their own gifts to what you have so generously given.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus
called us to form a Church that is
one, holy, catholic and apostolic,
and your Holy Spirit guides us on our way.
Ever grateful for your providence in our lives,
we ask your blessing upon our campaign
and upon all the work we do for your Church.
Give us a joyful spirit, a confident outlook,
and a renewed zeal as we live and share
the joy of the Gospel.
Help us to remember that without you,
we can do nothing, but that with you,
all things are possible.
This we ask through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Our Father ...
Hail Mary...

Leader: Our Lady of Providence

Response: Pray for us!

