



RENEW +
REBUILD

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

SUMMER 2019

Esta información también puede ser consultada en español; visitando renewrebuild.org/news-1

PARISHES CONTINUE TO SURPASS *RENEW + REBUILD* GOALS, KEEPING COMMUNITIES STRONG AND CONNECTED

When Cardinal Dolan asked Fr. Sixto Quezada, pastor at the **Church of Christ the King in the Bronx**, to participate as one of the early parishes in the *Renew + Rebuild* campaign, Fr. Quezada immediately appreciated that his parish might finally be able to undertake some urgently needed capital projects. What he did not anticipate was the unusually high participation rate. Thirty percent of **Christ the King's** parishioners – 625 donors to be exact – came forward to make contributions.

The Church of Christ the King was established in 1927 and is the spiritual home of a diverse community in the southwest section of the Bronx. The parish serves more than 2,100 households and approximately 300 young people are currently enrolled in their religious education programs. Fr. Quezada began the planning process by convening his parish council to determine which projects to prioritize and to identify their most achievable goals. After several meetings and much prayer, the parish council



A column in need of repair at Church of Christ the King in the Bronx.

BY THE NUMBERS

What capital improvement projects are parishes tackling through *Renew + Rebuild*?

New boiler? Repairing the parish hall? Restoring stained glass windows? Here's a snapshot of the most common projects identified by parishes – and these are well under way! These improvements help keep our parishes strong and are only possible because of the generosity of our parishioners.



PROJECT

NUMBER OF PARISHES



Church repairs (walls, floors, pews)	198
New and repaired roofs	90
New HVAC (heat, ventilation and air conditioning)	86
Parking lot restoration	61
Upgrades to eco-friendly lighting and/or installed solar panels	42
New boilers	38
Parish hall repairs	36
Stained glass restoration	36
Emergency fund replenishment	34
Accessibility ramps	24

made the unusual decision to set their goal *nearly \$100K higher* than that which was originally requested by the archdiocese. This new goal would enable the parish to address not only capital project needs that required immediate attention, but those maintenance needs that had been previously deferred due to cost – for example, repairs to the columns in the church and the doors that connect the school to the church. They also plan to repair and restore the canopy at the church's entrance to protect



Fr. Sixto Quezada

against the effects of rain and snowfall. The restored canopy will provide much needed coverage for people gathering outside of the church after Mass. The parish also plans on putting aside \$100,000 toward reducing parish debt.

“From the beginning, we were enthusiastic and committed to *Renew + Rebuild*,” said Fr. Quezada. “With prayer and thoughtful collaboration, we identified our projects, reached out to our parishioners and achieved what we set out to do. We can't wait to get our projects started.”

The parishioners of **Church of Christ the King** surpassed their goal, raising \$1 million in six months' time.

Even though Fr. Niranjan Rodrigo had been working for the archdiocese for nearly 20 years, he only assumed the role of pastor at the **Church of the Infant Saviour** in Pine Bush in January 2015. Less than a year later, the archdiocese asked him to embark on a major capital improvement campaign with a goal of raising \$653,000.

“The goal was completely overwhelming,” said Fr. Niranjan. “I hadn't been at the parish very long, so I didn't have any established relationships and suddenly



The new sanctuary at Mission Church at Church of the Infant Saviour in Pine Bush.

found myself sitting across the table from parishioners asking for their hard-earned money.”

Under Fr. Niranjan’s guidance, the parish formed a *Renew + Rebuild* campaign executive committee that included two deacons and three parishioners. They prioritized replacing the roof of the church and church hall, repaving the hazardous, torn-up parking lots, refurbishing the sanctuary and altar for what they refer to as the “mission church” (a second church on the property). They also intend to convert an unused pre-kindergarten building into a rectory, replacing the mobile home that for more than 20 years has served as the pastor’s residence and which has been deteriorating over time. The new rectory will be able to accommodate additional



“This campaign is not just about Infant Saviour in Pine Bush – we are part of a larger entity, and this is part of our Catholic faith.”

– Fr. Niranjan Rodrigo

priests – a welcome support for the pastor and the parish community.

Fr. Niranjan took the time to meet with many parishioners one-on-one and discuss the breadth of the campaign. “People wanted to understand why 26% of their contribution would go back to the archdiocese,” said Fr. Niranjan. “I explained that this campaign is not just about **Infant**

Saviour in Pine Bush – we are part of a larger entity, and this is part of our Catholic faith.”

Much to Fr. Niranjan’s surprise, **Church of the Infant Saviour** reached 102 percent of its goal. The parking lot has been repaved, there are new roofs over parishioners’ heads, there is a new sanctuary and soon the new rectory will be under way. 🐦



PHONE: 646.794.2008
E-MAIL: RENEWREBUILD@ARCHNY.ORG
WEB: RENEWREBUILD.ORG

Parishes retain 74% of the funds they raise as part of *Renew + Rebuild*, but for some, that's just not enough.

All of our parishes have pressing needs, but some are situated in communities that lack the resources to finance repairs and refurbishments needed to keep their facilities viable. Further, for 30–40 parishes, even general operating expenses cannot be fully covered by income. Recognizing this, the *Renew + Rebuild* campaign is setting aside \$10 million from the archdiocese's 26% of funds (see graphic) in an arrangement that will help underfunded parishes pay for renovations and repairs. This will also allow the archdiocese to help churches make necessary repairs after catastrophic events like Hurricane Sandy. This *Renew+*

The Archdiocese of New York continues the campaign to renew and rebuild our Church physically and spiritually. **The vast majority of the \$177M raised by parishes will stay within parishes**, and the rest will support campaign costs and other archdiocesan priorities.

74%

of funds raised by parishes stay within parishes for capital improvement projects

\$130,000,000



26%

supports other archdiocesan priorities, such as:



\$10,000,000

Extraordinary capital projects for needy parishes*



\$4,000,000

Evangelization and lay leadership formation



\$8,000,000

Catholic high schools



\$4,000,000

Catholic Charities



\$14,000,000

St. Patrick's Cathedral restoration*

* These allocations also represent parish capital needs, above the \$130M.

Rebuild funding allocation will allow the Church to maintain a presence in communities where parishes would otherwise have trouble surviving financially.

Contributions to *Renew + Rebuild* provide support beyond the four walls of your church. By donating, you are practicing good stewardship for our neighbors.

*If you have not yet submitted funds to support your pledge, please contact the *Renew + Rebuild* office at 646-794-2008 or renewrebuild@archny.org.*