



ST. PETER CATHOLIC
STUDENT CENTER AT
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

1415 S. 9th St.
Waco, TX 76706



DIOCESE OF AUSTIN

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Dear Friends,

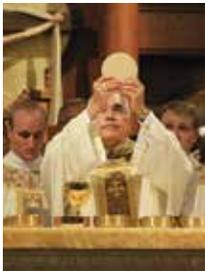
Our gracious Lord has blessed us abundantly and, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have grown together, evolving into the giving and caring community of faith we are today.

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. Peter Catholic Student Center will benefit from *Encountering Christ*, and has a goal of \$175,000. Of this amount, 30 percent or \$52,500 will remain at St. Peter Catholic Student Center to meet locally identified needs.

Please take a moment to review the impact *Encountering Christ* will have in both St. Peter Catholic Student Center and our diocese.

Sincerely in Christ,



Handwritten signature of Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez.

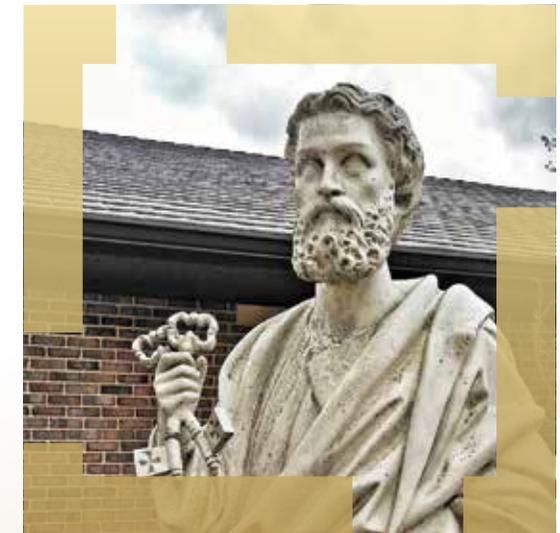
Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez
Bishop of Austin



Handwritten signature of Father Daniel Liu.

Father Daniel Liu
Pastor, St. Peter Catholic Student Center

St. Peter Catholic Student Center
Baylor University, Waco



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

~ Rom 12:5

Encountering Christ

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. Peter Catholic Student Center, we will receive \$52,500.

Encountering Christ will allow us to greatly expand our campus ministry through additional funding for hiring new staff, expanding current programming and increasing our ability to help students attend Catholic conferences and retreats. Furthermore, *Encountering Christ* will also enable us to complete final renovations to our recently upgraded, much-beloved chapel space.

This campaign will help us build a secure future for St. Peter Catholic Student Center by not only upgrading the building, but also expanding campus ministry and opportunities for students to deepen their faith.



\$22,500 to expand campus ministry

Adding a campus minister and more FOCUS missionaries will foster greater hospitality and increase the number of students engaged. Funding will also provide our music program's four choirs with resources to continue drawing souls to Christ through the beauty expressed in vocal and instrumental accompaniment in the Sacred Liturgy.



\$15,000 to help fund conferences and retreats

Sending students to conferences and spiritual retreats significantly encourages spiritual growth and friendships. This aspect of our campus ministry is a vital and excellent way to foster vocations and healthy chaste living among our young people!



\$10,000 for a new air condition system

Replacing the Catholic Student Center's outdated air conditioning system is imperative to ensuring the church and worship space are comfortable for all parishioners.



\$5,000 to upgrade the chapel floors

Tiling the floors near the altar is a final step in our chapel renovations. This long-lasting flooring will serve many more generations of students.

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*.