DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST

Corpus Christi is participating in One Church, Many Disciples, along with every parish in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. This first ever major campaign will build a Shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, support faith formation ministries, and strengthen local parishes, including ours. We join with faithful from across the archdiocese who are also helping to ensure our local Church is strong and vibrant for generations to come.

As an archdiocese, we form a faith community of 200,000 Catholics in central and western Oklahoma; we truly are One Church, Many Disciples! With the Beatification of Blessed Stanley Rother, each of us has the opportunity to share in his legacy. What an occasion to live Jesus’ call to missionary discipleship!

Please take a moment to review the impact One Church, Many Disciples will have on our parish. This campaign has my full support and, as your Pastor, I hope you will embrace this opportunity here at Corpus Christi.

Rev. Daniel Grover

OUR PARISH ROOTS

A Catholic census taken in 1924 that showed that a new parish was needed on the east side of Oklahoma City. Bishop Kelley, as one of his first acts as bishop, purchased ten lots at 8th Street and Durland and appointed Father Peter Wilwerding as the first pastor of Corpus Christi parish. A church and school were soon built on the site to serve the community.

In 1936, a new parish site was chosen at Fifteenth and Stonewall, when it became obvious that the current site would not allow for further expansion. A school was built immediately, and work began on the new church in 1944. The splendid Spanish Colonial church was dedicated by Bishop McGuinness on October 18, 1945.

In 1967, Bishop Reed hoping to integrate the community, closed the struggling St. Peter Claver parish nearby and combined it’s membership with that of Corpus Christi. The move, performed without consultation of the parishioners of St. Peter Claver, resulted in the loss of many black Catholics who angrily departed the church. However, from that hardship, Corpus Christi has emerged, mindful of it’s past and hopeful for the future.
PARISH LIFE TODAY

Today, Corpus Christi is an active parish serving the Northeast sector of Oklahoma City. Our church community is very diverse, with African-Americans, Caucasians, Vietnamese, Korean, Burmese and Hispanics all worshipping together in our beautiful church. Services are faithful to the Roman Catholic Church, filled with melodies of Gospel praise and celebration due to the contributions of our outstanding Gospel Choir.

OUR CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

We now have an excellent opportunity to participate in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s first ever major campaign, One Church, Many Disciples. This Archdiocesan-wide campaign will enable the archdiocese to build a shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, and meet other shared ministerial needs. Through participating in this campaign, Corpus Christi will raise significant funds towards the current needs of our beloved community. We are seeking five-year pledges to achieve our goal of $375,000. Corpus Christi will receive 20% of all funds raised up to the goal, totaling $75,000. In addition, 50% of every dollar raised above our goal will be returned to our parish.

OUR SHARE OF THE FUNDS

Through the One Church, Many Disciples campaign, we will not only play a significant role in this historic moment in the Church’s history, but we will also be able to support exciting new projects at our own parish, Corpus Christi.

With Corpus Christi’s share of the funds raised in this campaign effort, we will address much needed maintenance of our parish buildings, including:

- **A parish shrine**
  A shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother to memorialize his time serving Corpus Christi parish as a priest.

- **Addressing roof leaks**
  Patching holes in the roof and making repairs to the ceilings.

- **Repairing floors and walls**
  Replacing flooring and paint in the offices and meeting rooms.

- **Replacing the handicap ramp**
  Replacement of the current rotting wooden ramp.