DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is participating in *One Church, Many Disciples*, along with every church 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 Our Lady. 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. This campaign has my full support and, as your pastor, I hope you will embrace this opportunity here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Rev. Rayanna Narisetti

OUR PARISH ROOTS

The first Mass in the Sterling area was offered on August 21, 1902, in the home of Martin Ille. Father Urban de Hasque from Chickasha rode a horse-and-buggy to reach Sterling for Mass on weekdays. Once the Lawton parish was established, Fr. Willem Huffer cared for Sterling and Apache. The first church was built in 1904; apparently it was never blessed, but it was named in the honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. It was improved during the pastorate of the first resident priest, Fr. Anthony Van der Grinten. It had been in use for almost 25 years, when, on Dec. 22, 1928, it was totally destroyed by fire. In February 1929 the contract for building a second church was awarded to C.J. Cannovan of Rush Springs. The new church was built in the Roman style, with a 56’ tower. It was dedicated on October 8, 1929. Today the congregation includes parishioners who span several generations of the Sterling parish. Our Lady of Perpetual Help observed its centennial with Archbishop Beltran on September 19, 2004.
PARISH LIFE TODAY

Our Lady continues as a beacon of Christ’s love in Sterling. Connecting with parishioners and building community in and outside of the church remain top priorities today. Our Lady regularly hosts community gatherings, festivals, and fundraising events that benefit the faithful community in Sterling.

OUR CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

Our Lady of Perpetual Help welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s campaign, One Church, Many Disciples. This campaign will enable the building of a shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, and will fund shared ministerial needs. Through participating in this campaign, Our Lady will raise significant funds toward needs of our beloved community. We are seeking five-year pledges to achieve the parish campaign goal of $70,000. Our Lady will receive 20% of all funds we raise up to the goal, totaling $14,000. Plus, 50% of every dollar raised above our goal will be returned to Our Lady.

OUR SHARE OF THE FUNDS

With the parish’s share of the funds raised in this campaign effort, we will continue funding for our parish hall project. The new parish hall will allow us to build a deeper sense of community in an up-to-date space.

New Parish Hall

Space will provide an up-to-date gathering place for communal events