DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST

Sacred Heart Parish 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 Sacred Heart. 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 Sacred Heart. This campaign has my full support and, as your pastor, I hope you will embrace this opportunity here at Sacred Heart.

Rev. Mark E. Mason, Pastor

OUR PARISH ROOTS

French-born Fr. Germanus Guillaume began Catholic mission activity in the El Reno area in 1889. He became the Sacred Heart’s first pastor and began saying mass in private homes. A small frame church was built in March of 1892, but by the turn of the century the church had swelled to 600 members and outgrown its small facility. Under the guidance of Fr. Constantine Pourcin, the first church was sold and a new one constructed in 1902. Set on a stone foundation, the second church was much grander than its predecessor.

In 1950, then pastor Fr. Emil Depreitere announced the decision to build a new church. The church built in 1902, which had grown costly to repair and maintain, was taken down and a new church was erected in its place. The first Mass in the new church was celebrated on Thanksgiving Day of 1951.

By 1987, the church had served for many years and a refurbishing was undertaken by Fr. Philip Wilkiemeyer. Work was completed in 1990, a fitting celebration of the parish’s centennial.
PARISH LIFE TODAY

Sacred Heart Parish continues its proud history as a warm, friendly, and generous community of faith. The men of the Knights of Columbus chapter and women of Catholic Daughters and the Altar Society work to enliven spirits and support special activities throughout the parish. Hispanic Charismatic Renewal addresses the needs of our Hispanic community and Reachmore builds a sense of community throughout the Parish. Our parish school educates 160 children from Pre-K to 8th grade, and Religious Education and RCIA ministries ensure that children and those new to the faith are well informed, well prepared for their sacraments, and ready to answer Christ's call in their lives. Dedicated to service, Sacred Heart began and continues to sponsor the St. Katherine Drexel Retirement Center.

OUR CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

Sacred Heart 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, Sacred Heart will raise significant funds toward needs of our beloved community. We are seeking five-year pledges to achieve the parish campaign goal of $375,000. Sacred Heart will receive 20% of all funds we raise up to the goal, totaling $75,000. Plus, 50% of every dollar raised above the goal will be returned to Sacred Heart.

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, Sacred Heart.

With Sacred Heart’s share of the funds raised in this campaign effort, we will renovate the new office building and build a new rectory.

This will provide two major benefits:

**Genuine office space:**
Dedicated offices that will provide comfortable areas for parish work, meetings and counseling.

**Devoted living space:**
A separate rectory would allow for relaxation of our clergy, and would be able to accommodate an associate pastor, retired priests, or seminarians.