

St. Gabriel the Archangel



BUILDING
A FUTURE
OF
HOPE

ARCHDIOCESE
OF LOUISVILLE



1808-2008

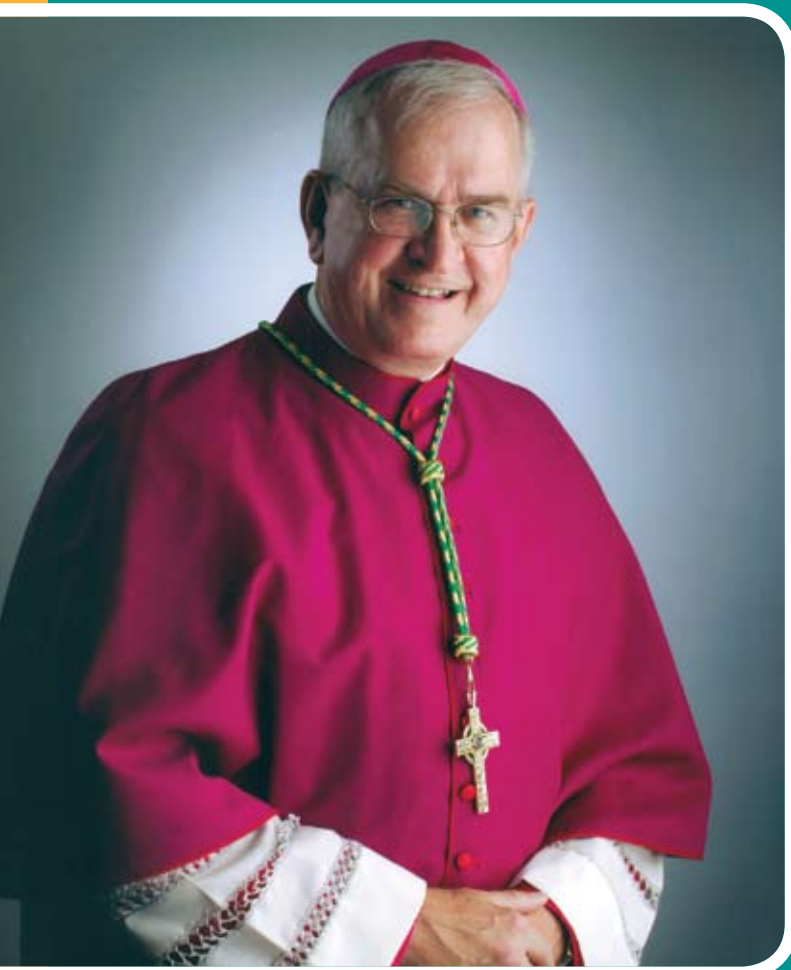


A Message from Archbishop Kurtz

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our Archdiocese was founded by men and women of great courage and fortitude. They steadfastly built strong parishes, religious orders, schools, and charitable organizations that have made a tremendous difference in our Commonwealth. Their accomplishments can be seen in the stories of your own parish communities. I have been greatly impressed by the deep commitment to parish and place that exists in this Archdiocese, and I am convinced that this is a great strength upon which to build.

We are uniquely poised, therefore, to build upon this legacy through our Building a Future of Hope



Bicentennial Campaign. **This historic effort will strengthen both parishes and archdiocesan ministries through a shared effort.** Since our parishes are at the heart of our ministry as a local Church, I am excited that this campaign will allow each parish to fulfill dreams, address current needs, and plan for the future. This publication outlines your parish's dreams. Please take the time to read this carefully and consider how you can participate in this important effort.

At least 50% of the funds raised will stay with your parish. Remaining funds will help educate seminarians, shore up our support for retired priests, assist parishes in crisis, reach out to our diverse communities, provide tuition assistance for families in need, and create a legacy fund for the future. In addition, the Catholic Services Appeal will be funded for two years.

Ultimately, Building a Future of Hope is a call to renew our stewardship commitment by prayerfully considering the gifts we have been given and how we can respond to God's call to be disciples.

Rooted in deep faith, summoned by hope, and impelled by charity, we join together to insure that the vital ministry of the Church throughout our parishes and our Archdiocese will serve present and future generations.

May God bless you.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph E. Kurtz". The signature is written in a cursive style.

The Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.
Archbishop of Louisville

A Message from Father John Stoltz

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the Spring of 2004 our parish Council adopted a new mission statement of our parish. It states that our mission is to praise God through proclaiming the Good News, serving others, and building community. As I meditate on the statement, I am amazed by its beauty. It is both accurate in its description of our community, and able to give us future direction. I see us living out this statement in various ways of our parish: Sunday Mass, Sacramental preparation, St. Vincent DePaul, children's sports, the parish festival.

The mission statement will take us far in helping us plan for the future. However, we are limited by some capital needs of our parish. At the present, we do not need to build a huge building (phew!), but there are several capital needs that we have as we look to the future. We would like this statement to be the motivating local identity of our new capital campaign Building a Future of Hope. Over the past couple of years, there have been several of us who have identified some needs for capital improvement and expansion of our parish. In these paragraphs, we would like to outline our particular capital needs.

Please Join Us in this Endeavor! As I ask you to join us, I want to say that our primary task is not raising money alone. Rather I would like for you to consider this to be a season of prayer for us. Our question we bring to prayer

is, **Lord, what do you want to do through me, to accomplish your will, for St. Gabriel and the Archdiocese of Louisville?** This is a time of discernment for each one of us to discover what God is calling us to do for our community. As I think about God's calling in my life, I consider the many blessings God has given me. My faith is a gift that has been passed on to me by my parents, and the Holy Spirit has inspired me through the people of this community to follow God faithfully. I am very thankful for the St. Gabriel community, and consider it a blessing in my life. I am asking you to do the same. Join with me in discerning how God is calling you to accomplish His will. Join with me in prayer for our parish and our Archdiocese. Participate in our capital campaign program, and give thanks to God who calls us to give him Praise, proclaim His Good News, serve, and build community.



Parish Case

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday it is a good time to reflect on how wonderful and generous the good Lord has been to us and our families. We still have the freedom to worship peacefully at St. Gabriel Church. Our school children and grandchildren continue to receive a high quality education which promotes our Catholic traditions in a safe and secure environment.

Our parish has been the site of thousands of baptisms and marriage ceremonies that will be a lasting memory for so many of us and our new member meetings lay the foundation for so many more St. Gabriel parishioners to enjoy these special sacraments.

What is so special about this place St. Gabriel, our home away from home? Many are moved by the friendliness and hospitality of our greeters as we welcome those



coming to Sunday mass. So many others talk about the amount of opportunity to meet people through bible study, religious education, Eucharistic Adoration, adult formation, men's & women's clubs, church picnic, athletics, Pro-Life Walks, Choir, Habitat For Humanity and parish council to name just a few.

It is safe to say St. Gabriel is an open door to anyone who wishes to get involved in a spiritual or social way at

a parish truly on the move.

The St. Gabriel community is alive and well with so much discussion centered around where we want to take our parish over the next 20-30 years with the upcoming Building a Future of Hope campaign. What is the Building a Future of Hope campaign? It is a joint fundraising initiative to benefit both the Archdiocese of Louisville and the parish community of St. Gabriel.

This fundraising campaign will take the place of the Catholic Services Appeal for the next two years, so we can focus on the greatest needs of the parish community and the bigger picture in our Archdiocese.

Your St. Gabriel leadership team, under the stewardship direction of Tim McGinty and campaign chairs Robin Engel, Mark Frederick and Lisa Lauder has been praying for the future of our parish and has identified three specific goals that will need your financial support for the next three to five years.

Our goals are lofty, but together as a parish family, with Jesus as our spiritual leader, anything is possible. Please help pray with us and come on board this exciting campaign. St. Gabriel is a parish community many of us have called home since our beginning over 50 years ago. It is also a place many more are just getting to know, and we welcome your energy and enthusiasm toward making this an even better home for the next 50 years.



Goals

1. Fern Creek Highview United Ministries Capital Building Fund – Jesus says in (Matthew 25: 40) “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” We also hear in (Psalm 41:2) “Happy is he who has regard for the lowly and the poor; in the day of misfortune the Lord will deliver him.” A brand new \$750,000 building opened in May 2008 to answer the call of the poor and a mortgage of \$200,000 remains to be paid. The ministry has witnessed a 26% increase in families needing services over the past two years alone. It is estimated that the FCHUM gives out 109,526 pounds of food each year to needy families. Inside this building is also a full service adult day center. It has the capacity to support 25 adults and it is a moving experience to listen to families who are/were able to bring an Alzheimer patient to this facility to provide some rest for themselves. The executive director, along with pastors throughout the Fern Creek community, has made paying this loan off a very high priority. Their greatest fear is that this debt could at sometime negatively affect the operations where they are already being challenged.

2. Athletic Field Purchase or Lease – St. Gabriel athletics has come a long way under the past direction of Tim McGinty. Tim has now moved into a new position in the parish and we are fortunate to have his son, Kyle McGinty, as our new athletic director. It was not long ago that St. Gabriel had not won a football game at the 7th & 8th grade level. Today our program is as strong as any in the Archdiocese of Louisville! Our basketball program is one of the biggest around with over 400 players. We have 200 girls each year playing volleyball. Our

sports program includes cheerleading, swimming, golf, baseball, soccer, softball, track, cross country and field hockey. Collectively, we had over 1,400 students playing different sports in 2007 supported by 150 coaches each year. St. Gabriel is the only school that starts

cheerleading, basketball, softball, baseball, volleyball and soccer in kindergarten.

Our leadership team is currently exploring many options to either purchase or lease land in close proximity to the St. Gabriel campus. We will very soon have a place we can finally call home for our outdoor athletics. One of the positive aspects of a slow down in the economy is land prices are declining. We have had two meetings about leasing land from Louisville Metro Parks at the Brentlinger Lane property that currently has 40 acres available for athletic fields. We are equally searching for land to buy and we ask for your support



here. Let us know if you have land to sell, or if you know of anyone looking to sell. Ideally, to build a football field to accommodate soccer with lights and a concession stand along with baseball/softball fields would require a minimum of 10 - 15 acres. If multiple fields and additional buildings would be necessary then we are looking for 30-40 acres.

3. Parish & Facility Maintenance – We have a need to rebuild the loft over the current parish office and make additional office space for our school faculty. The loft is a special place for small and medium sized meetings, along with bereavement dinners to comfort those who have lost a loved one. We have a need for security cameras around the outside grounds to protect our children, cars, and facilities. We continue to upgrade our facility each year and this past summer we installed new doors and renovated bathrooms throughout the building. Most recently you may have noticed new scoreboards in the gym.



Parish Campaign Leaders

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

The St. Gabriel Parish & School community together with Archbishop Joseph Kurtz are preparing a journey like no other we have seen before. We ask that you take time to reflect on the many gifts and blessings God has bestowed upon you and your family over the years.

Our parish family has had a rich tradition of giving generously to the Catholic Services Appeal, St. Vincent De Paul, Fern Creek Highview United Ministries and Habitat for Humanity to name just a few.

Over the next two years the CSA drive will be temporarily suspended and a new Building a Future of Hope capital campaign calls on each of us to step up and participate to support the future of our Archdiocese and the St. Gabriel Parish community.

This campaign will lay the foundation of our great parish for the next 20-50 years. As campaign chairs, we

have been asked to pray about our role in making this journey a success.

We are confident as ever because we have called on Jesus to guide us!

In Matthew 18:19-20, Jesus says, "If two of you agree down here on earth concerning anything you ask for, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or more gather together because they are mine, I will be right there among them."

Many of us who make up the leadership team at St. Gabriel have been organizing and praying for

months, and our vision and plan is outlined in this brochure.

This plan will require the participation of every parishioner! This plan depends upon each of us seeking and responding to God's will in our lives as it relates to our participation.

We recognize that every parishioner cannot and should not give the same dollar amount. Our theme, "Not Equal Gifts But Equal Sacrifice," embodies the teaching of proportionate giving. It is our prayer that commitments will be made that reflect individual blessings of God and exemplify genuine sacrifice.

The Building a Future of Hope campaign is too large for any one of us. It is too large for all of us put together. No campaign, however, is too large for God. Our challenge is that each of us, through prayer, will understand God's will for our lives. Once we have this understanding, our challenge will be to do God's will with faith and a dedication that is pleasing in His sight.

We are honored by the way God has blessed our parish. What anticipation we can feel, knowing that He plans to do even greater work in the years to come.

Sincerely,
Robin Engel, Mark Frederick & Lisa Lauder
Campaign Chairs



Building a Future of Hope Initiatives and Priorities

Parish Needs and Initiatives: \$33,000,000

Each parish will develop its own case statement outlining specific needs or initiatives to be funded by the parish's portion of campaign gifts.

Archdiocesan Initiatives: \$16,500,000

Seminarian Education: \$5,500,000
Funds will be used for the education and training of seminarians.

Priest Retirement: \$4,500,000
Funds will be used to increase the restricted fund pool for priests' retirement and to help reduce the assessment burden on parishes for this purpose.

Parish Assistance: \$3,000,000
Funds will be used to assist parishes that face emergencies or unanticipated changes in the needs of people they serve.

Multicultural Ministries: \$1,500,000
Funds will provide support to parishes and the Archdiocese for programming and services designed for the rapidly growing Latino population and to support new initiatives at the Catholic Enrichment Center, created in 2000 to serve West Louisville.

Long-Term Legacy Fund: \$2,000,000
Funds will establish seed money for a long-term legacy fund that will be enhanced in future years by planned giving. Funds also will be used to make a \$500,000

gift to the Cathedral of the Assumption for its public mission as our mother Church. In addition, at least 10% of the amount raised in the long-term legacy fund will be donated to international Catholic missionary and development activities as a part of our stewardship to the global human family and the Church beyond the Archdiocese.

Catholic Education Tuition Assistance \$5,900,000

Funds will provide tuition assistance for families in need who wish to attend Catholic schools by increasing the amount of assistance that can be granted by the Archdiocese and by the Catholic Education Foundation.

2008-2009 Catholic Services Appeals \$6,600,000

The Catholic Services Appeal funds the ongoing ministries and services provided through the agencies of the Archdiocese. For 2008 and 2009, the Catholic Services Appeals will be included in the Building a Future of Hope Bicentennial Campaign.

Campaign Expenses \$4,000,000

An allowance has been budgeted for the expenses of the campaign. This includes a fixed fee for professional counsel, costs for special events, and the design, production, and mailing of campaign materials.

"Today's celebration is more than an occasion of gratitude for graces received. It is also a summons to move forward with firm resolve; to build a future of hope for coming generations."

**Pope Benedict XVI
Yankee Stadium, April 20, 2008**





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