



ASCENSION  
*Catholic Church*

*Grow. Lead. Share.*



*"I live, no longer I,  
but it is Christ who lives in me."  
— Galatians 2:20*

## Our Parish...

When Bishop Wenski convoked our first Diocesan Synod in 2005, he encouraged God's people throughout Central Florida to dream about the future and consider new opportunities to sustain, strengthen and expand our Catholic presence. This ambitious undertaking, which involved eighteen months of prayer and planning, identified nine major projects that will change lives and transform communities throughout our entire diocese.

Just as the larger Church must prepare for the challenges that lie ahead, so too must our parish family. Here at Ascension, the Lord is inviting us to reflect upon our mission and consider how we might best participate in His vision for our future. The *Alive in Christ* Campaign – the first ever capital campaign in the Diocese of Orlando - is designed to help meet the immediate and long-term capital needs of our parish and set us on a course for future growth.



*Fr. Eamon Tobin, Pastor*

This journey might seem daunting in the midst of the current economic climate, but we at Ascension have a great tradition of rising to the challenge as we demonstrate our faith in Christ and our commitment to lives of true discipleship. Throughout the years we have been exceptionally blessed by the vision and

generosity of many families, whose gifts of time, talent and treasure helped to create the vibrant, Catholic community we have today.

As we celebrate our Golden Jubilee, let us pray that our hearts will be filled with this same spirit of generosity and sacrifice, so that we might continue to grow in our love for Christ and one another. Together we will greet the next fifty years by ensuring that Ascension Catholic Church remains a beacon of light, drawing our community ever closer to Christ.



## Our Need...

Through *Alive in Christ* we have a profound opportunity to Grow, Lead and Share our faith in Christ by addressing our most critical parish needs:

Our parish is our spiritual home, where we **GROW** in the knowledge and appreciation of our Catholic Faith and Tradition. At Ascension we are blessed to be a spiritually alive and healthy parish, with ministries and programs that continue to thrive. Indeed, we have become so active that our parish facilities are no longer sufficient to accommodate our long-term needs. Expanding our Ministry

Center will **provide our life-changing ministries with ample space for meetings, fellowship, prayer, and service.**

Twice recognized as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, Ascension Catholic School nurtures the intellectual and spiritual development of our young people and prepares them to **LEAD** the Church with courage and humility. We will **continue our tradition of excellence in Catholic education by enhancing the resources and technology at our parish school.**

Due to rising costs and ongoing economic uncertainty, many families are struggling to send their children to our parish school. As good stewards of the Lord's blessings, we want to **SHARE** the

gift of Catholic education by **ensuring that our school remains accessible and affordable for all parish families, regardless of their economic means.**

Statistics indicate that women and children account for more than half of the estimated 1,200 individuals who are homeless in Brevard County. By offering support to the Space Coast Center for Women with Children, we can help to meet this growing need while we **SHARE** the love and compassion of Christ. The newly established center provides **safe housing, supportive services, and spiritual guidance to homeless women and children** who are working to rebuild their lives.



## *Our Plan...*

Through *Alive in Christ* we will:

### **Expand our Ministry Center**

We plan to:

- Extend the east side of our Ministry Center
- Renovate our restroom facilities
- Create much-needed space for meetings
- Strengthen our ministries
- Enhance our capacity to serve the community.



### **Enhance our Parish School**

Our efforts will include:

- Updated technology
- Programs that address the special needs of students with learning challenges
- Growth of our school endowment

### **Support the Space Coast Center for Women with Children**

Our support will provide homeless women and children with:

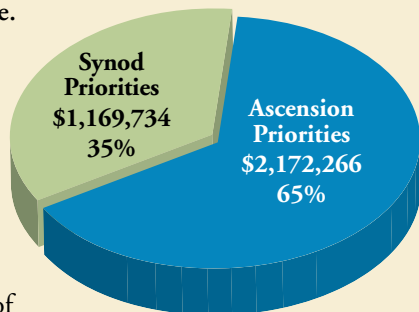


- Shelter in a supportive, Christ-centered environment
- Spiritual guidance
- Life-skills classes
- Tutoring
- Employment assistance
- Access to counseling and medical services

## Our Goal...

Our *Alive in Christ* Campaign Goal is \$3,342,000, which is twice our annual offertory income.

If we are blessed to reach our goal of just over 3.3 million, \$2,172,266 or 65% will be used to fund our parish priorities. As members of the Universal Church, we will contribute the remaining \$1,169,734 to our larger Church family to help support the bold and exciting new projects taking place throughout the nine counties of our Diocese.



*Alive in Christ* provides an important moment in the life of our parish family and in the larger diocesan family to which we belong. Guided by the Holy Spirit, *Alive in Christ* is an important step in building a strong and vital Church for the future.

## Our Diocese...

This is an exciting time for the Diocese of Orlando. Our ministry reaches back over 40 years, and we have much to celebrate. We are blessed with people of faith and vision – people who embrace and celebrate Catholic truth, transform communities and make known the love of Christ throughout Central Florida.

We are also blessed with a rapidly growing and increasingly diverse population, allowing the Gospel message to reach more people in more ways than ever before. With this extraordinary growth come new challenges and new opportunities.

Throughout the 18-month synod planning process, more than 1,000 of Christ's faithful, both lay and clergy, gathered together to explore opportunities and to define a bold new vision for the Diocese of Orlando.

Central to this vision is a renewed commitment to **GROW, LEAD and SHARE** the living faith that we have received from the Apostles and those who have gone before us. *Alive in Christ* will enable the Diocese of Orlando to live up to these commitments in a way that will transform our Church and our communities for generations to come.

**In Central Florida, our Church is Alive!**

# Called to Grow, Lead and Share...

We have heard the call issued by the Lord in the Great Commission:

**“Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Mt. 28:19)**

And we have responded with a renewed commitment to GROW, LEAD and SHARE the living faith that we have received.

- *Grow* as spiritual beings through our prayers for the success of *Alive in Christ*.
- *Lead* by offering our time and talent in the service of our Church throughout this effort.
- *Share* by prayerfully considering a gift.



*Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski  
Bishop of Orlando*

## Our Diocesan Goal...

**Total Goal: \$150 Million**

Called to GROW...	Endowment	Capital
New Parishes and Missions	\$ 5,000,000	—
New Schools	—	\$ 4,000,000
Tuition Assistance	\$ 11,000,000	—
San Pedro Retreat Center	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
Cathedral of St. James	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 3,000,000
Called to LEAD...	Endowment	Capital
Catholic Campus Ministry Center	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
Recruiting & Forming Clergy/Lay Leaders	\$ 4,000,000	—
Called to SHARE...	Endowment	Capital
Catholic Charities of Central Florida	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 8,000,000
Catholic Foundation of Central Florida	\$ 8,000,000	—
Subtotals	\$35,000,000	\$25,000,000
	<b>Endowment</b>	<b>Capital</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>\$60,000,000</b>	<b>Diocese</b>
	<b>\$90,000,000</b>	<b>Parishes</b>

## Ways to Give...

### Making a Pledge

Pledge payments can be scheduled at the discretion of the donor, to be paid on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis beginning at any time, throughout a 3-5 year period. All pledges, outright gifts of capital, Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Lead Trusts and other irrevocable planned gifts made to *Alive in Christ*, from the Fall of 2007 through the end of the campaign, will be counted in the final campaign total.



### Gifts of Securities

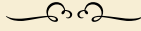
It is the policy of the Diocese of Orlando to sell all securities upon receipt to minimize the chances of having adverse market fluctuations affect the beneficial interest of your gift. Gifts in kind—real estate, insurance, closely held stock, art, and other tangibles—may be counted if they are sold and the proceeds revert to the diocese.

### Bequests, Charitable Remainder Trusts, and Revocable Planned Gifts

While we will commemorate and record bequests, Charitable Remainder Trusts and other revocable planned gifts made to the diocese, they cannot be included in the campaign total precisely because of their revocable nature. Unrestricted bequests received during the course of the campaign may be counted towards the campaign at the diocese's discretion.

## Gift Plans...

Total Commitment	5 Annual Payments	36 Monthly Payments	60 Monthly Payments
\$50,000	\$10,000	\$1,389	\$833
\$25,000	\$5,000	\$694	\$417
\$20,000	\$4,000	\$556	\$333
\$15,000	\$3,000	\$417	\$250
\$10,000	\$2,000	\$278	\$167
\$5,000	\$1,000	\$139	\$83
\$2,400	\$480	\$67	\$40
\$1,800	\$360	\$50	\$30



*Lord God, you appointed Paul your apostle to preach  
the good news of salvation to the nations.*

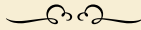
*May his example and prayers inspire the faithful  
of our diocese to be more fully Alive in Christ.*

*Fill our hearts with the spirit of your charity  
so that we may please you in our thoughts, words and deeds  
and be witnesses to the hope that does not disappoint.*

*You have given each of us different gifts and made us your stewards  
to generously share on earth the blessings we have received  
through your goodness so that the world may believe.*

*May the prayers of St. Paul and all the saints be our  
constant encouragement so that we may walk worthily  
as disciples of your Son.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



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*Photos by Jean Paul Gómez*