



Strengthening Our Parishes

MARCH 2020



Pastor finds campaign success through prayer and organization

Father Ever Quintero credits prayer and organization for the successful *Called to Renew* campaigns at St. Columbkille and Nativity parishes.

Although he was afraid the economically distressed parishes he is pastor of in Los Angeles would be unable to meet the campaign goals the Archdiocese of Los Angeles had set for them, Father Quintero looked to St. Peter for inspiration and took action.

"I started to pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Columbkille," he says. He also asked God to be present in the communities, and to open parishioners' hearts and minds to the campaign so they would receive his message and respond generously. He also encouraged students at the parish schools to pray for *Called to Renew*.

Through his own prayers, he found the inspiration to organize how he would approach the campaign. With the help of campaign staff and volunteers, he scheduled personal meetings with parish families every weekday afternoon, interviewing nearly 400 families over the course of three-and-a-half months.

"Every 45 minutes, I met with a new family," he says. "That helped me not only to ask for a pledge, it helped families renew their spiritual lives and know about the Church."

St. Columbkille has raised 332 percent of its \$225,000 goal and plans to use its share of campaign funds to add restrooms to the church, replace fencing, and paint the interior and exterior of the buildings on campus. Nativity has raised 371 percent of its \$295,000 goal and also plans to paint and add restrooms, as well as build a small shrine with a nativity and candles on the plaza near the church's back entrance.

Overall, the campaign "was a beautiful moment for me," according to Father Quintero. "It helped me to be closer to parishioners, and for families to grow in friendship with their pastor."

AN UPDATE ON OUR CAMPAIGN

Goal:	\$500,000,000
Raised to Date:	\$353,244,997
Percent of Goal:	71%
Number of Gifts:	30,620

Thank you for your generous support!

Want to learn more about *Called to Renew*? Visit calledtorenew.org