



# Renewing Our Church Together

FEBRUARY 2023



## Volunteer Spotlight: José de Jesús Legaspi, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, Montebello

José de Jesús Legaspi has long been involved in efforts to keep the Catholic faith alive, especially in young people, so he did not hesitate when his pastor, Father John Vianney, asked him to take a leadership role in Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish's *Called to Renew* campaign.

"I absolutely welcomed it," Legaspi said, noting that he and his wife have been members of the Montebello parish for 43 years. "Parish life is very important to me."

To ensure the parish would meet its \$810,000 goal, he and Father Vianney began visiting parishioners in their homes. Not only did these one-on-one meetings help bring in a significant portion of the amount the parish needed to raise, but it also gave them insight into the questions people had about the campaign overall.

Before these meetings, Legaspi and his wife reflected on their own gift to *Called to Renew*. "We learned a long time ago that unless we were committed to helping out ourselves, we couldn't ask anybody else to do that," he said.

The parish already had a list of projects to tackle with *Called to Renew* funds, such as refurbishing the pews and installing new, padded kneelers; upgrading to LED lights and installing new lighting panels, breakers and an upgraded electrical panel; and installing new flooring made of stone or ceramic tile in the sanctuary. But Legaspi also focused on how the campaign will support shared ministries for all parishes, and allow them to engage people who might otherwise consider leaving the Church.

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish has raised \$1,057,015 and will receive \$652,015 once pledges are fulfilled.

"It was heartwarming to see and hear that people were interested in helping education, ministries, seminarians, and other churches," he said. "People understood that this was a once-in-a-lifetime campaign."

## AN UPDATE ON OUR CAMPAIGN

Goal: \$500,000,000

Raised to Date: \$467,975,953

Percent of Goal: 94%

Number of Gifts: 50,545

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generous support!**

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