



Frequently Asked Questions

What is *Forward with Faith*?

Forward with Faith (FWF) is a fundraising campaign to build a vibrant community of faith in the parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. This vision will help to fulfill the mission of our Church in Hartford: to be living signs of communion with God and to be his instruments for redemption in the world.

What are the objectives of *Forward with Faith*?

Forward with Faith seeks to raise a minimum of \$60 million to support:

- **Vibrant Parishes:** Half of all funds raised will help the parishes meet their needs;
- **Educating to Re-ignite the Faith:** by expanding and strengthening learning for students, administrators, teachers, clergy, and the faithful;
- **Champions in Service:** by helping Catholic Charities with better facilities and new programs; and,
- **Innovation and Emerging Opportunities** that promote long-lasting change, strengthen our schools and parishes, and meet the evolving needs of the community.

What is The Hartford Bishops' Foundation? Founded in 2016, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation (HBF) is dedicated to engaging donors in helping the Archdiocese of Hartford carry out the mission of the Catholic Church. The independent Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors representing the Archdiocese's constituencies: parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. For more information, please visit [The Hartford Bishops' Foundation's website](#).

When will parishes participate in the campaign?

More than twenty parishes have already conducted campaigns. The campaign will continue through 2021.

Who will be asked to support the *Forward with Faith* campaign?

All who support the mission of the Church will be asked to consider a gift to FWF. The campaign is also seeking leadership commitments from financially blessed individuals, foundations, and businesses.

Who is conducting the campaign?

Along with your pastor, campaign chair, and assigned parish campaign director, a core group of parish volunteers (or committee) will be asked to lead and assist in the implementation of the campaign plan.

How are parish targets set? Each parish target is equivalent to its 2018 ordinary income.

How will my parish benefit from the campaign?

Each parish receives 50% of the funds raised from its parishioners for its own needs.. Once a parish reaches its target, 80% of funds over the target will be retained by the parish. *The remainder of campaign funds may return either directly or indirectly via HBF grantmaking activities within its funding priorities.*

Will the Archbishop's Annual Appeal continue?

Yes. The Archbishop's Annual Appeal (approximately \$10 million per year) provides the day-to-day support to ministries and charitable works of the Archdiocese. Donors will therefore be asked to maintain current annual gift levels in addition to campaign gifts.

Will the campaign affect parish offertory?

Parishes rely on their offertory collection. Parishioners are asked not to diminish giving to the offertory or the Archbishop's Annual Appeal collection but rather to consider an increased commitment to their parish and to the Archdiocese.

When will funds be distributed by The Hartford Bishops' Foundation?

The Hartford Bishops' Foundation has distributed more than \$3.8 million in grants to support Catholic initiatives. The parish share of the funds collected are disbursed three times a year.

With so much uncertainty, is this the best time for a campaign?

The events of 2020 are unprecedented and have resulted in extraordinary needs in our parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. As parish life returns to the "new normal," we set our sites on resuming the good work of the Church, including through important initiatives, including FWF.

Can donors make gifts of stock or other non-cash gifts?

Yes. The campaign accepts gifts of stock, those from Donor Advised Funds, IRA distributions, and other means. Donors wishing to make non-cash gifts should speak with their pastor/pastoral administrator or contact The Hartford Bishops' Foundation at **(860) 761-7455**. If considering an estate gift, donors should contact The Hartford Bishops' Foundation for assistance.

Are gifts to the campaign tax deductible?

Yes. Gifts to the campaign are tax deductible as allowed by law. The Foundation will acknowledge all gifts and pledges including substantiation of each gift for donor tax purposes.

How are campaign expenses being paid?

The Foundation is meeting campaign expenses, which will be paid from the HBF portion of funds collected.

For more information on Forward with Faith please visit: www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org, or contact:

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