# Working Together

ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC APPEAL 2013



# Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to join with me once again in support of the many ministries and services that we do together as the Catholic Community of western Oregon. The essential mission of evangelization that we share as an Archdiocesan community remains as important today as it has ever been.

As you know, Pope Benedict declared this year "The Year of Faith"

– a time for all of us to renew our baptismal fervor and commitment – beginning last October on the day marking the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. One of the major themes of that historic council was the mutual responsibility in carrying out the mission of the Church among both clergy and laity. Pope John XXIII wanted the council to "throw open the windows of the church and let the fresh air of the Spirit blow through." By working together in this Year of Faith, you and I can indeed cooperate with the Holy Spirit in the Church's work of renewal in our own lives and in the lives of those to whom we reach out through our ministries of evangelization.

This year we are highlighting three areas of ministry that are among the many services of our Archdiocese that are funded by the



The stories on these pages emphasize how our gifts to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal go to support REAL PEOPLE with REAL NEEDS. I hope you are moved by these stories to continue your support of our work. These are stories of some of the people who benefit from our generosity – people like you and me, people who deserve our sharing of our time, talent and treasure.

Once again this year, we have also produced an inspiring video in which the persons in these stories share their experience personally. You can view this video on our website by typing the following link into your browser: <a href="http://www.archdpdx.org/appeal">http://www.archdpdx.org/appeal</a>.

Again, these are all cases-in-point of REAL PEOPLE with REAL NEEDS living right in our midst. Your ongoing support for them and others like them is absolutely critical. And your ongoing support is also critical for many other areas of service such



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our Tuition Assistance fund that helps families who want to send their kids to our Catholic Schools to be able to afford the cost

our support for the increasing numbers of retired priests who have served so well in our parishes over the years

and our services and support for our Catholic Deaf Community under the loving leadership of Sister Linda Roby



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Again, these are all cases-in-point of REAL PEOPLE with REAL NEEDS living right in our midst. Your ongoing support for them and others like them is absolutely critical. And your ongoing support is also critical for many other areas of service such as seminarian education, outreach to people with disabilities, Campus Ministry, Ethnic Ministries, Youth Ministry, Parish support, Pro-Life, Justice and Peace Ministries, vocations, Permanent Diaconate, and many more.

Just before the Second Vatican Council ended in 1965, Pope Paul VI proclaimed boldly the role of the laity in the Church in the modern world in his Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity in which he said:

"In the Church there is a diversity of ministry but a oneness of mission. Christ conferred on the Apostles and their successors the duty of teaching, sanctifying, and ruling in His name and power. But the laity likewise share in the priestly, prophetic, and royal office of Christ and therefore have their own share in the mission of the whole people of God in the Church and in the world."

It is in that spirit of co-responsibility for the evangelizing mission of the Church that I know I can count on your support once again for our Archdiocesan ministries to people in need. Together, we can accomplish so much...teaching, blessing and serving one another in Christ. Thank you for your important participation and support.

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Most Rev. John G. Vlazny, Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

### Serving Our Deaf Community "No one gets left out..."

On a cool and gray September morning the outdoor chapel at Portland's "Grotto" begins to fill with activity. Each year in September members of this close knit community fill the chapel to attend Mass and reconnect. As each person arrives, friends greet one another with open arms. Without using words to communicate, most people would find it hard to show such warm and affectionate familiarity. However, this community has no problem expressing their love for one another.

The Archdiocese's Office of Catholic Deaf Ministry has been serving the Deaf Community since 1957. This annual gathering of the Deaf Community is a capstone of all the many services the office provides throughout the year, an event that everyone in this community looks forward to. The liturgy includes signed readings, accompanied by voice interpretation, and dramatic interpretation of the gospel. Everyone participates and takes ownership for its success.

Tim and Sandra Kindblade are sitting in the front row. Attentive to every part of the Mass they are clearly happy to be a part of the event. Reflecting on his participation in the community Tim says, "No one gets left out...we are all involved." Tim and Sandra, both born deaf, have four children who are hearing. Their participation in the Office of Catholic Deaf Ministry



Taylor Kutz and his mom, Susan Porter

and feeding the homeless. "Some of the homeless are Deaf and we are able to serve them in a special way," says Sandra. Sandra and Tim are considered role models in the Deaf Community and regularly talk to people of all ages about being Deaf.

The office, under the very capable leadership of Sister Linda Roby, also provides resources to parents who have children who are deaf. Bill Kutz and Susan Porter adopted their son Taylor as a baby from Guatemala. Soon after he arrived in the United States Taylor contracted meningitis and became severely ill. "As parents it was a very traumatic experience initially. We didn't even know if he was going to make it through the night," Susan recounts about when they rushed Taylor to the emergency room. Taylor did make it through the night and began to recover only to gradually lose his hearing over the next few months. As new parents, Bill and Susan faced some tough decisions. How would they communicate as a family? What

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classes. "The Catholic Deaf Community helps me identify with my faith and a lot of people in the church that support me. Older guys and my Confirmation sponsor can tell me about their lives, their struggles and how they overcame things," Taylor confidently explains.

Without the financial, emotional, and community resources made available by the Archdiocese for this ministry, people like Taylor and his family would be left without much-needed resources. "I would feel that I wouldn't be able to be involved. I would have no way to communicate about faith. I would feel very awkward and I would feel left out," Taylor adds. Taylor has plans to help other Deaf people go through the same thing he and his family went through. For now he is focusing on art work and drawing to express himself.

Your gifts to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal will enable this important ministry to continue to flourish.

# Our Retired Priests They have served us well!

Father Joe McMahon was studying to be a priest during the Vatican II years. It was a time of freshness in the Church. A new liturgy was showing up in the pews as the lines between clergy and laity were being narrowed and some saw it as a drastic modernization of the church. At the end of the council in 1965 sweeping changes were taking place and Pope John XXIII's vision for an ecumenical council had come to fruition. As our Church this year marks the 50th anniversary of the

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In fact, this caring community has also served the needy by fixing up houses



Tim and Sandra Kindblade

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Bill, a life-long Catholic, decided to call the Archdiocese to see what recommendations they had. To his surprise he found out that the Archdiocese had a specific ministry for the Deaf. Bill and Susan soon left their current parish and began attending one of the Masses offered to people in the Deaf Community. "It felt like I was coming home when we were fully able to participate in Mass as a family. It was so welcoming and touched something deep in my heart. We felt isolated until we found the Deaf Community," Susan adds.

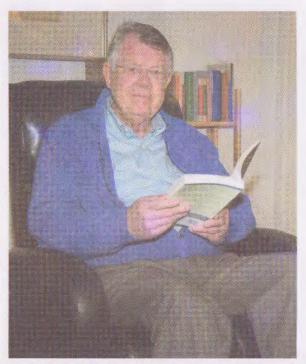
Bill and Susan immersed themselves in the life and activities of the community, and Taylor began to shine. He learned American Sign Language (ASL) and participates in signed Religious Education to continue to flourish.

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After Vatican II the Church developed parish pastoral councils, RCIA, and involved parishioners in the inner workings of the Church including sacramental preparation. It was that collaboration and newness that attracted Father McMahon to becoming a priest. "I really saw my job as the inspiration and nourishment of people to carry out the mission of the Church in the world."

Once ordained, Father McMahon, a native of the at-the-time blue collar North
Portland neighborhood, had such a disarming and approachable personality that his services



Fr. Joe McMahon at his home in North Portland

were in demand throughout the diocese. He served faithfully as Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart (Medford) and St. John the Apostle (Oregon City) and as Pastor at Blessed Sacrament (Portland), St. Henry (Gresham) and Our Lady of the Lake (Lake Oswego). "I have always been a fan of terms of office," he says with a smile. He believes that with new leadership in a parish come new vision and a new set of eyes to address the concerns of the parish and Church. "I think it is important to not look back and say, "Look at what we have accomplished." Rather, I think it is better to understand where we are going from here."

Even though Father McMahon may be away from the administrative duties of the parish, he feels a deep obligation to parish priests who are still serving as such. He appreciates the work that retired priests provided when he was working in a parish,

# Our Catholic Schools Helping to Make It Happen

We are the second oldest diocese in United States, and we have a long history of providing Catholic education in western Oregon. We can and should be proud of this legacy. Since our inception we have been advocates for K-12 education in a faith-oriented environment. Throughout our history many of our families have relied heavily on support from the Archdiocese, especially during tough economic times like we have recently experienced. Today, the need for tuition assistance in our schools – both elementary schools and high schools –- has never been greater.

Case in point: Marist High School in Eugene. Founded in 1918 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, graduates of Marist have gone on to make significant contributions to the local civic and Catholic faith communities.

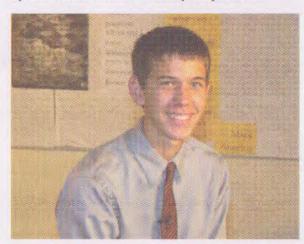
Angelina Rivas, a sophomore, is heavily involved in activities at Marist. In particular, she enjoys Marist's vibrant Theatre and Arts programs. She is one of three family members that attend Marist. "Catholicism in my family is very important. We all are involved in the youth group at our local parish. Some of the other students from Marist are involved as well," she said. "Going to Marist helps me continue to live out my Catholic faith in and out of school."



Without tuition assistance, many students like Angelina and her siblings would not be able to attend Marist.

"We offer a great Catholic education to students with a wide spectrum of backgrounds. Because of that, many of our students rely on tuition assistance. Without the assistance they would not be able to attend Marist and flourish in this environment," says Jay Conroy, Principal at Marist High School.

Taron Holaday, a junior, is another student excited about the opportunities to attend Marist. Two of his older brothers are graduates of the school and his parents are deeply involved. "Without the Holaday family involvement through volunteering, organizing, fundraising and social activities, a real void would be experienced here. They would not be able to attend and provide so much support to Marist without the tuition assistance provided by the Archdiocese," Conroy emphasizes.



Taron Holaday, Junior, Marist High School

"Marist has been a big part of my family's' life for a long time," Taron says. "The sense of community around here is great! Our slogan is 'We are One.' My brothers gave me advice about going to Marist. They said it is not only great for its academics but also for its Catholic

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Even though Father McMahon may be away from the administrative duties of the parish, he feels a deep obligation to parish priests who are still serving as such. He appreciates the work that retired priests provided when he was working in a parish, filling in during the busy holiday times, vacations or sabbaticals. Retired priests play a very important role in the diocese. Not only do they fill in when needed to administer the sacraments but they provide much needed wisdom and experience to younger parish priests.

In the past many retired priests struggled financially once their day-to-day and health care expenses were no longer covered by a parish. However, in the years following Vatican II, the retirement program instituted by the Archdiocese helps to safeguard the financial security of those that have so faithfully served us in parishes and other ways over their more active years. The program, supported by various sources including this appeal, ensures that the financial needs of these experienced priests are adequately met and that their talents and services remain available for their important role in the ongoing work of the Archdiocese.

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Angelina Rivas, Sophomore, Marist High School

Heidi Sušec teaches theology at Marist and knows Angelina well. She describes her as having a real joyful spirit and a good heart: "She loves our faith, being a member of her parish and our school community. She is eager to learn more about theology." All students study theology at Marist, and Angelina is glad about the requirement. Attending Marist and studying Theology helps her understand more about the Catholic faith. And, because Mass is a regular part of life at Marist, she can understand the parts of the Mass even more and can see the connection between that and what she learns in class.



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As part of the standard curriculum all students perform Christian service in the local community. Taron volunteers at a retirement home doing garden work and interacts with the residents, forming relationships with them. He reflects: "It's great to learn from their experiences and life."

His parents agree it has been transforming for him to be able to give back to his community by learning to live out his faith through service. They have seen Taron blossom as a growing young Christian by being able to pursue his academics and other activities in a faith-filled environment.

Your gifts to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal directly help us to ensure that more children and young adults in the next generation have the opportunity to learn and put in to practice the traditions we cherish as part of our Catholic faith. Indeed, they are our future!



# Our 2013 Archbishop's Catholic Appeal goal is \$3,640,000. Together, we can achieve or exceed this!

## Ministries supported by the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal

Campus Ministry **Elementary Education** Ethnic Ministries Evangelization Hispanic Ministries Justice and Peace **Ministry Formation** Ministry to the Deaf Oregon Catholic Conference Parish Support Pastoral Outreach People with Disabilities Permanent Diaconate Priest Medical Leaves **Priests Continuing Education Priests Special Assignments** Prison Ministry

**Pro-Life Activities** 

#### There are many ways to participate in this appeal:



#### Give at your parish.

Pledge envelopes will be distributed on Commitment Sunday during Mass times. You can use those to make your gift or pledge and then simply put it in your parish collection while attending Mass.



#### Give by phone.

You can call us during weekday business hours at (503) 233-8336 to make your pledge by phone. We can then mail you a pledge package or take your credit card information over the phone. Ask to speak with someone from our Development Office when you call.



### Combine your gift or pledge with your employer's matching gift.

Some employers will match gifts to charitable organizations that enable donors to double or triple their gifts or pledges! *Special note:* some employers limit their matching gifts to educational endeavors only. If your employer has this restriction, *your ACA gifts can be earmarked for* 

#### Archbishop's Catholic Appeal

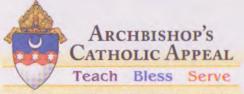
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### Be Sure To See Our Video

Go to http://www.archdpdx.org/appeal

Hear the persons featured on these pages telling their stories in their own words.

### Commitment Sunday February 10, 2013



2838 East Burnside Street Portland, OR 97214-1895 Telephone (503) 233-8336 www.archdpdx.org

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#### Give by mail.

You may have received a special mailing from us with a pledge form and a return envelope. If you have not already done so, you may use this to send in your pledge or gift.



#### Give online.

You can visit our website by typing this link into your computer's browser: www.archdpdx.org/appeal/. You can then make your gift or pledge both securely and conveniently on this site. Be sure to select your parish from the drop-down menu.



#### Make a planned or deferred gift.

Gifts of appreciated securities, bequests, and trusts are also excellent ways to give. Appreciated securities that have increased in value can offer mutual benefits to both the donor and the Archdiocese. Donors benefit through fair market value deductions and the avoidance of capital gains on "paper profit." A variety of other creative long-term giving instruments are also available. To find out more or to discuss options that would fit your specific circumstances, contact our Office of Resource Development at (503) 233-8336.