

My Dear Fellow Parishioners and Friends in Christ,

As chair of the One Heart One Soul Campaign it is truly a pleasure to FINALLY stand before you with great joy, to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude for your incredible generosity to our St. Ann's campaign.

It's hard to believe that it was almost 2 ½ years ago that I stood before you (on that old red-ish/burgundy carpet with gold dots) to ask for your support for the Diocese of Hamilton's One Heart One Soul Capital Campaign. Together with Fr. Ian and our campaign team of Ian & Tina Dayes, David Daylor, Denise Mauro, Mike Reilly, Shannon MacKay, Dennis McGilvery, Peter Tice, Dr. Paul O'Byrne, Rob Baboth, Daniella Mercanti, Helene Charelli and Donna Hansen - I stood before you to ask you to (in the word our Bishop Crosby) "lean in" to bring a renewed freshness and vibrancy to our church and parish community of St. Ann's – to THRIVE not merely SURVIVE.

And...lean in, you did! Many with financial donations, others by volunteering and others with prayer.

Yes, YOU "leaned in" with pledges of \$818,199 – incredible, absolutely amazing generosity. Our committee goals were to use these funds to:

1. Eliminate our parish debt – our prior loan from the diocese to strip and re-shingle, new gutters and trough for our church and rectory – a debt of over \$200,000
2. Help build and sustain a vibrant Youth Ministry. We had this up and running in the fall of 2019 and into 2020 when sadly we were shut down by Covid
3. Address the much needed interior renovations and upgrades to our church and rectory.

And I am very pleased to say:

- We made our first loan installment in 2020, leaving us with about \$128,000. We are making our 2nd installment of \$65,000 this month and the rest of our loan will be paid off by the end of this campaign in 2022.
- And, as **you can all see** together with Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, and our building committee of James Vallentin, Myles D'Arcey, Adrian Mauro, myself AND our team of dedicated "**hands-on-volunteers**" – Mike Reilly, Mike Moss, Fred Stutz, Fr. Greg, Angela Vanderzalm, Tony Mauro, Adrian's son Christopher (an architect) and wife Jackie (an interior designer) who helped with the designs, our son Braedan, Anthony Vanderzalm, Deacon Kevin, our Youth Group under Jet's leadership and the Daylers, Wongs and Vanderzalms who helped with all the cleaning, OUR amazing Garden Committee of Margaret & Myles D'Arcey, Deanne and Colin Day, Cathy and Fred Stutz, Danielle and Mark DelCantero, Mike & Jane Reilly, Karen and Paul Sullivan and the Garden Designer Ruth Ann Campbell....oh, and please forgive me if I left anyone out...
YES – You can see OUR St. Ann's has been beautifully renovated and renewed thanks to so many generous parishioners pulling together for a common goal.

By the grace of God, “Foreman Lobsinger” and our dedicated team came together and, as Covid hit our province – we hit the designing table, gathered estimates, hired contractors, searched material sources and received the required approvals....

And in less than 2 months (April and May of 2020) we had:

- The church interior completely painted – all the labour and paint **donated** by a very generous parishioner
- Installed a totally new and state-of-the-art sound system
- We moved the organ and our choirs to the “choir loft”
- Upgraded all the lighting
- Moved our stations of the cross
- Removed the 4-step riser
- Renovated the rectory’s 30-year old, falling apart kitchen
- And... replaced all that.... carpet with beautiful ceramic tiles

Thank you dear generous parishioners of St Ann – we hope you like our “renewed SPIRITUAL HOME!

And you should also feel good that your generosity provided over \$160,000 to assist those parishes in need and our diocese Shared Ministries – in hospitals, prisons, campuses and assisting our migrant workers.

With about 8 months remaining in our campaign, we will pay of the remainder of the parish debt and earmark funds for our youth ministry (whenever we can get that going again) and many other building and maintenance projects that need our attention.

Finally, as a member of the Finance Committee – along with Peter Tice, Dr. Paul O’Byrne, Helene Chiarelli, Sybil Moss and Fr. Peter – we want to thank YOU – **our regular weekly and monthly donors for your generous continued commitment** to the keeping our parish day-to-day expenses in check. I won’t bore you with all the numbers (TG) but what I will say is **THANK YOU** – we are in good shape – we are paying our bills, have some money in the bank...and we could not do this without YOUR CONTINUED financial donations AND all of you who volunteer to keep our parish VIBRANT and SPIRITUALLY POWERFUL.

THANK YOU...THANK GOD.
AMEN.

Stephen J Dunn
St. Ann’s One Heart One Soul Campaign Chair