

Shepherd *the way*

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS FROM FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FSCS Capital Campaign raises \$831,559 to date

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The "Founding" of Faithful Shepherd Continues

— by Fr. Bill Murtaugh, Pastor, St. Thomas Becket

"Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you." Luke 6:36-38.

We are, for the most part, a nation of cautious people. You can see it in our politics, in our finances and, more often than not, in how we live our lives. Our immigrant ancestors, on the other hand, were not afraid to take risks. They left everyone and everything behind in the old country to start their lives anew in America. I wonder what they'd say to us today about our reluctance to take healthy risks.

Our Catholic ancestors came here with next to nothing, and yet they built churches, schools, hospitals – even colleges and universities. Like our own parents, they wanted a better life for their children and to further the mission of the Church, and they weren't afraid to make countless sacrifices.

All of us who call ourselves American Catholics have benefited by their risk taking. Like no generation before them in the history of Catholicism, today's American Catholics are educated, literate, informed, and interested in their religion.

For each of us, there are times when we are content to sit on the sidelines or prefer to let others take the lead. We can let our fears rule us and keep us from acting when doing so would be for our own good and the good of others. Risks are an unavoidable part of a life. Falling in love, having a child, pursuing a particular career, and committing to a social cause are all examples of risk taking. What if you hadn't taken any of these risks? What would your life look like now?



Fr. Bill Murtaugh

Founding

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It was a risk to build Faithful Shepherd Catholic School nine years ago. Some of you were there at the beginning, and you have our never-ending thanks. Now, in the midst of a capital campaign to finish the founding of the school, we find ourselves at a crossroads.

Given the state of the economy, it is a challenge to sustain the momentum on this very important endeavor. But we need to ask ourselves some critical questions: Will we play it safe, or take risks as our parents and grandparents did before us? Are we ruled by our fears or by our faith?

This campaign is a long-term investment in people – our families, children, parishioners, and school personnel. Do we trust God, as our paper money says we do? Do we believe that God expects great things of us, and that with God's help we can rise to those expectations? As American Catholics, we are the heirs of strong risk takers who made great sacrifices. In that tradition, let's continue the campaign momentum we've created thus far and continue to live forcefully and joyfully in Christ's name.

Campaign Update

GOAL:
\$2,500,000

PLEGGED:
\$831,559

Board of Directors phase completed, 100% participation

Faithful Shepherd Catholic School is blessed with a professionally diverse pool of leaders who volunteer their time and talents. In the Faithful Shepherd spirit of giving back, each member of the FSCS board of directors has made a personal pledge to the school's fund-raising campaign.

"The 100-percent participation of our

board of directors group demonstrates our commitment to the success of Faithful Shepherd – now and in the future," said Dan O'Brien, the board of directors chair.

Faithful Shepherd thanks the board members for their continued leadership, time and talents shared, and financial pledges to the campaign.

Major and Benefactor phases launched

Significant family involvement is a hallmark of Faithful Shepherd and a key to its success as a school and a community.



Lodoen Family

During the months of October through December, the FSCS capital campaign will be conducting its Major and Benefactor phases, led by Jim & Teresa Lodoen and Mike & Linda Kautzky,

respectively. Both of these couples have gathered a team of inspired, committed families to assist them in achieving their portion of the campaign goals.

A sincere thanks to all the families who have volunteered to assist these phase chairs in running their aspects of the campaign!



Kautzky Family

Faculty & Staff phase launched



Kevin Dalum

The hidden gem of Faithful Shepherd is its Middle School program. Led by award-winning instructors, this program gives young adults the unique opportunity to learn and live the Catholic faith, give back to their community and study a rigorous curriculum that stretches their capacity for learning.

One of our dynamic Middle School instructors, Kevin Dalum, is leading the Faculty & Staff phase of the capital campaign.

"The Faithful Shepherd community enriches my life," remarked Mr. Dalum, adding, "Our students, staff and families demonstrate their faith by giving back to the community at large. It's powerful."

If you are interested in becoming involved in the Shepherd the Way capital campaign, please contact Sue Riesgraf at 651-406-4747 x 5395 or sriesgraf@fscsmn.org.

Thank you!