

Embracing the Future

Our Needs to 2020



The Archdiocese of Cardiff

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Message from the Archbishop



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For over 150 years the Archdiocese of Cardiff has served, and has been an integral part of the life of the local community. In the early years of this new millennium, we need to address a variety of crucial issues that directly relate to the building up and handing on of our faith to future generations.

As a pilgrim people, we are a living body, which is always in need of change and reform. We need to invest in our pastoral strategy, develop our education and formation in the faith, and take a proper care for the welfare of our existing clergy whilst encouraging and promoting vocations to the ordained priesthood.

In order to build firm foundations for our future, I am inviting all clergy, Religious and lay people in the Archdiocese to play an integral part in our campaign **“Embracing the Future - Our Needs to 2020”**.

To achieve our goals will inevitably involve a degree of sacrifice and personal commitment in terms of our time and talents. Each one of us has been given specific gifts by the Holy Spirit, to enable us to make our unique contribution to the mission of the Church, which is to proclaim the gospel. These gifts are nourished and grow through our prayer and reflection on the scriptures, and especially when we gather together as God’s family to celebrate the Eucharist in our parish communities.

So I am asking you to make your unique contribution to this campaign, as together – clergy, Religious and lay people – we seek to fulfil the Lord’s mission in building up the Kingdom of God in South East Wales and Herefordshire.

With an assurance of my prayers and blessing for you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter', written in a cursive style.

Archbishop of Cardiff

June 2007

A Perspective on the Campaign

Where we have come from?

In 1916 the Cardiff Province was established, comprising the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Cardiff with the diocese of Menevia as a suffragan See. At the re-establishment of the Hierarchy in England and Wales in 1850 it was known as the Diocese of Newport and Menevia and from 1895 as the Diocese of Newport. The period from 1850 until the 1980's was one of expansion and development fuelled by Irish immigration and later by immigrants from Italy and refugees from Poland. Following the restructuring of the Welsh Dioceses in 1987 there were some eighty parishes in the Archdiocese served by 83 active diocesan priests and 32 Religious priests. The average Sunday Mass attendance was 31,000. There were 65 schools.

Where we are today?

Today there is estimated to be 144,000 Catholics in the Archdiocese of Cardiff of whom on average 19,000 attend Sunday Mass. Its geographical area comprises Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Herefordshire, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Torfaen and the Vale of Glamorgan. At present there are 67 Diocesan Priests (of whom 16 have retired), 28 Religious Priests (of whom 19 are engaged in active parish work), 14 permanent Deacons, 2 Brothers and 112 Sisters. There are effectively 56 parishes comprising 83 Eucharistic Communities and 55 Catholic Schools serving some 17,000 pupils.

Where we are going?

It is projected that the number of parishes, priests and Sisters, will continue to decline. This presents the challenge to sustain and develop vibrant faith and mission oriented communities. To meet the challenge will require a greater extension of lay ministries and professional resources to support the clergy. This is what we require to meet our needs to 2020.

How the campaign will help?

The purpose of the campaign is to help to meet this challenge and to embrace the future with confidence and in fidelity to our Mission. New funding is required to support our retired priests, to provide training and professional resources for clergy and laity and to ensure that our Cathedral is fit for purpose in the 21st century.



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Our First Goal

Long-term Funding to Support Our Retired Priests

Why do we need funding to support our sick and retired priests?

Up until 2006 there was no need to change the way we secured the funds needed to support our sick and retired diocesan priests. Each year the Archdiocese receives funds from an assessment made on the income of each parish to support sick and retired clergy. Unfortunately this assessment is no longer sufficient to meet those needs.

A 2005 survey showed that the support being provided to sick and retired diocesan priests was no longer covering their real costs. In response to this, clergy support was increased in late 2005 and again in 2006. The full impact of these increases is only starting to be felt now. Moreover, the average age of our clergy continues to increase each year and consequently so is the number of retired or incapacitated priests. And EIGHT of our priests in active service are over the age of 70. Any one of these priests could retire at any time, either by request or from necessity.

What will be our future costs and how can we meet them?

The 2005 study projected that the costs of supporting our retired priests will rise slowly but steadily from the current £200,000 per year to about £400,000 by 2012. Our Clergy Welfare Board has confirmed that, while there is no immediate crisis, we must address this issue now if we are to avoid major problems in the future.

One possible solution would be to increase gradually the annual parish assessment for clergy support to meet this growing need. However, the Trustees of the Archdiocese believe that we should try to hold this assessment at its current level and look for other ways to cover these increasing costs.

Wasn't that the purpose of the Special Annual Collection held in January 2007?

In response to the first Special Annual Collection the Catholic population of the Archdiocese showed unstinting generosity by contributing over £115,000, far exceeding our hopes and expectations. And we were able to deposit the entire proceeds of this Annual Special Collection into the Clergy Retirement Fund, bringing that fund to over £300,000.

But the Special Annual Collection is only a short-term answer to meeting our needs. The longer-term costs can best be met by establishing a large Retirement Fund and drawing on the interest from this fund each year to meet our clergy welfare costs. Therefore, we have set a five-year goal to bring this fund to over £5 million.

Our Second Goal

An Investment into Our Pastoral Strategy

Every member of the Church in South East Wales and Herefordshire shares the responsibility of furthering the mission of the Church. That Mission is to hand on and share the Catholic faith through proclaiming the Gospel, through worship, through creating community and through service to everyone.

This task is being undertaken in changing circumstances. There are fewer people attending Mass and there are fewer clergy. Moreover, we live within an increasingly secular society. This new situation presents challenges and opportunities for us all as we plan for our future. Parishes are being re-organised to ensure continuing pastoral leadership and care. In recent years nearly thirty parishes have been involved in amalgamations of one kind or another.

New patterns of ministry are being developed to serve the parishes. In many instances priests serve two or more parishes. In other areas, pastoral teams comprising priests, permanent deacons and religious sisters have been established. Lay ministries have been extended and will need to be extended further. Familiar structures are changing and developing to meet new needs and to build a firm basis for the growth of the Church.

These challenges and opportunities raise issues to do with change and skills. How do we prepare for and manage change? How do we care for parishioners during times of change? How do we ensure security and continuity? How do we ensure that laity, Sisters and clergy acquire the appropriate skills and develop the skills they already have? How can we extend our programmes of education and formation? How do we support the existing diocesan pastoral commissions: Family Life, Liturgy, Christian Unity, the Promotion of Vocations?

One of the key factors in implementing tomorrow's pastoral strategy will be investment in people, in their formation and support. Some ten years ago the Archbishop Murphy Fund was established to support the pastoral training of clergy and laity. This Fund is valued at just over £500,000 and to March 2006 over £180,000 had been distributed in grants from interest on the fund

But in these times of greater change, we need to increase our fund for pastoral support to £2,500,000. The increased income from this larger fund will allow the diocese to offer greater support to lay ministers, parishioners, religious and clergy in terms of training and formation and to engage additional qualified and experienced personnel to support the pastoral strategy. Thus the aim of this campaign is to raise a further £2 million to support our pastoral needs.



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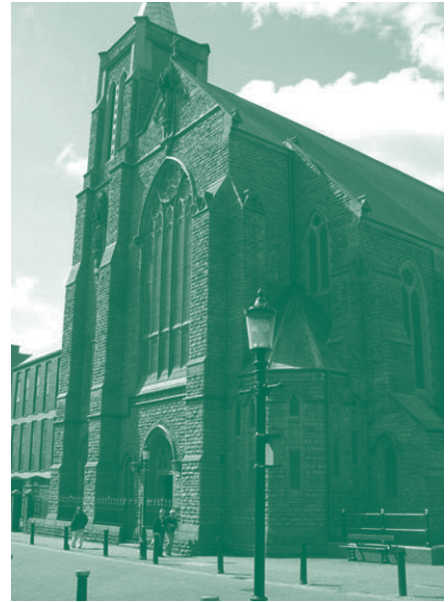
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Our Third Goal

The Restoration of Our Cathedral

A development of a different kind is required at the very heart of our Catholic community. We need to restore the architectural integrity of our Cathedral, to make it more suitable for liturgical celebrations and more accessible to the public.

St. David's was built as Cardiff's principal Catholic Church in 1887. In 1921 it was designated the Cathedral Church for the Archdiocese of Cardiff and the Metropolitan Cathedral for the Catholic Province of Wales and Herefordshire. In March 1941, our Cathedral was completely destroyed by bombs and fire and the congregation was forced to worship in the parish hall. In 1953, work began on clearing the site in preparation for an extensive rebuilding programme and in 1959 the Cathedral was re-opened in its current form. In the years following, a series of piecemeal changes were made to the interior of St. David's, resulting in considerable loss to its architectural integrity. The time has come to make enhancements to meet the needs of contemporary worship and liturgy.



Our Cathedral could be used for a much wider range of services and events, not possible now because of the limitations of the building. St. David's is the largest place of worship in the midst of the Cardiff City Centre redevelopments and as such could host a significant number of local and national ecumenical events. Indeed, the Cathedral has received numerous such requests and has reluctantly turned them down due to the current deficiencies of the building – the toilet and washroom facilities are not suitable for large public gatherings, the heating system will not support use for public events in the winter and there is neither a disabled toilet nor disabled access to the second floor.

There is a revival of public interest in Cathedrals generally. More and more people are visiting such buildings, not just for worship but also to learn about their history and their communities. Even now, every weekday our Cathedral receives over 300 visitors, not counting its own parishioners; some come seeking a few minutes of quiet, some come to pray and some simply to see the building.

From preliminary plans we estimate that £3 million will be required to restore the Cathedral, to develop it for greater use and to provide for its ongoing maintenance. We hope that up to £1 million may come from grant sources, although this cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, we are looking to the Catholic community for £2 million in this campaign to support St. David's redevelopment.

Campaign Financial Goals

The goal of the Archdiocese of Cardiff Campaign is to raise £8,700,000 to meet our needs to 2020. All donations will be placed in special funds and invested for the long term. The interest generated from the funds each year will be used to support the major needs identified earlier.

Our Need	Our Goal
Supporting our Retired Priests	£ 4.7 million
Investing in our Pastoral Strategy	£ 2.0 million
Restoring our Cathedral	£ 2.0 million
Total Goal	£ 8.7 million

Which Goals Should I Support?

The success of the Campaign will depend on the generous support of all the people of the Archdiocese. Making your gift 'unrestricted' will allow the Archbishop to ensure that all three of our goals are appropriately funded. However, if you prefer, you can choose to support one or other of the goals specifically, simply by so indicating on your donation card.



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How Should I Give?

Making a Pledge

Most of us will give by making a five-year pledge. Donating through a regular, monthly payment is the easiest way to help and will provide the backbone of the Campaign. It also makes it more affordable and manageable for you.

If you make your pledge through a payroll scheme, you can give more effectively since the payment comes from pre-taxed earnings. If you prefer, you can use a standing order at your bank to have your pledged amount paid directly to us on a monthly basis. And if you are a UK taxpayer, your donation can be Gift Aided, which allows us to claim back the tax already paid on the donation.

Making a One-Time Gift

Perhaps you have had recent good fortune and want to share some of this with a worthy cause. Or perhaps you have a personal or business reason to donate to a registered charity. Or you may wish to make a gift in memory of a loved one, thus celebrating their life in a way they would have supported. Whatever the reason, you may decide to make a one-time donation to the Campaign, which will be warmly received.

Leave a Legacy

Although most of us prefer not to think about death, it's a simple fact of life. If you make a will, you know that your wishes will be respected. Obviously you should look after family and friends first but your will could also help us to preserve and strengthen our Catholic community. Leaving a gift to the Campaign in your will has a lasting effect and is a good way to ensure that part of your life's work continues benefiting others long after you have gone.

Large or small, your gift will be gratefully received. If you have already made a provision for this or if you want to do so, please let us know. We can help you to arrange your legacy and it will help us to know what support we can count on in the years to come. It also means that we can say a heartfelt 'thank you' right now.

How Much Should I Give?

In this Campaign, most of us will donate by making a pledge over the course of five years. Of course, the amount you pledge should be in proportion to your means. But the cause is vital and the need is great. So your pledge should also reflect some sacrifice on your part.

Here's one idea for deciding on your pledge: take a look at your weekly or monthly expenditures on special food and drink items or at what you spend on magazines or entertainment. Then look at the tables below to see what you are really sacrificing when you decide on an amount to pledge.

Your Daily Sacrifice	Your Weekly Sacrifice	60 Monthly Payments	5 Annual Payments	Your Total Gift	Gift Aid Addition 28%*	Benefit to Campaign
0.27	1.92	8.33	100	500	140	640
0.55	3.85	16.67	200	1000	280	1280
1.10	7.69	33.33	400	2000	560	2560
2.74	19.23	83.33	1000	5000	1400	6400
5.48	38.456	166.67	2000	10000	2800	12800
13.70	96.15	416.67	5000	25000	7000	32000

*The amount shown above as our Gift Aid benefit reflects HRMC's rules for 2007-08 and may vary in future years.



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Our Campaign Organisation

A Campaign of this magnitude cannot be undertaken without a strong team of committed individuals. We have been working since 2006 to organise this effort, taking guidance from other dioceses where such campaigns have been successful. Fortunately, a number of our fellow Catholics in the Archdiocese have generously volunteered their time and talent to help us with this Campaign.

This is how the Campaign organisation will work:

President: The Most Reverend Peter Smith, Archbishop of Cardiff

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Archdiocese, Archbishop Peter will assume overall responsibility for the Campaign.

Chairman: Mr. John Reddy (Merthyr)

Mr. Reddy has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Archdiocese for ten years and has also served as Chairman of its Finance Committee. Well known across the Archdiocese for his sound financial leadership, Mr. Reddy also led the work ten years ago to establish the Archbishop Murphy Fund.

Vice-Chairmen:

Several prominent Catholics in our Archdiocese have graciously volunteered their time and energies to assist in organising and carrying out this Campaign. Residing in different parts of our Archdiocese, each brings a regional perspective to the Campaign. Working with the Chairman, this Leadership Team will approve all Campaign matters and monitor the progress of the Campaign over its life. They will also be visible as Campaign Leaders both in their regions and across the Archdiocese.

Parish Leaders:

Every parish has a Campaign leader, who is responsible for providing parishioners with any needed information and for leading the team of parish volunteers who will solicit the support of every parish member. The Parish Leaders are also responsible for keeping the Leadership Team informed as to the progress of the Campaign in their parishes.

Parish Volunteers: Too numerous to list!

No Campaign of this kind can succeed without the active participation of a group of volunteers in each parish. The number of volunteers will depend on the size and geography of the parish but all will contribute to the proper solicitation of contributions from fellow parishioners.

Contacting The Campaign

Please contact your Parish Campaign Leader if you wish more information or want to help.

In addition, you may contact:

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The Archdiocese of Cardiff
Archbishop's House,
41-43 Cathedral Road,
Cardiff
CF11 9HD

Telephone: 029 2022 0411

Website: www.rcadc.com

Charity Number: 242380



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Campaign Prayer

Lord, we thank you for calling us together to
be your Church to further your Kingdom here on earth.

You give us all we have and see to all our needs.

Unite us to you and to one another,
and give success to our efforts to share
our time, our resources and our abilities,
so we may build for the future.

Send your Spirit upon us, Lord:
Since you have blessed us in so many ways,
help us return these gifts with grateful hearts.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and our Saviour.

Amen

St David,

Pray for us.

Mary, Mother of Our Lord
and Mother of the Church,

Pray for us.