



Dear Friends,

As our metropolitan area changes, so, too, do the demographics of our parishes. In the past few years, churches built to host a small community of Catholics have quickly become the spiritual home to hundreds more worshipers — with no signs of this expansion slowing. When this happens in an area without great financial wealth, building a new church to accommodate a growing congregation can seem like a pipe dream.

When I learned Bishop Joe Vásquez was launching *Encountering Christ*, I was both excited and grateful that this campaign would help these parishes, especially those in the Interstate 35 corridor. In the interest of being good stewards of campaign gifts, my office is working to efficiently help multiple parishes at once, combining efforts to reduce costs in all areas of construction.

I am honored to be a part of a diocese where we are one church working together for the betterment of the church as a whole.

Sincerely in Christ,

Patrick Baker  
Director of Facilities Planning