

## Your campaign gifts are supporting our priests

*Encountering Christ* funds have already been directed to the seminarian endowment and the pension plan and trust for retired priests.



*Encountering Christ* is already benefiting the clergy of our diocese — a key component of the campaign.

Of the \$5 million the campaign will direct toward the seminarian endowment, \$1 million is already being used to encourage vocations, to offset the cost of education and formation and reduce the financial effect on seminarians, and to provide additional support for the increasing number of men who enter the seminary with student loan debt.

In addition, \$1 million in campaign funds have been added to the pension plan and trust for retired priests. A total of \$5 million from *Encountering Christ* will help meet the anticipated shortfall of this pension plan and trust, which provides a steady income that retired priests use for their housing and living expenses.

Lastly, plans for the expansion of the St. John Paul II Residence for Priests are well underway. The diocese is allocating \$2 million from *Encountering Christ* to construct four additional duplexes to bring the capacity to 24. As of this moment, plans are being finalized with the architect so construction can begin later this fall. All eight new units are scheduled for completion by early summer 2020.