



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is Generation to Generation: Answer the Call?**

Generation to Generation: Answer the Call is a capital campaign with a goal to raise \$300 million+ in gifts and pledges to strengthen local parishes, spiritually renew our parishes, support our priests, and assist vulnerable communities.

## **Why is the Archdiocese of Chicago embarking on a capital campaign?**

The Archdiocese of Chicago is at a pivotal moment in shaping the future of our local church. Today confident of God's grace, we are being called to take up with fresh energy the mission of Christ by reimagining our Catholic presence, ministries and service. Through the campaign we aim to strengthen all our parishes in Cook and Lake counties.

## **Which parishes are participating in the Generation to Generation: Answer the Call campaign?**

All parishes in the archdiocese will participate in the campaign.

## **How will parishes participate?**

Parishes will conduct their own Generation to Generation campaigns, supported by a member of the campaign team and relying on the following five principles to reach their targets:

1) prayer, 2) personal visits, 3) proportional giving, 4) phase-by-phase approach and 5) pledged gifts

## **Is the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) taking place during the campaign?**

Yes, the ACA will continue to be conducted annually. Generation to Generation is a capital campaign to meet the future needs of the archdiocese, while the ACA helps fund the ongoing ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago each year. The campaign office will work with parishes to educate parishioners on the difference between Generation to Generation and the Annual Catholic Appeal.

## **How are parish campaign goals set?**

Parish goals will be set at 130% of the parish's offertory income from the most recent available fiscal year. In line with Annual Catholic Appeal practice, a few parishes serving low-income communities will have goals of 100% of their latest fiscal year offertory. These parishes will be determined using known financial and demographic information of the parish community including U.S. Census data.

## **How will campaign funds be allocated?**

Funds designated for the shared ministries of Generation to Generation will be allocated based on the percentages outlined in the campaign case statement. These funds will be directed to ministries as needs arise, regardless of whether the overall campaign goal has been met. Parishes will retain 50 cents of each dollar up to goal, 80 cents of each dollar after surpassing the goal in cash payments, and 100% of each dollar after surpassing 200% of the parish's goal in cash payments.

## **Will Generation to Generation affect parish offertory?**

Donors will be asked to consider a gift above and beyond their offertory giving. Offertory is expected to remain constant during Generation to Generation's five-year pledge period.

## **How much will families be asked to give?**

Every family in the archdiocese will be asked to consider a sacrificial gift to Generation to Generation in the spirit of Christian stewardship. The suggested request amounts will vary from donor to donor.

## **Why emphasize pledged gifts?**

Pledges may be paid in installments over five years, allowing families to make larger commitments than they might otherwise consider. Pledged gifts are typically four to five times larger than a one-time gift.

**Why is an initial payment requested? Is it required?**

While not required, many donors are eager to begin fulfilling their pledges. In addition, an initial payment is a strong indication of a donor's commitment to completing a campaign pledge. Initial payment checks should be made payable to: Generation to Generation.

**How should payments be made to fulfill a pledge?**

After the initial collection of pledge forms at the parish level, the archdiocese will administer the pledge follow-up process. Donors will be given the option of making payments annually, quarterly or monthly for up to five years by check, credit/debit card, automated debit to checking account and securities. Checks should be made payable to: Generation to Generation.

**Why are donors asked to complete a pledge card?**

Pledge cards record and acknowledge campaign commitments as well as provide donors with a reminder of their requested payment schedule. Donors sign the pledge card to authorize the terms of their gift.

**Are gifts to the campaign tax-deductible?**

You will receive an acknowledgement of your gift for tax purposes. Please also consult with tax and financial experts.

**How will Renewal Funds be spent?**

Together, led by the Holy Spirit, we will renew Christ's Church. This generational effort will focus on two initiatives: The Archdiocesan Renewal Center and digital outreach for people exploring faith. Our Renewal Center will focus on intentional on-the-ground support of parishes, an ongoing calendar of renewal workshops and events, and ongoing faith research. The digital outreach platform will feature tailored online workshops and curated content, hosted on a digital platform, that will invite those who are spiritually hungry to spiritual exploration based on their own attitudes, preference and prior experiences.

**How will Priest Funds be spent?**

Funds will be used to priest pastoral and professional development, and the care and well-being of our priests through health-care and retirement programs.

**How will Parish Vitality Funds be spent?**

The Parish Vitality Fund will support parishes in vibrant but low-income communities through critical capital maintenance or improvement, operating support for vibrant ministry or service, and grants to help ignite parish renewal.

**Will funds raised be used to defray costs related to priest misconduct?**

No money donated to Generation to Generation: Answer the Call will be used to defray expenses related to misconduct issues.

**What if I have to change or modify my pledge?**

You are able to change or modify your pledge at any time. Please call the Stewardship and Development Office at 312.534.8500.

**How will I hear about campaign progress?**

The archdiocese will distribute campaign updates and good news to parishioners and parishes throughout the campaign.

**What happened with the To Teach Who Christ Is campaign?**

The *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign allowed the archdiocese to invest generously in local parish needs, support scholarships for Catholic school families, increase funding for religious education and met critical facility needs. To learn more visit [giving.archchicago.org/ttwci/your-impact](https://giving.archchicago.org/ttwci/your-impact).

**How will funds donated to Generation to Generation be maintained and distributed?**

Gifts to Generation to Generation will be held in separate, restricted accounts and used solely for the specific priorities set forth in the campaign case statement, the Generation to Generation web page under "Case Components," and, as to the funds allocated to the parishes, each parish's campaign case statement.

**How will the campaign be paid for?**

Campaign goals are approximate and based on anticipated needs and contributions. Final distributions will be based on actual contributions and net of related campaign expenses and fees.

For more frequently asked questions, visit our website at [archchicago.org/gentogen](https://archchicago.org/gentogen).