

Letter from Matthew Kelly, CEO and Founder of Dynamic Catholic

Do you ever wonder what the Catholic Church in America will be like ten or twenty years from now? People ask me that all the time. I was in Europe again this summer and their churches are empty. Lots of them have more tourists in them than believers. In some ways their churches seem more like museums than vibrant communities. I was the youngest person at Mass and I looked around thinking to myself, “Where are the young people?” Where are the teenagers? Where are the young families? Where are the young professionals? Where is the next generation?

What will the Catholic Church in America be like 20 years from now? What will your parish be like 20 years from now? I’m not sure. And the reason I’m not sure is because I don’t know what you are willing to do or what role you are going to play. The truth is you and I get to answer that question because what we do today, tomorrow and every day will determine what the Church will be like in the future.

I know what I would like the Church to be like 20 years from now. I envision a Church meeting people where they are and leading them to where God is calling them to be. I envision a Church where parishes are so dynamic and serving people so powerfully that parishioners want to spend more time there, not just on Sunday’s but every day of the week. I envision a Church that is overflowing with bold and generous men and women who understand the genius of Catholicism and are striving to live it in every area of their lives. I envision a Church where every diocese, every parish, and every Catholic is hungry for best practices and committed to continuous learning. I envision a church that is helping the less fortunate in more meaningful and more sustainable ways than ever before. I envision a Church where every Catholic is proud to say, “I love being Catholic.”

If it were up to me, this is what the Catholic Church will be like twenty years from now. But it’s not just up to me. It’s up to you too. It’s up to us.

As human beings, God has given us many incredible gifts. One of those gifts is the ability to dream. We are able to look into the future and imagine something better than today, and then return to the present and work to make that richly imagined future a reality. It’s time for Catholics to start dreaming again.

At Dynamic Catholic, we’re dedicated to re-energizing the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire men, women, and children to re-discover the genius of Catholicism. Over the past ten years we’ve distributed over 20 million books, brought life-changing events to over 5,000 parishes, shared daily email programs in preparation for Easter and Christmas with nearly a million Catholics each year, and our sacramental preparation programs are currently serving over 10,000 parishes.

But we’re just getting started.

Today, we are embarking on the largest parish renewal initiative the Church has ever seen. We call it, “Dynamic Parish.” Out of fifteen-thousand parishes in America we have chosen twenty parishes to pilot the Dynamic Parish Initiative. Your parish is one of the twenty we’ve selected.

Together, we are going to learn what it really takes to build a vibrant and sustainable faith community. Then we are going to document our findings and give a proven model for parish renewal to the

Catholic Church. And it all begins by asking you a single question: What are your dreams for your parish?

Over the next five years, your parish will receive thousands of inspiring resources and engaging programs. You'll experience powerful events throughout each year. You'll receive a full time Dynamic Catholic consultant to serve and support the leadership team at your parish.

And here's the incredible thing. The entire cost of the resources provided to your parish over the five years will be completely covered by the generosity of Dynamic Catholic Ambassadors.

God always wants our future to be bigger than our past. Not equal to, but bigger, better, brighter and more significant than the past. God wants your future, the future of your parish and the future of the church to be bigger and better than ever before.

It's time for Catholics to start dreaming again.

We've spent a decade getting ready for this moment. I know I speak for the entire team at Dynamic Catholic when I tell you that we cannot wait to begin working with you and your parish. God bless you. And remember: Be Bold, Be Catholic!