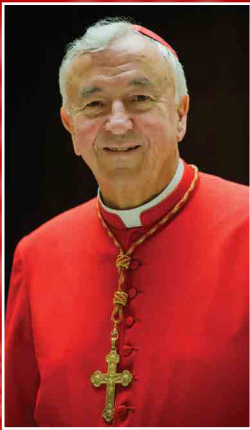




Growing in Faith

Our parishes • Our priests • Our place in the world

CHRISTMAS 2016 NEWSLETTER



Dear Friend in Christ,

In his Christmas message last year, Pope Francis said, "Where God is born, hope is born." How true and eternal this message is! God is with us. That is the foundation of our hope in our final fulfilment with God.

The journey inspired by this hope is practical and demanding. Making signs of hope real requires effort and resources. This motivated the Diocese to undertake to Growing in Faith campaign. From its start in 2012 until 2014 the focus was on explaining what we wanted to do and seeking support in parishes. Since then, we have been in what could be called the 'fulfilment' phase, where pledges are turned into funding, and resources made available in the service of God's people.

Advent is a time to remember the past year and to anticipate good things to come. So we reflect on the successes of 2016 and all that has been achieved over the past four years. We look forward to more next year!

186 parishes participated in Growing in Faith. Between them, they identified more than 260 parish projects. To date, more than 100 of these projects have been started, funded or completed, all made possible by more than £4.45 million from Growing in Faith. I hope that your parish has acted on its Growing in Faith project.

Needs at a diocesan level are important in Growing in Faith too. This year we have secured approval finally to replace the obsolete temporary classrooms at Allen Hall Seminary in Chelsea. We anticipate construction and operation of new portable classroom facilities in 2017, and, with the seminary at full capacity, this couldn't come at a more needed time. The cost of these works will be £350,000, to go with the £900,000 previously made available from Growing in Faith funding to renovate the Chapel, and to repair the ceiling, walls, and roof covering parts of the main building.

Growing in Faith supports priests toward the end of their ministry as well as at the start. The number of priests reaching retirement age will nearly double by 2025, and the Diocese is committed to offering them the care and support they need. Five parishes have been approached to explore the possibility of redeveloping parish houses to provide accommodation for sick and retired priests. One site, in Eastcote, has been agreed and work will commence in 2017. Good progress is being made in planning a second site, and we anticipate that three more sites, providing a total of up to 12 new flats, could be created between now and 2020.

So much is happening. This newsletter goes into more detail. We remain focused on the critical needs of priests, parishes, and our place in the world, which were the basis for the Growing in Faith campaign. I am grateful indeed for the extraordinary generosity shown by the more than 19,500 donors to Growing in Faith, who have made our response to these priorities possible.

I wish you many blessings in this Advent season, and Christmas beyond. And I send my best wishes for a healthy, peaceful and prosperous New Year.

With the assurance of my prayers,

Yours sincerely,

Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster

Cumulative List of Parish Projects Sponsored by Growing in Faith

Parish Name/Location	Project to which Growing in Faith Parish Share of Funding was Applied	Amount Disbursed
Abbey Church of St Benedict, Ealing Abbey	Provide new sound system for the church. Refurbishing the toilets	£33,884
All Saints, Kenton	Refurbishing parish hall	£23,679
Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise	Salary for parish Catechist	£8,580
Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane	Work on the Sanctuary	£364
Corpus Christi, Tring	Construction of Parish Office	£7,433
English Martyrs, Wembley - Chalkhill Road	Installation of security gates	£14,489
Holy Apostles, Pimlico	Refurbishing parish hall	£44,000
Holy Cross, Parsons Green	Works to the sanctuary. Supporting local Foodbank and Glasdoor charities	£36,950
Holy Rood, Watford	Employment of a parish support worker	£39,088
Holy Trinity & St Augustine of Canterbury, Baldock	Installation of double glazing windows. Replacing external wall of the office.	£14,556
Holy Trinity, Brook Green	Developing the office area and the rooms attached to the church	£108,348
Immaculate Heart of Mary & St Dominic, Homerton	Replacement of old boiler in the church	£9,924
Mary Immaculate & St Gregory the Great, Barnet	Replace existing heating in Parish Hall	£11,394
Metropolitan Cathedral of the Most Precious Blood, Westminster Cathedral	Employing a Cathedral Communications Officer. Creation and continuation of the Guild of St John Southworth.	£54,250
Our Lady & St Joseph, Hanwell	Installation of a new sound system	£18,489
Our Lady & St Joseph, Kingsland	Refurbishment of main Sanctuary and Our Lady's Chapel. Repainting of interior and refurbishment of parquet floor	£27,295
Our Lady & St Thomas of Canterbury, Harrow	Employment of full time Parish Pastoral Assistant. Re-ordering of the sanctuary.	£39,349
Our Lady Immaculate & St Andrew, Hitchin	Making safe and modernising the lighting in the church	£7,452
Our Lady of Dolours, Fulham Road	Refurbishment of the church. Supporting the Glass Door project - homeless	£28,000
Our Lady of Dolours, Hendon	Painting of Church. Construction of lavatory at back of Church.	£15,105
Our Lady of Fatima, White City	Refurbishing the sanctuary. Replacing all existing carpet in the church. Renovating the parish centre.	£19,000
Our Lady of Good Counsel, Stoke Newington	Redecoration of church	£10,800
Our Lady of Hal, Camden Town	New lighting in the church and replacement of Sanctuary carpet	£8,990
Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate	Replacement of church doors and windows	£26,000
Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Simon Stock, Kensington - Church Street	To improve and update the facilities and services for parishioners	£66,411
Our Lady of Muswell, Muswell Hill	Renovation and redecoration of parish hall.	£22,500
Our Lady of Sorrows & St Bridget of Sweden, Isleworth	Refurbishment of church tower	£9,368
Our Lady of the Holy Souls, Kensal New Town	Replacement of boiler for the church	£5,699
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception & St Joseph, Waltham Cross	Repaying debt on parish centre. Fitting out the Upper Hall	£18,025
Our Lady of the Rosary & St Dominic, Haverstock Hill	Restoration of St Dominic's altar and chapel	£2,713
Our Lady of the Rosary, Marylebone	Refurbishment of Parish Hall and new kitchen. Refurbishment of toilets. Creation of new toilet for disabled.	£12,763
Our Lady of the Rosary, Staines-upon-Thames	Refurbishment of Parish Hall	£6,485
Our Lady of Victories, Kensington - High Street	Refurbishment of the church crypt. New heating and cooling systems in the church and crypt	£589,741
Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Heston	Installation of a new sound system	£3,212
Our Lady, St Mary of Walsingham, London Colney	New heating system for the church	£3,189
Our Most Holy Redeemer & St Thomas More, Chelsea - Cheyne Row	West London homeless concern (Glass Doors). Refurbishment of church organ	£41,725
Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted	Funding of Youth and Children's worker	£21,000
Sacred Heart of Jesus & St Joseph, Ware	Hall Extension and adaptations to the Church to increase capacity for a growing parish.	£37,883
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Kilburn	Church refurbishment 2015, plus repair to West Window. Repository Roof. Cleaning of Organ	£10,157
SS Alban & Stephen, St Albans	Helping homeless mothers and children. Counselling for people with addictions; help for families. Helping the homeless. Parish Hall refurbishment.	£55,422
SS Mary & Joseph, Hemel Hempstead Boxmoor	Supporting the work of the Dacorum Community Trust. Caritas - Elderly tea party and Respite afternoon	£5,500

SS Michael & Martin, Hounslow	Extending the Choir Loft into the main body of the church to accommodate the growing congregation	£47,000
SS Peter & Paul, Northfields	Hall refurbishment. Church sound system. Barrier for Car Park. Electric windows & stained glass windows for the Church.	£26,890
St Agnes, Cricklewood	Investing in adult faith formation. Regeneration of parish rooms	£47,118
St Anselm & St Cecilia, Lincoln's Inn Fields	Redesigning the sanctuary. New stone flooring for sanctuary, back and entrance to Church, making Altar bigger.	£110,924
St Anselm, Southall	Renovation of church buildings	£10,000
St Bartholomew, St Albans South	Replacement of windows	£9,000
St Bernadette, Hillingdon	Repairs and renewals to the church	£12,000
St Bonaventure, Welwyn Garden City	Rebuilding of parish hall	£2,300
St Edmund of Canterbury & English Martyrs, Old Hall Green & Puckeridge	Replacing rotten hall windows and door	£3,150
St Edward the Confessor, Golders Green	Hiring of Parish Assessment and Renewal programme coordinator	£19,407
St Erconwald, Wembley - Preston Road	Funding for parish hall & office	£12,044
St Francis De Sales, Hampton Hill	Refurbishment of the crypt	£20,704
St Francis de Sales, Tottenham	Employment of a Secretary and a Bookkeeper	£5,000
St Francis of Assisi, Notting Hill	Hand in hand group, assisting the elderly in cultural activities. Employment of music director and purchase of choir robes	£14,544
St Gabriel & St Bernard, Harrow South & Northolt	Refurbishment of hall space	£19,765
St George, Sudbury	Employment of Youth Worker	£30,000
St Gregory the Great, Ruislip South	Replacement of church roof	£16,403
St Hugh of Lincoln, Letchworth	Provision of meeting space for catechesis	£29,027
St James, Twickenham	Outstanding loan to the Diocese to be paid off	£2,550
St Joan of Arc, Highbury	Refurbishment to entrance of the church and the Sanctuary	£143,327
St John Fisher, Chorleywood	Re-ordering of the church	£6,107
St John Fisher, Harrow North	Re-building and re-ordering of the sanctuary of the church. Providing of a room for catechesis.	£48,268
St John Fisher, Perivale	Building of a new parish hall	£17,377
St John the Evangelist, Mill End	Re-ordering the sanctuary - new marble floor; tabernacle, new stone altar, ambo and tabernacle plinth	£8,117
St John Vianney, West Green	Purchase of a new Presbytery	£10,000
St Joseph & the English Martyrs, Bishop's Stortford	Refurbishment of toilets and access ramp	£23,000
St Joseph, Bunhill Row	Installation of 'access lift'. Subscription to London Citizens	£33,122
St Joseph, Carpenders Park & South Oxhey	Smart TV and DVD installation. Performing Arts Weekend	£3,446
St Joseph, Wealdstone	Renovation of Community house	£19,296
St Joseph, Wembley - High Road	The construction of a Catechetical Centre for the parish	£22,169
St Jude, Clapton Park	Employment of a catechetical co-ordinator	£6,077
St Luke, Pinner	Employing Outreach Worker	£12,575
St Margaret Clitherow, Grahame Park	General maintenance of Parish buildings	£5,277
St Margaret of Scotland, St. Margarets on Thames	Repairs and renovation of the Parish	£30,703
St Mary & St Andrew, Dollis Hill	Cleaning and repairing the outside of the church	£16,966
St Mary & St Michael, Commercial Road	Repairs to the church roof and the parish centre. New heating system.	£17,089
St Mary Magdalen, Whetstone	Initial Installation of audio/visual system in hall. Also loop system in Hall.	£8,000
St Mary Magdalen, Willesden Green	Painting of Sanctuary, church ceiling, entrance porch and corridor. School of the Annunciation, course fees for the Diploma in the new Evangelisation.	£30,606
St Mary Moorfields, Moorfields	Parish contributions to City Pregnancy Counselling and Psychotherapy (CPCP). Redecorating of the Church.	£70,377
St Mary, Chelsea - Cadogan Street	Refurbishment of alms houses. Refurbishment of church	£156,009
St Mary, Finchley East	To recruit Catechetical co-ordinator(whose role will also include development of youth work)	£11,000
St Mary, Hampstead	Employment of a Pastoral Assistant to develop the CCD programme for children In State Schools. To develop Sacramental programmes for the Parish.	£70,965
St Michael, Ashford	Refurbishment of parish Hall. All-weather pitch for St Michael's School	£68,414
St Monica's Priory, Hoxton	Supporting the parish food for the homeless project, in conjunction with Hackney Foodbank	£2,676

St Patrick, Hendon West	Painting the church inside	£3,363
St Patrick, Neasden	Renewing and repair of outside sewerage and water drains. Re-surfacing area of car park affected.	£10,240
St Paul the Apostle, Wood Green	Refurbishing kitchen, purchasing and installing cooker, dishwasher, new sink and wall heater. Alterations to the heating in the church.	£13,517
St Peter, Hatfield South	Refurbishing parish hall	£11,615
St Raphael, Yeading	Completing the refurbishment of the Parish Centre. Repairs to the Church roof. Supporting a Parish Catechists Salary.	£19,671
St Sebastian & St Pancras, Kingsbury Green	New Parish Centre	£9,000
St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Borehamwood	Improvement to electrics, sound system and outside lighting	£12,365
St Thomas More, Knebworth	New heating system for the church	£16,917
St Thomas More, Manor House, Manor House	Employing a part-time Project Co-ordinator. Provision and development of the Parish Project Welfare Rights Advice Service. Lunch and Social Club admin costs	£4,900
St Thomas More, Swiss Cottage	Purpose built parish hall. Reconfigured church entrance	£105,451
St William of York, Stanmore	Banners for St William of York & St Catherine of Siena. Matching funding eventually to St Joseph's Centre.	£9,500
St Saviour, Abbots Langley	Replacement of windows of the Church and other repairs	£11,119
The Annunciation, Burnt Oak	Installation of screens and cameras for the church. Upgrading electrics and decoration of the parish centre.	£19,146
The Guardian Angels, Mile End	Modernising the parish centre	£9,782
The Holy Family, Acton West	Installation of insulation panels on the roof. Upgrading of boilers.	£17,160
The Holy Ghost & St Stephen, Shepherds Bush	Salary for Catechist/Youth Worker	£24,611
The Holy Name & Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Bow Common	Refurbishment of church	£8,560
The Immaculate Conception & St Joseph, Hertford	Employment of part-time parish secretary. Improving drainage and redecoration	£18,624
The Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hayes	Salary of parish Catechetical Director	£15,032
The Most Precious Blood & St Edmund, Edmonton	Widening front doors of church. Installing second toilet	£29,650
Total disbursed to parishes		£3,168,225
Other Funding Shares released to Parishes conducted by Religious Orders, or for the Care of Sick & Retired Priests, the Training of Priests, and for the launch of Caritas Westminster social action arm of the Church		£1,282,246
Total Amount Disbursed for Growing in Faith Projects		£4,450,471



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For more information on Growing in Faith, or about the work of the Diocese of Westminster, please contact us at **020 7798 9375**, or by email at **growinginfaith@rcdow.org.uk**

To donate online, please visit: www.rcrdow.org.uk/donations