



**IGNITE**  
*Our Faith, Our Mission*



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I feel honored and blessed by the opportunity to serve as the Archbishop of this great local Church of Galveston-Houston. In so many ways this really is the Mother Church of Texas since it was from the shores of Galveston that our Catholic Faith was proclaimed by missionaries over 175 years ago. Over my years of service to the faithful of our Archdiocese, I have witnessed the growth and expansion of our Catholic Church in our parishes. I have had the opportunity to baptize infants into the family of God. Together we have celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit in confirmations. I have been privileged to ordain new permanent deacons to serve our diverse parish communities and to lay hands on those men who responded to God's call to serve as His priests.

The **IGNITE: Our Faith, Our Mission** Capital Campaign launched, with success, in Spring of 2017. As parishes were prepping to kick off and host gatherings in August of 2017, Hurricane Harvey impacted countless lives, including many families and communities within our Archdiocese. As a result of Hurricane Harvey's destruction, the campaign was temporarily placed on hold. Following an extensive survey of priests and parishes, as well as the recommendations of the Priest Advisory Council (PAC), I have decided to move forward with the campaign. However, in consideration of the findings of the survey and the current realities our Archdiocese faces, two new Archdiocesan case elements were added to address the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and prepare us for future disasters.

Over the next few pages, I invite you to review the goals of the campaign, to join me in embracing this wonderful challenge, and to do our part toward ensuring its success. St. Paul reminds us in the Second Letter to the Corinthians how, even in their extreme poverty, the Macedonians begged for the privilege to support the work of the Gospel in their time. These were a people of great faith in God's Providence.

In the same way, I am trusting in God's Providence that His saving work will continue through all of us in our **IGNITE: Our Faith, Our Mission** Capital Campaign. I ask all of you to consider a sacrificial gift, over four years, that will have historic impact on the Church of Galveston-Houston for generations to come.

Finally, I ask each family to make this campaign a priority by offering your time and talents in your parish. I ask you to keep this great venture of our local Church in your personal intentions and prayers.

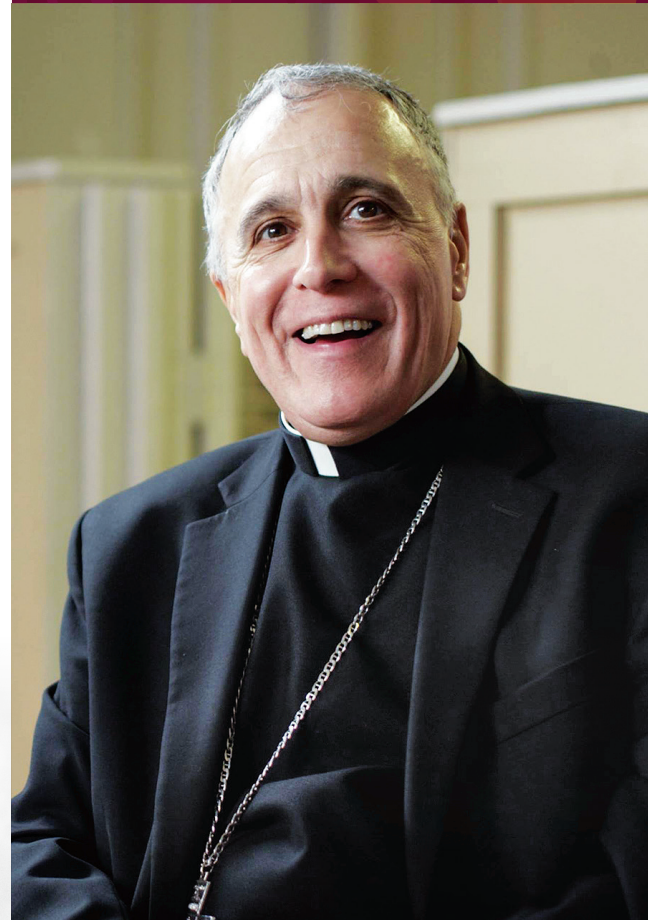
In gratitude for your cooperation and with prayerful best wishes, I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+ Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Archbishop of Galveston-Houston





The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, under the leadership of Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, encompasses over 8,800 square miles extending through 10 counties in the southeastern part of the state of Texas. Houston is recognized as the fourth largest city in the United States and the Archdiocese serves nearly 400,000 families.



In 2015, a planning study was conducted to identify the local Archdiocese's present-day challenges and address the needs of our Archdiocesan seminary, St. Mary's, as well as our Catholic Schools and Faith Formation. As a result of the data and responses collected, Cardinal DiNardo initiated a major capital campaign fittingly titled, *IGNITE: Our Faith, Our Mission* to raise \$150,000,000. The campaign kicked off in Spring of 2017 and conducted the first block prior to Hurricane Harvey hitting Southeast Texas. The campaign was placed on hold so the Archdiocese could focus on emergency response and relief efforts. Although recovery will take years, it is time to relaunch IGNITE and address the new realities of the Archdiocese.

The IGNITE Campaign has six major elements:

**Future Disaster Recovery Fund, Rebuilding Our Parishes and Schools in Light of Hurricane Harvey, St. Mary's Seminary, Faith Formation Endowment Fund, Catholic School Education Endowments, and Individual Parish Needs.**





# Future Disaster Recovery Fund \$20,000,000

In the Fall of 2008 Hurricane Ike impacted over 100 parish campuses and caused \$29.2 million worth of damage within the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. To better prepare the Archdiocese for future catastrophic events, a tax was placed on all parishes for four years to create a \$10 million Future Disaster Recovery Fund.



On August 25, 2017, Hurricane Harvey devastated the Archdiocese and impacted over 80 parishes, schools, communities, and chancery locations. As of May 2018, the total losses are in excess of \$31 million. This figure may continue to rise as the rebuilding process unfolds. As a result, the Future Disaster Recovery Fund built following Hurricane Ike will be used in its entirety to assist our parishes in their recovery from Hurricane Harvey.



Prudent planning for the future must once again be undertaken. To reflect the present-day realities as well as lessons learned, Cardinal DiNardo and the Priests Advisory Council (PAC) approved the allocation of \$20 million to replenish and grow the Disaster Recovery Fund.







## Rebuilding Our Parishes & Schools in Light of Hurricane Harvey \$20,000,000

During the Fall of 2017, the Hurricane Harvey Task Force, the Archdiocesan Development Department, and campaign consulting firm Guidance In Giving met with pastors and parish leadership throughout the Archdiocese to survey Hurricane Harvey's impact on their communities as well as receive additional input on the future of the **IGNITE** Campaign. An analysis of the 140+ surveys and feedback revealed the necessity to create an additional fund to help parishes and schools in need following Hurricane Harvey's destruction. This process also identified the extensive role that deferred maintenance played in the damage. As a result, Cardinal DiNardo and the PAC approved the allocation of \$20 million that will directly address the rebuilding needs and future preparedness of our parishes and schools.

The Archdiocese has hired a facilities management consulting firm to begin performing a full plant assessment at a number of our vulnerable parish and school campuses, to evaluate the current damage, and proactively report on any potential structural issues. Funds will be used to address the findings.

A committee will be established by Cardinal DiNardo to review grant proposals and make recommendations on the disbursement of funds. This committee will be made up of members of the Hurricane Harvey Task Force and PAC. Through this \$20 million fund we will not only help those most affected by Hurricane Harvey, we will also proactively address areas of need that will better prepare us for future disasters.

As a result of Hurricane Harvey, many parishes sustained damage that inhibited their ability to minister to the people. These funds will allow parishes to apply for grants to assist with their Hurricane Harvey related damages and repair costs.

Additionally, parishes may apply for grants to address deferred maintenance issues. The survey of Hurricane Harvey related damage demonstrated that in many cases deferred maintenance led to greater damage in our facilities.





# St. Mary's Seminary \$30,000,000

For more than 100 years, St. Mary's Seminary has provided a vitally important ministry by helping thousands of men answer their call to the priesthood and ultimately enabling these young men to follow in the steps of the first disciples. Our seminary is proud to claim 22 bishops, who have presided over 14 different dioceses, as proud St. Mary's alumnus. In addition, St. Mary's Seminary also serves as home to the Archdiocese's Diaconate Formation Program and hosts the University of St. Thomas School of Theology, which serves the seminarians and the greater community at large.



## REFURBISH THE PLANT INFRASTRUCTURE

The outdated heating, cooling, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing infrastructure, which support the basic systems of the over 60-year old campus, required replacement. The urgent nature of the infrastructure projects necessitated that a new central plant and related systems be immediately installed throughout the existing campus. To that end, a loan was taken from the Diocesan Savings and Loan Fund to complete this element. This infrastructure overhaul was completed in December of 2017 and the first proceeds of the Archdiocesan share will be used to repay this loan.

## CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DORMITORY

A site-development plan has been designed that proposes a new dormitory building. The design will be such that the existing quadrangle courtyard is preserved, enhanced, and the architectural theme of the new construction will replicate those of the existing campus buildings. Additionally, the new dormitory will meet all current health, safety, fire, and handicapped accessible building codes.

## RENOVATION OF TWO EXISTING DORMITORIES

After construction of the new dormitory is completed, the remaining funds will be used to renovate our two existing dormitories. Being over 60 years old, the two original dormitories do not meet current codes nor adequately serve the needs of the seminarians in formation. Once the renovations and new construction are completed, there will be adequate room for additional seminarians on campus, as well as housing for faculty, formation staff and visiting bishops, clergy and others.





## Faith Formation Endowment Fund \$10,000,000

Developing and maintaining lay leaders in ministry is critical to the mission of the Church. The Faith Formation Endowment fund will assist parishes in providing the highest caliber of training for lay leaders in ministry towards developing missionary disciples in our parishes. The fund will be used to award grants to a variety of diverse opportunities, including, but not limited to, development of strong catechetical and liturgical leaders and enhancement of parish evangelization efforts.

The following are additional examples of possible grant opportunities:

- Certification and Degree programs for parish catechetical and liturgical leaders
- Catechetical Leadership position that would be shared between two or three parishes
- Implementation of Archdiocesan catechetical or evangelization initiatives
- Online training for ministry leaders and coordinators
- Evangelization training programs
- Establishment of evangelization efforts to develop small faith communities
- Training for parish Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) teams

Forming and educating our people in a rapidly changing world requires creative programs and initiatives that address our modern realities and challenges. These efforts are often outside of the financial ability of many of our parishes. This new Faith Formation Endowment Fund will provide grants to parishes to aid in their faith formation and evangelization efforts. These grants can ensure that parishes have access to the best training for developing lay leaders, both paid and volunteer, especially to support the areas of catechesis, evangelization and liturgy.





# Catholic School Education Endowments \$20,000,000

The Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston are faith-filled learning communities of parents, students, teachers, and administrators who foster the development of young men and women spiritually, morally, intellectually and physically while striving for academic excellence.

The schools of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston are committed to having high-quality Catholic elementary schools that are constantly working toward academic excellence, evangelization, and financial stability.

The Archdiocese considers Catholic schools vitally important to our future since these schools produce lay leadership, as well as vocations to the priesthood and religious life.



The cost to educate children continues to rise. Parents today cite high-performing schools as their number one reason for choosing Catholic schools. \$20 million will be infused into the existing grade school tuition assistance funds. The earnings from these funds will be available to help defray the costs of tuition for financially deserving children.

## INNER CITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TUITION ASSISTANCE ENDOWMENTS \$12,000,000

Two established endowment funds help meet the tuition assistance needs of our Inner City Catholic Schools. Through the IGNITE Campaign an additional \$12 million will be infused into the Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Endowment Fund. *The added funds will increase the amount available for tuition assistance by 63%, assisting at least an additional 280 students in the first year.*

## NON-INNER CITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TUITION ASSISTANCE ENDOWMENTS \$8,000,000

In addition to the Inner City Catholic Schools we recognize that children with financial needs extend to all of our schools. Our elementary schools located throughout the 10 counties of the Archdiocese provide a Catholic education to all communities. The Archdiocese presently supports the tuition assistance needs of these students through the Scholarship for Catholic Elementary Schools fund. This campaign will provide an additional \$8 million to the existing fund and will be available to all children with financial need throughout the Archdiocese. *The added funds will increase the amount available for tuition assistance by over 138%, assisting at least an additional 180 students in the first year.*





Every parish within the Archdiocese has its own needs, unique challenges, and goals. Some parishes may require new construction or building renovations while others may need to reduce debt, address deferred maintenance, or establish endowments for parish and school staff. In the end, these investments will enable parishes to better proclaim to parish families the teachings of Christ and the mission of the Church. At the conclusion of the pledge redemption, provided the IGNITE Campaign goal is reached, it is anticipated that \$50 million will be returned to parishes for local needs.



## Individual Parish Needs \$50,000,000

A financial return to each parish has been incorporated into the campaign.

Every parish's financial goal is based on a 3-year rolling average of Total In Church Giving (regular offertory + holy days).

The average is multiplied by 92% to arrive at the parish goal. Of the funds collected in each parish, 33% will be returned to the parish on a quarterly basis while 67% is designated for the remaining Archdiocesan case elements.

Once a parish reaches its goal, 67% of funds collected over goal are returned to the parish with 33% funding the Archdiocesan case elements.



## WHAT YOU ARE ASKED TO DO

Cardinal DiNardo invites you, as a faithful member of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, to share your gifts in order to raise \$150 million.

As a good steward, you are called to reflect on the abundant gifts from God, to consider all the ways your life has been blessed, and to return to God in the same measure that He has given to you, helping to provide the foundation for the future.

Your contribution is a faithful response to how generous God has been to you. Not everyone can make the same gift, however, everyone can make the same sacrifice. If you are financially able to pledge \$10,000, \$25,000, \$50,000 or even \$100,000 or more, we ask you to be leaders in our campaign with these substantial gifts.

- Your campaign pledge is a restricted gift, used solely for the case elements highlighted in this brochure.
- Parishioners are asked to continue their support to the annual Diocesan Services Fund (DSF).
- Pledge payments are deductible as allowed by law.
- Pledges are not legally binding, but rather an indication of your intention to donate.



Everyone is asked to be a part of this effort; however, not everyone is asked to give the same amount. This brochure includes a gift plan that can be used as a guide in making your decision. Please consider it carefully and select the gift that best expresses your gratitude to God as experienced in your life today. Your gift can be made as a pledge payable over a four-year period on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annual basis. Reminders will be mailed to your home based on your pledge plan.

### PLEDGES VIA CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

Simply complete the enclosed pledge card by selecting or entering your total pledge amount and, if making a down payment, the amount enclosed. Choose your payment schedule and when you wish payments to begin. Future pledge payments can be charged to your credit or debit card or by check made payable to IGNITE. We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. Your pledge and payment can be returned to your parish's campaign director or mailed to IGNITE, PO Box 4599, Houston TX 77210-4599

### TAX ADVANTAGES OF CHARITABLE GIVING

Because each individual's financial situation may yield different benefits through various methods of making a gift, we recommend that you discuss your gift with your professional advisors. For example, it may be advantageous to contribute appreciated securities, stocks, real property or other valuables.

### GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Donors may use stock and/or mutual funds to pay their pledge. If you would like to initiate a donation of stock or securities, please visit the campaign website or contact your Campaign Director to receive a copy of the Letter of Intent. All gifts of stock will be handled by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

### GIFTS OF PROPERTY, LIFE INSURANCE, WILLS OR BEQUESTS

Gifts such as property, life insurance, and estate bequests are welcome. For substantial gifts of property other than marketable securities, the IRS requires an appraisal.

**Please contact the Development Department, (713) 652-4417, for more information on types of planned-giving to this campaign.**





## In Conclusion

Six urgent factors come together to form the catalyst for this historic campaign. The growth of our parishes and Archdiocese, the need to protect and provide access to quality Catholic School Education and Faith Formation, the need to modernize St. Mary's Seminary, and the necessity to not only repair the damages from Hurricane Harvey but to better prepare the Archdiocese to address these needs for future disasters. After prayerful consideration, Cardinal DiNardo, along with pastors, and the leadership of the Archdiocese, have placed before us a challenge to raise \$150 million. Now it's up to all of us to respond to this call. By each of us responding sacrificially, we will not only be providing a foundation for our present needs but we will provide a lasting legacy of love and sacrifice for generations to come.

For more information on the IGNITE Campaign, please visit [www.archgh.org/IGNITE](http://www.archgh.org/IGNITE).





God our Father,  
you are the source of all goodness  
and of every blessing under heaven.

We give you praise and thanks  
for the gift of our Catholic faith  
and for more than 170 years of living and  
witnessing to that faith in Texas.

We ask for your blessings upon our effort  
to help secure the future of the Church in  
the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

May your people respond with hope  
and generosity to our campaign,  
*IGNITE: Our Faith, Our Mission.*

May the sacrifices we make together  
today bear fruit in lives of faith  
for generations to come.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.  
Amen.



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston  
1700 San Jacinto Street | Houston, Texas 77002 | [www.archgh.org/IGNITE](http://www.archgh.org/IGNITE)