

2020
ANNUAL
REPORT

*The Joy of
Giving*



The
**HARTFORD
BISHOPS'**
FOUNDATION, INC.



YEAR FOUR REPORT

hartfordbishopsfoundation.org



FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CHAIRMAN

A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

The Hartford Bishops' Foundation was founded in 2016 to work in partnership with the Archdiocese to support the parishes, schools, and ministries of the Church in our region. We could never have imagined the sudden change and extraordinary demands that would face our Church in 2020.

This Annual Report shares some of the stories that will forever be remembered as we embraced change and answered the call to carry out our mission – to gather and distribute resources in support of the Archdiocesan vision – in an extraordinary way.

These have undoubtedly been challenging times, but we are so grateful to the pastors, parishioners, donors, and supporters whose generosity helped us respond to the crisis. Together, we provided direct online assistance to more than 100 parishes and raised \$500,000 in emergency response funds to provide vital assistance to parishes, schools and social service ministries across our Archdiocese.

St. Paul tells us that “God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather of power and love and self-control.” Throughout 2020, the clergy, religious, and laity in our Archdiocese brought hope and consolation when it was so urgently needed. The HBF was honored to offer support and assistance during this time.



We are incredibly grateful to our pastors, volunteers, and donors who made these grants possible, and to our parishes, schools and ministries for their resilience as they continued to faithfully serve our communities in the midst of the pandemic. As we emerge stronger from this crisis in 2021, we look to the future with great optimism, and faith, including for the success of the *Forward with Faith* capital campaign.

With your prayers and support, we will continue to make transformative investments in our communities and build upon the long-term vibrancy of our local and Archdiocesan-wide Church.

May God bless you and your loved ones as we move forward with faith, together.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,



+ Leonard P. Blair
Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair, S.T.D.
President
The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.



James C. Smith
James C. Smith
General Chair
The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc.

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 2016, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3), forward-thinking nonprofit dedicated to advancing the mission of the Archdiocese of Hartford. This is achieved by supporting the Church's mission within the wider context of the spiritual, social, and material well-being of Catholics in Hartford, New Haven, and Litchfield counties.

WHAT WE DO

The HBF evokes Hartford's secular bishops and revolutionary business and finance leaders. The HBF engages business, government, and other community leaders to assist the Archdiocese in promoting the common good.

HOW WE DO IT

The HBF carries out its mission by encouraging philanthropy and strategically investing in parishes, schools, ministries, and services that are integral to the Archdiocese's vibrancy and long-term sustainability. The HBF conducts the *Forward with Faith* Campaign comprising of four funding initiatives including Vibrant Parishes, Educating to Reignite the Faith, Champions in Service to Others, and Innovation and Emerging Opportunities.

WE'RE BECOMING CHANGEMAKERS IN FOUR KEY AREAS

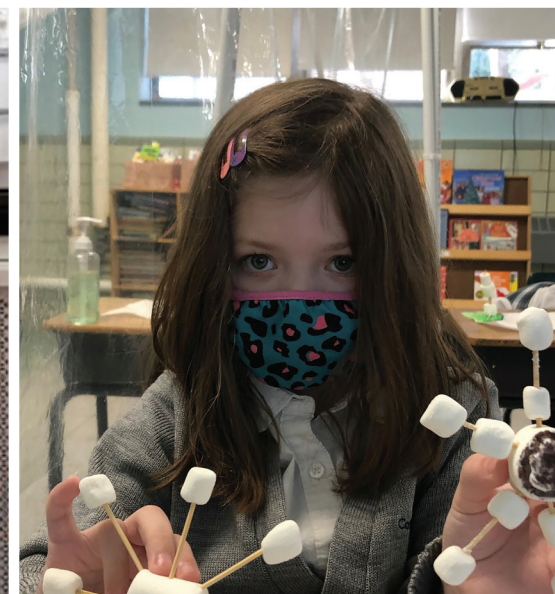
ENSURING VIBRANT PARISHES

EDUCATING TO REIGNITE THE FAITH

CHAMPIONS IN SERVICE TO OTHERS

INNOVATION AND EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

Our *Forward with Faith* capital campaign, formally launched in 2019, focuses on four areas of investment. Our services enable a sustainable future in Church life, education, charity, and social engagement for the good of all.



2020 LOOKING BACK

After a brief pause during the pandemic, the *Forward with Faith* campaign resumed in September to ensure our long-term investment in the spiritual and financial wellbeing of our parishes, schools and ministries. Sixteen parishes actively engaged in Block 2 of the campaign during this time, leveraging ZOOM meetings and social distancing to overcome the barriers we have faced due to COVID-19. Our supporters responded very generously with the average gift doubling throughout Block 2.



Parish Spotlight:

A Special Celebration for the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Waterbury started its campaign with big plans to increase church accessibility through the installation of an elevator and a vision to convert its lower church space into a new Parish Center. In addition to exceeding its fundraising goal, this parish celebrated the Beatification of Father Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. Father McGivney said his very first Mass at Immaculate Conception and his feast day will be observed August 13 in the Archdiocese of Hartford.

\$236,350
CT GOLF CLASSIC

\$2.4 MILLION
GRANTED IN 2020

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE IN WEST HARTFORD RECEIVED FUNDING TO SUPPORT TECHNOLOGY IN ITS CLASSROOMS.

"Your thoughtful and significant contribution will directly support the education of students this year while also providing fiscal relief for our school. It also ensures a healthy and safe learning environment during this pandemic."

Together, we will get through this uncertain time and, in the process, bring the immeasurable gift a Catholic education to our students that will last a lifetime."

– Colleen Whitty DiSanto,
Principal, St. Thomas the Apostle School



Fifth graders at St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Hartford

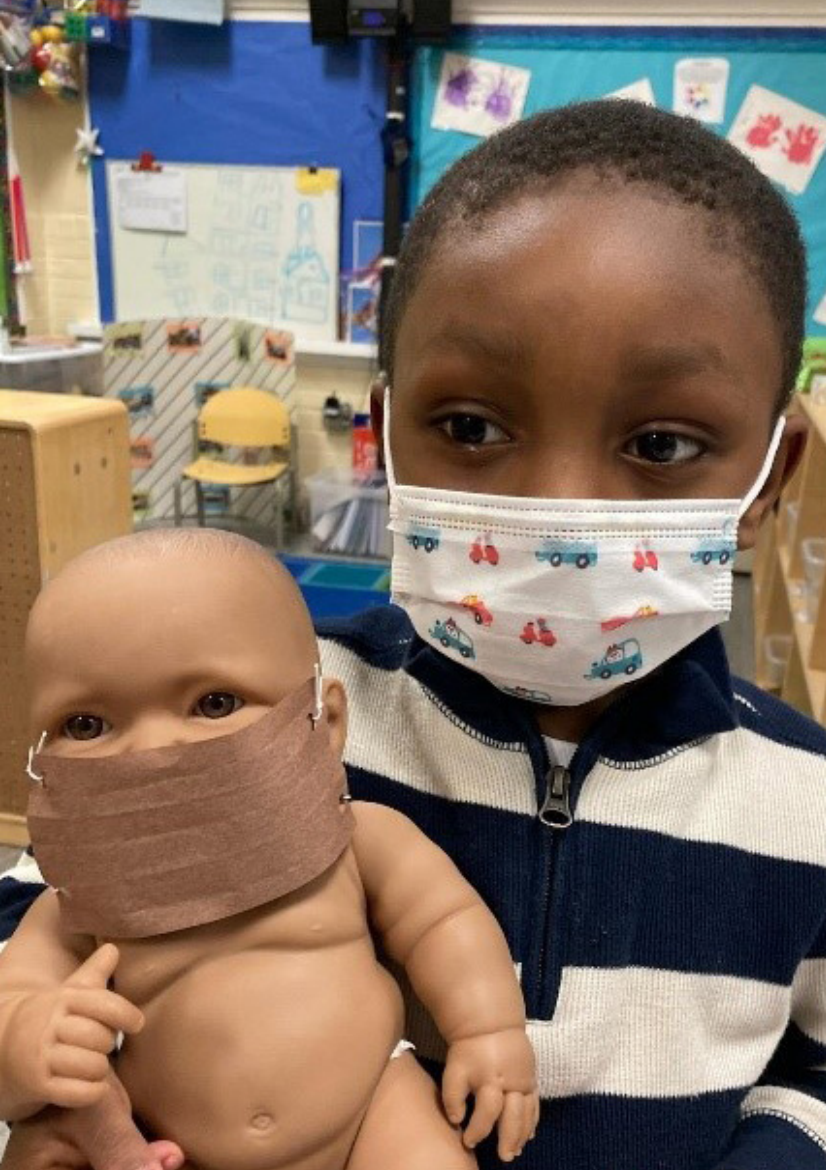
EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND DISBURSEMENTS

More than 30 parishes and ministries have received \$500,000 in grants from The Hartford Bishops' Foundation for emergency and operational needs in response to COVID-19.

When sacramental life paused in March, HBF established an Emergency Response Fund to gather and distribute emergency funds to mitigate operating losses experienced by parishes and ministries.

Through these funds, the HBF directed emergency grants, providing vital services to individuals with the greatest need.

HBF also partnered with the Archdiocese of Hartford and quickly offered technical assistance to more than 100 parishes, helping to set up online giving, live streaming Masses, and parish social media channels.



“

ST. MARY MAGDALEN SCHOOL RECEIVED A GRANT FROM HBF TO SUPPORT IN-SCHOOL LEARNING.

“This grant has helped us offset the significant cost of maintaining a clean and safe environment. Beginning last summer our principal, faculty and staff have been working hard to provide a safe environment for in-person learning for our students. This grant helps us to meet the pandemic protocols and allows us to move forward with the work of educating our students.”

– Rev. Anthony J. Smith, Administrator, St. Mary Magdalen Church and School, Oakville

“

ST. JOHN FISHER CHURCH RECEIVED FUNDING FOR ITS TEEN INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT AND EDUCATE YOUNG CATHOLICS.

“We believe, that now more than ever, the Church needs to be investing in our young people and providing them with the tools to actively live their faith. Our hope is that our program will provide an opportunity for teens to not only gain valuable life skills, but also to realize that these skills are critical to live a fruitful Catholic life. We are excited that, with support from The Hartford Bishops’ Foundation, we will offer this innovative program to our young people during an incredibly challenging time.”

– Jennifer O’Neill, Director of Confirmation, Youth Ministry and Adult Formation, St. John Fisher Church, Marlborough

“

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH RECEIVED FUNDING FROM HBF TO ENHANCE ITS ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARISH FAMILIES AND HOST VIRTUAL FAITH FORMATION CLASSES, RETREATS AND NUMEROUS OTHER ACTIVITIES.

“The Hartford Bishops’ Foundation’s ‘Innovation Grant’ has enabled our parish to establish a digital hub with online faith formation programs, resources and activities for families of all ages to access from home. More importantly, our ability to communicate with families via text messaging and email newsletters will help drive church attendance and enrollment in our faith formation program. We are very thankful for the Foundation’s support which has helped us move forward with redesigning faith formation at St. Thomas.”

– Wanda J. Mascola, Director of Faith Formation, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Oxford

“

FUNDING FROM HBF PROVIDED STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF WATERBURY WITH LAPTOPS AND TOUCH-SCREEN DEVICES TO ENABLE SAFE IN-PERSON AND DISTANCE LEARNING.

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart to Archbishop Blair and The Hartford Bishops’ Foundation. Our staff and students will reap invaluable benefits as a result of the generous grant we received for our technology. In these difficult times, the quintessentially Catholic education we promise to our students is possible because of you. God bless you!”

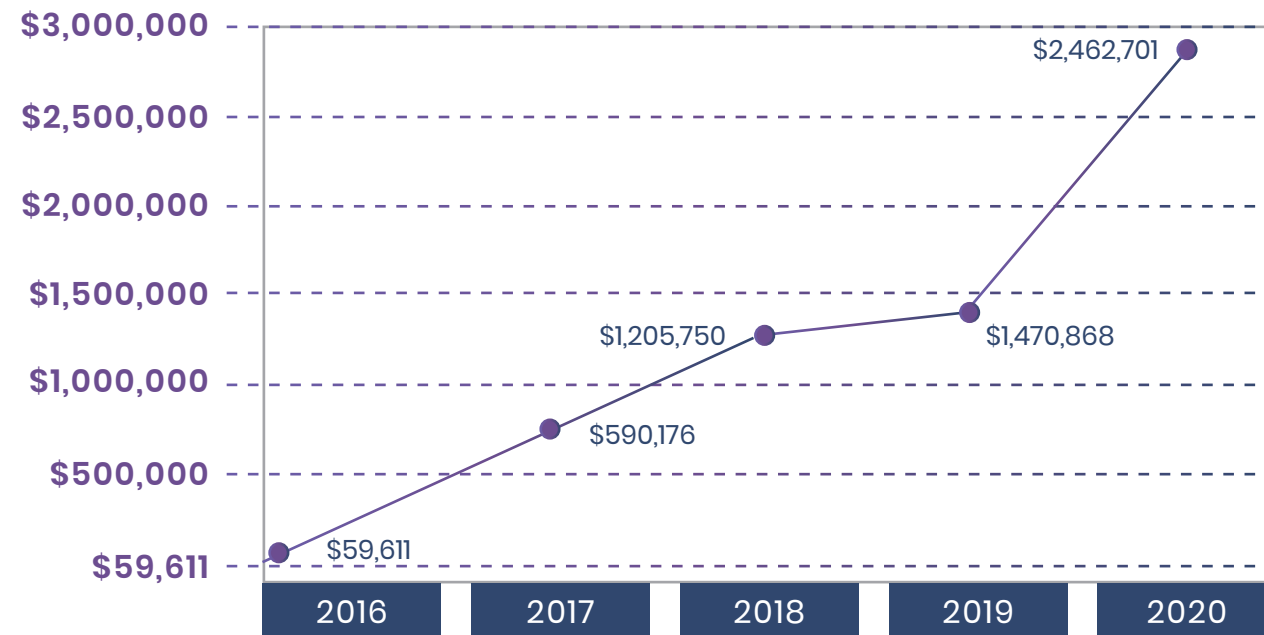
– Christa Chodkowski, Principal, Catholic Academy of Waterbury



2020 IMPACT REPORT

Since its founding, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation has awarded more than \$5.7 million in grants to Catholic and community-based initiatives across the region. This year was the largest grantmaking year since HBF was founded in 2016. Thanks to supporters of the *Forward with Faith* Campaign, more than \$2.4 million was awarded in 2020 to support local community needs, innovative new Catholic education and evangelization programs, and COVID-19 emergency response services across Litchfield, New Haven and Hartford Counties.

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTIONS



INVESTMENTS IN VIBRANT PARISH COMMUNITIES

Over **\$1.2 million** was distributed in direct rebates to parish communities for their own local needs in 2020. These funds provided vital resources to parishes for faith formation and evangelization programs, technology, capital needs, social service outreach, and other important local initiatives. In addition to the parish rebates, the remaining grants distributed by The Hartford Bishops' Foundation throughout 2020 in support of innovation, Catholic education, social services, and emergency needs are flowing back into the parish communities to support their long-term vibrancy.

\$28.5M

\$28.5 MILLION

Raised in pledges and cash to support HBF through *Forward with Faith*.
*Includes \$2.4M from outside sourced campaign.

60

60 PARISHES & MINISTRIES

Received a grant or support from HBF.

31

31 PARISHES & MINISTRIES

Received support from the Emergency Response Fund for emergency and operational needs in response to COVID-19.

\$5.7M

\$5.7 MILLION

Given in grants from The HBF since inception.

10

10 CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

Received 2020 Light of Christ Teacher Recognition Awards for excellence in teaching, learning, innovation and collaboration granted through our partnership with OEEC.

16

16 BLOCK 2 PARISHES

Launched *Forward with Faith* in 2020.

32

32 PARISHES & MINISTRIES

Were awarded 2020 Innovation Grants to promote new, creative programming in Catholic school classrooms, parish faith formation and youth ministry programs granted through our partnership with OEEC.





2020 CT GOLF CLASSIC

The 2020 Hartford Bishops' Foundation's Connecticut Golf Classic grossed \$236,350 to establish a stationary medical clinic for Malta House of Care, a nonprofit health organization. Malta provides free primary healthcare to uninsured adults on a clinic van that visits four Hartford-area neighborhoods per week. The new brick-and-mortar medical clinic will enable Malta to more than double the number of patients it serves.

Thank you to our Title Sponsor, Stanley Black & Decker, and Presenting Sponsors, Webster Bank and Tomasso Group. The event also would not have been possible without the leadership and support of our Golf Chair and HBF Board Member, John Chapman.



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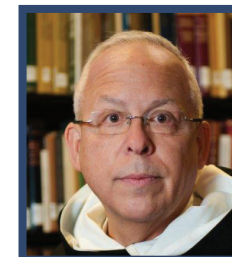


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