

**Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Finance Council
Minutes of March 7, 2003 Meeting**

Present: Archbishop Dolan, Bishop Skiba, Mark Doll, Patricia O'Donoghue, Rev. Phil Reifenberg, Wayne A. Schneider, Sr. Janet Senderak, SSND, Joseph Terrian, Rev. Donald Thimm

Excused: Thomas Bausch, T. Michael Bolger, Joan Braun

Recording Secretary: Kim Stollenwerk

The Archbishop noted that the Catholic Stewardship Appeal (CSA) has exceeded its goal of \$7 million in collected funds. Also, there has been much positive feedback on the financial statement package that went out to all registered Catholics in the diocese. Wayne said that he received only 6 phone calls and letters with questions. The Question and Answer section on the statements seems to have answered most everyone's questions and concerns.

Cathedral Project – Women's Assessment Center

A single gift of \$115,000 was received. Some major donors may be on the horizon. The building project is going well and is on schedule to be completed by the deadline.

Capital Campaign

The Archbishop has been advised by some people to have a capital campaign sooner, rather than later. He is somewhat reluctant to start a campaign while he is still considered a newcomer. He will make a decision after September 1, when he has been here a full year. The last capital campaign for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee fell far short of expectations. Most of the funds received in that campaign were earmarked for specific needs, and very little was left unrestricted for general use by the diocese. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee does not have an endowment and a capital campaign may be the vehicle needed to start one. The primary focus of the campaign, as the Archbishop sees it now, would be Education (tuition assistance and teacher salaries), charity and an endowment fund.

Cemeteries

Several cemetery employees sent a packet to Human Resources raising issues such as employee conduct and complaint calls on the condition of the cemeteries. The "new" management has been in place for 6 years and began enforcing the rules on flowers and decorations at that time. Admittedly, the enforcement was not handled properly, however, it seems that this has resolved for the most part. Most of the issues that now remain are internal employee/management problems. The Archbishop has received calls from pastors who have heard complaints from parishioners and funeral directors. Joe Sankovich is a consultant working with us to alleviate these problems. The cost of this consultation is \$40,000. He has been in our offices for the past two weeks. Wayne and other Archdiocesan officials have some concerns about his objectivity in these matters. The cemetery division is our largest remote staffing area. They have probably not been given adequate oversight from a management perspective. The cemeteries are not separately incorporated; they are part of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee corporation. They are under

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