

A large, stylized green tree graphic with thick branches and leaves, set against a white background. The tree is positioned on the left side of the page, with its trunk and main branches extending towards the right.

gift GROWING
IN FAITH
TOGETHER



THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF OTTAWA
CASE FOR SUPPORT
MARCH 31, 2011

PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord our God, creator of heaven and earth,

You *create* the fruit of the land to sustain our families and neighbours,

You *nurture* the church, loving communities of faith, deepening our relationship with you and with one another,

You *offer* us the gift of baptism and the sacrament of Christ's body and blood so that we may be fed and filled with your Holy Spirit,

You *bless* us with generous hearts so that we may support the outcast, the hungry, the sick and all those who long for intimacy with Jesus,

You *fill* us with determination to be mindful of the ministry and mission to which we are called,

And you *call* us to generous support of our parishes, diocese and the wider church,

Blessed are you O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

Amen.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

God has blessed us with so many gifts. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to offer the gifts entrusted to us to further the mission of Christ's church, both in the Diocese of Ottawa and beyond.



At each diocesan synod, I am uplifted by report after report of the great work being undertaken in our parishes, community ministries and through our national church. Yet God calls us to give more. Our Diocesan Strategic Plan approved by Synod in 2007 is only funded through the end of 2012. With this fact in mind, in October 2010, Synod endorsed a diocese-wide financial stewardship initiative to raise \$12,000,000, to be pledged over a five-year period. I am excited to introduce this initiative to you as "*Growing in Faith Together*" or, simply put, **GIFT**.

GIFT asks each member of our church to make a gift over and above regular offerings to seed and support *new ministries* resulting from our strategic plan – ministries that require *new money* and *fresh human resources*. It's been decades since a fund-raising campaign of this importance has been established.

I am committed to the premise that the parish is the best place for ministry to unfold; therefore our parishes remain our first priority. Through **GIFT**, parishes will retain 50% of all funds raised, and will not incur any campaign consulting or administrative costs. In addition, many of the diocesan initiatives are specific to support parish life.

Our plan for the future includes: strengthening congregations, focusing ministry outward, educating leaders, and connecting with the wider church. The plan will ensure vibrant parish life, respond faithfully to human need, train our leaders, address the struggles of the Church in the North, increase funding for relief and development, and support pastoral care for our troops.

Clearly, the bar has been set high. This exciting case for new money is our challenge – for your parish, our Diocese and the wider church. The demand for compassionate and creative ministry is compelling. We are blessed with so much – food, housing, security and the freedom to practice our faith. I ask each and every one of you to embrace **GIFT** by responding generously. We are called to grow in faith together, freely giving so that our Diocese can respond to God's call to accomplish more.

The Rt. Rev. John H. Chapman

Bishop of Ottawa

DIRECT TO PARISHES

\$ 6,000,000

Our parishes face various daily financial challenges. Your **GIFT** will support your parish as you strive to meet, head-on, the unique ministry to which you are called. Each parish will prepare an individual case, detailing its unique needs. Your parish will have the opportunity to establish new and exciting ministries, revitalize existing ones, resource local outreach initiatives, and update facilities for continuing parish life.

Parishes will retain half (50%) of all the funds they raise, and 100% of all funds raised through **GIFT** in excess of the parish campaign goal.

\$6,000,000 of the total **GIFT** campaign goal is allocated for parishes.

“... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

(Matthew 5:16)

As 21st century Anglicans in the Diocese of Ottawa we have one foot firmly planted in ancient tradition and the other stepping boldly into God's future.

In 2006, our Synod approved the following mission: *to enable people to know Jesus Christ, to live and share the good news, to grow in faith, and to serve God's world.* To bring reality to this mission, we must acknowledge the rapid changes in society and their impact on our many ministries.

"As a form of ministry, fund-raising is as spiritual as giving a sermon, entering a time of prayer, visiting the sick, or feeding the hungry."

- Henri Nouwen

We remain faithful to God revealed to us as the Holy Trinity. We are committed to be stewards of all creation. We offer our many blessings to God to enable the ministry entrusted to us. We resolve to think strategically and to discern prayerfully how we can most effectively and faithfully serve God and neighbour.

As parishes in one diocesan household, we embrace the challenge of turning our vision into practical reality - a call to expand our ministries in four key mission areas:

- Strengthening Congregations
- Focusing Ministries Outward
- Educating Leaders
- Connecting with the Wider Church

The following pages detail the initiatives we will take to realize our mission through *Growing in Faith Together - the **GIFT** campaign.* You will learn how your parish and our diocese will grow together through outreach initiatives in our region, our nation, and beyond. Please read this material and participate fully in this program as it arrives in your parish. Prayerfully consider what **GIFT** you will make to *Growing in Faith Together.*

GIFT embraces the heart of our mission, the heart of the gospel and, in fact, the very heart of God. Together we are now responding in new and practical ways, being faithful to our ancient inheritance in a time of rapid change.

Funding Overview

Direct Support to Parishes	\$ 6,000,000
Diocesan Strategic Initiatives	
Strengthening Congregations	\$ 1,200,000
Focusing Ministry Outward	\$ 1,400,000
Educating Leaders	\$ 1,100,000
Connecting with the Wider Church	\$ 1,100,000
Campaign Expenses	\$ 1,200,000
Total	\$ 12,000,000

1

STRENGTHENING CONGREGATIONS

\$ 1,200,000

Growing in faith together occurs every Sunday morning – with hundreds of people or just a few. Across the diocese, thousands of us gather around different altars in different places at different times to celebrate what God has accomplished for us in Jesus. From these gatherings, we go forth into the world to share the good news of the Gospel. Our congregations are the heartbeat of our life together in this changing world. Our mission to strengthen congregations is two-fold: to ensure the vibrancy of our parishes, and to focus on children and youth.

Parish Vitality / \$ 600,000

Are you a member of a potential rural “final generation” church? Or in an urban parish, struggling to engage young adults? The Parish Growth and Renewal Committee (PGRC) currently addresses these and other challenges when invited into parishes, but funding for this work will run out in 2012. New funding will employ individuals known as Parish Life Missioners who will be accountable to the Bishop, work with the PGRC, and be sent to work with parishes. Without this significant investment, many parishes will languish in isolation in the face of decline and uncertainty. New funding will ensure we grow together, strengthening congregations and setting a course for a faithful and effective future.

A New Ministry for Changing Times

Parish Life Missioners will be employed in the diocese and assigned to parishes to:

- Provide Interim Ministry
- Offer Small Church Coaching
- Assist Parishes Through Times of Crisis
- Facilitate Strategic Thinking, Visioning, and Planning

“Jesus said, ‘Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.’”

(John 12:24)

How will you notice the difference?

- Vibrant Parish Youth Ministries
- More Cooperation Between Parishes
- Diocese-Wide Events
- Leader Training
- Regional Ministry Networks
- Mission Trips

“Young people today are looking for a soul-shaking, heart-waking, world-changing God to fall in love with and if they don’t find it in church, they will settle for lesser gods elsewhere. In short, they are seeking what we all are seeking, unless, as adults, we have forgotten or given up!”

– Kenda Creasy Dean,
Youth Ministry Scholar

Children and Youth / \$ 600,000

There is no higher priority than ensuring that our young people grow together in a faith that will sustain them throughout their lives. We urgently need to invest more in our children and youth. We get excited when young people come together to celebrate their faith, whether it’s seventy young people gathering for an evening of worship, pizza and creative expression, or one hundred and fifty adults and youth gathering for an open-mic night in aid of a mission trip to Nicaragua. Increasing our support of ministry amongst children and youth will fill a funding deficit to ensure that our diocesan youth worker’s position remains full-time beyond 2012. New money will also enable us to build on recent successes, increasing support for parish and regional youth ministry. We will expand our ability to train parish leaders and staff. Parish youth leaders from across our diocese will form bonds of mutual support and develop creative responses to the work entrusted to them. The possibilities are endless – strengthening our congregations more than we can ask or imagine.

Strengthening Congregations

Parish Vitality	\$ 600,000
Children and Youth	\$ 600,000
Total	\$ 1,200,000

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FOCUSING MINISTRY OUTWARD

\$ 1,400,000

In the hallway to our Bishop's office hangs a beautiful piece of calligraphy with the words, "Serving the World God Loves." These words echo our church's vision and mission to be the Body of Christ in the world. Central to our strategic plan is the allocation of significant funds to enhance, increase and focus our ministries beyond our individual parishes.

Diocesan Community Ministries / \$ 500,000

We know from experience that great things can emerge from humble beginnings. A few cots in a church hall have grown into our region's largest shelter provider for vulnerable women, Cornerstone/Le Pilier. Similar stories are told of the beginnings of Centre 454, The Well and the Ottawa Pastoral Centre. Community Ministries have, in many ways, become the public face of our church to the world. These ministries continue their critical work of service, justice, hospitality, and advocacy. New money from our diocesan family will enable our Community Ministries to respond to current needs that could not otherwise be funded.

Parish Outreach Initiatives / \$ 600,000

Does your town need a youth drop-in centre? Are you in a community where many seniors are isolated and alone? Perhaps parents in your neighborhood are asking for a homework club? Imagine how your parish could respond concretely to a social need in your community.

The inspiring example of our Community Ministries calls us to work together in serving the world God loves - from the Seaway to the Upper Ottawa Valley, from West Quebec to Lanark County. Following the approval of our Diocesan Strategic Plan in 2007, we set aside \$30,000 a year to seed outreach initiatives across our diocese. Again, this funding ends in 2012. Without re-establishing and expanding this fund, we will be unable to support parishes that are best placed to respond to needs in their communities. With this new money, we will provide services, resources and funding for existing and new programs. By sharing these costs, we will support one another and experience new ways of being church.

Emerging Needs

- Chaplaincy Services
- Employment Training
- Weekend Hours
- Facility Enhancements
- Arts Programming

Projects Funded to Date

- Homework Club (Long Sault)
- Cornerstone Landing Shelter (Perth)
- Covenant Chain Links (Almonte)
- Meal Program (Stittsville)

“Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

(Proverbs 31:8-9)

“Go to the World! Go struggle, bless and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day. As servant Church, you follow Christ’s own way. Alleluia! Alleluia!”

(Sylvia Dunstan. Go to the World. Common Praise, Hymn # 598)

The Bishop’s Child Poverty Initiative / \$ 300, 000

Bishop John Chapman’s challenge to respond to child poverty captures our imagination. Poverty is a complex issue, impacting education, housing, employment and food distribution. A Spirit-led vision is emerging from within us to help break the cycle of poverty that often continues into adulthood. A Diocesan Task Force is now determining how our church can best address this social problem. Setting new money aside will demonstrate our commitment to the alleviation of child poverty. We will bring the voice, experience and resources of our Church to shape and influence advances in advocacy, direct service and public policy. By partnering with other established groups, we will play a relevant role to ensure that children receive their just portion of God’s abundant creation.

Focusing Ministry Outward

Diocesan Community Ministries	\$ 500,000
Parish Outreach Initiatives	\$ 600,000
The Bishop’s Child Poverty Initiative	\$ 300,000
Total	\$ 1,400,000

3

EDUCATING LEADERS

\$ 1,100,000

Responding to pressure and on Jethro's advice, Moses reorganized community life in the wilderness for the Hebrews, ensuring shared responsibility. The Book of Acts tells us that the Apostles re-structured the early church in response to emerging community needs by creating the first deacons. Innovative and faithful leadership is part of our biblical tradition and is critical to our Christian community, especially in times of change. Whether lay or ordained, staff or volunteer, we need leaders equipped to empower us in our baptismal life, so that together we can continue to bequeath the gift of our faith to future generations.

Lay Leadership Development / \$ 400,000

Vestry is over and you find yourself a member of parish council, a newly minted warden, a facilities team leader, a prayer team coordinator, or a new outreach project leader. Providing support, training, and mentoring to lay leaders is critical to a faithful and renewed future for the church. An intentional approach to *Lay Leadership Development* is underway, with the offering of workshops for lay readers, wardens and treasurers, but broader investment in this vital strategic area is critical. We will expand regional training events and provide scholarships to those wishing to delve deeper into developing the skills required for effective church leadership. As leadership needs in each parish differ, we will work closely with parishes to assess educational needs, and to bring opportunities to where they're most needed - your community. By working together to develop local approaches to local leadership challenges, our parish communities will fill their toolboxes with the skills needed to embrace the future together.

Supporting Curacies / \$ 450,000

Fresh out of school and newly ordained, with lots to offer and much to learn, Assistant Curates benefit greatly from a teaching parish and a mentoring Incumbent. Parishes, in turn, receive the blessing of creative ideas and fresh energy. Our diocese reaps the harvest for years to come because a healthy curacy is critical to an effective ministry. Financially supporting curacies as a diocesan family will allow flexibility in the appointment of the newly ordained. This investment reduces the financial burden on parishes and results in more parishes being able to afford an Assistant Curate. Supporting curacies in this new way will play a key role in the early education and development of our ordained leaders. This initiative is long overdue and will benefit us all.

How will you notice the difference?

- Scholarships for:
 - Degree & Certificate Programs
 - Continuing Ed Opportunities
- Training for:
 - Evangelism
 - Conflict Resolution
 - Leading Change
 - New Church Start-ups

"My curacy was an opportunity to take the theological concepts of my training and to apply them authentically and practically in real-world situations. I cannot imagine beginning my ordained life without the benefit of that experience."

- The Rev. Jon Martin

“For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.”

(2 Timothy 1:6-7)

“One of my dreams is to have the resources at hand to continue to have one of the most skilled, gifted and faithful groups of clergy that the Church of God has to offer to the world.”

- Bishop John Chapman

Clergy Formation / \$ 250,000

A postulant - someone recognized by the Bishop as a potential new priest - has freely offered herself or himself to the service of God's church, yet more often than not, the cost of education results in significant debt after ordination. We must increase financial support for postulants in our diocese - new money will increase academic scholarships and summer internship stipends. In the years that follow ordination, the realities of ministry evolve. Clergy are challenged to remain spiritually rooted while providing renewed leadership in the parishes they serve. New skills to navigate transitions, resolve conflict, preach, teach, and explore partnerships are key to developing and sustaining clergy leadership for a new century. Complementing existing funding for self-directed learning, these new funds will support postulants and enable ongoing clergy formation for emerging parish needs.

Educating Leaders

Lay Leadership Development	\$ 400,000
Supporting Curacies	\$ 450,000
Clergy Formation	\$ 250,000
Total	\$ 1,100,000

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CONNECTING WITH THE WIDER CHURCH \$ 1,100,000

As Anglican Church of Canada (ACC) members, we are part of a worldwide communion with a rich and varied ministry. Anglicans are actively engaged nationally and internationally to meet the challenges of our times. Working in consultation with the ACC, our diocese has identified specific ministries which need critical funding.

Ministry in the North / \$ 750,000

Congregations in remote northern communities, in particular, those of indigenous peoples, face overwhelming demands in sustaining pastoral and sacramental ministry. Together we continue a journey of healing, reconciliation, and self-determination for Anglican Aboriginal ministry. Yet, at the same time, many clergy in the Canadian north work for little, if any, salary or stipend. Another major challenge in Council of the North dioceses is assisting individuals, families and whole communities with the suicide epidemic, especially among young people. Our Church is integral to providing improved pastoral responses to suicide and suicide prevention. Additional funding will set money aside for clergy stipends and enable the Church to convene regional training workshops for clergy and lay leaders located in areas with a high suicide rate.

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund / \$ 200,000

Our parishes have a long history of consistent support of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), making our diocese one of the largest funding providers to this critical ministry. Increasingly, the PWRDF provides assistance in response to natural disasters, both nationally and internationally. Many of us recall making a Sunday offering to the PWRDF in support of recent disaster relief. The core PWRDF development programs require our continued support. This new fund will allow our diocesan family to respond in a timely manner to emerging and ongoing needs identified in consultation with PWRDF leadership.

"St. Matthew's is partnering with the Suicide Prevention Program and has donated over \$30,000 to date. Our continued involvement includes prayer, education, and fundraising. It is wonderful that our diocesan family is coming together to respond to this cycle of poverty and despair and to support the building of healthy, thriving communities filled with hope."

**- Bev Jensen, Past Chair,
St. Matthew's Outreach
Committee**

"A great First Nations elder said, recently, "In former times, our enemies were famine, war, and disease. Now we struggle against alcoholism, suicide, and poverty." Suicide has become one of the great spiritual battles of our time. It cannot be overstated the urgency and importance of this issue for Indigenous Peoples. For those who are a part of their communities, especially those who are called to serve in the Name of Jesus, this must be our priority. Our response will be the proof of our love and of our faithfulness to the way of Jesus. If we have no response, we can claim neither love nor faithfulness. May God give us all the grace to turn this around".

**- Bishop Mark MacDonald,
National Indigenous Anglican
Bishop**

“Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual edification.”

(Romans 14:19)

“Having served in the Diocese of the Arctic during the early years of my ordained life, I believe it is essential that we begin to redress the inequity regarding clergy stipends with our sisters and brothers in the north, who minister in extremely difficult circumstances.”

- **The Venerable Chris Dunn**

“I have been deeply moved by the resilience and spirituality of our chaplains. They are in the homes of military families, at the altar in every conceivable place, and really on the front lines of ministry.”

- **The Right Reverend Peter R. Coffin, Anglican Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Armed Forces**

Endowment of the Bishop Ordinary / \$ 150,000

Military chaplains face challenges unprecedented in our recent history. Providing care to our troops is their first priority. In keeping with our tradition, The Bishop Ordinary offers loving support and Episcopal oversight to 46 regular force clergy, 32 reserve force chaplains and about 20,000 Anglicans in the Forces – comparable in size to many Canadian dioceses. Historically, the Bishop Ordinary was a diocesan Bishop juggling many other responsibilities. Today, the Anglican Church of Canada supports the position on a part-time basis, though this funding is not sustainable. Our \$150,000 contribution to a larger \$1,000,000 endowment, will support the position of the Bishop Ordinary and enable this essential and unique ministry to be offered on a permanent basis.

Connecting with the Wider Church

Ministry in the North	\$ 750,000
The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund	\$ 200,000
Endowment of the Bishop Ordinary	\$ 150,000
Total	\$ 1,100,000

This is an exciting time for our Church. God entrusts us with an ancient message of good news that resonates in our time and forever. We, the parishes of the Diocese of Ottawa, commit ourselves to strengthening our congregations, focusing our ministry outward, educating our leaders, and connecting with the wider church.

GIFT enables us to accomplish these goals.

We are challenged to make our **GIFT** now to the life that God has envisioned for us. Our society is changing rapidly and we must urgently and swiftly respond to God's call. It is our time to step boldly into God's future plan.

You are asked to consider a sacrificial, meaningful, and proportional **GIFT**. As we make our **GIFT** pledges together, we can achieve, and even surpass, our five-year goal of \$12,000,000. Growing in faith together will empower us to share our faith with those around us and pass it on for generations to come. This is God's mission for us.

Thank you for prayerfully considering **GIFT**, and thank you in advance for your generous response.

“To do good and to distribute forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

(Hebrews 13:16 - Book of Common Prayer)

2011 GIFT CAMPAIGN Financial Goals Summary

Parishes	\$ 6,000,000
Strengthening Congregations	\$ 1,200,000
Parish Vitality	\$ 600,000
Children and Youth	\$ 600,000
Focusing Ministry Outward	\$ 1,400,000
Diocesan Community Ministries	\$ 500,000
Parish Outreach Initiatives	\$ 600,000
Bishop's Child Poverty Initiative	\$ 300,000
Educating Leaders	\$ 1,100,000
Lay Leadership Development	\$ 400,000
Supporting Curacies	\$ 450,000
Clergy Formation	\$ 250,000
Connecting with the Wider Church	\$ 1,100,000
Ministry in the North	\$ 750,000
PWRDF	\$ 200,000
Endowment of the Bishop Ordinary	\$ 150,000
Campaign Expenses	\$ 1,200,000
Professional Services (training & support)	\$ 645,000
Communications and Printing	\$ 200,000
Administration and Supplies	\$ 180,000
Contingency Costs	\$ 175,000
TOTAL	\$ 12,000,000

