



# Cabrini Notes

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## Manifesting the Life of Jesus

Our community has experienced many things in its history that bring us to this point, but one thing that has been constant is that, despite the lack of certain resources, the faith of so many has not waned. St. Paul faced many hardships but responded by saying: “We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body” (2 Cor. 4:8-10). Fr. Bob and I have said it before and we say it again: thank you for your perseverance and fortitude, and for all you have done and continue to do to support our parish.

The Bible speaks to us over and over again of how, when the people are down and distressed, God raises them up and shows forth his glory and power; “though we are afflicted..., we are not constrained.” The common theme in these narratives is *the resilient faith of the few*. In some places it’s referred to as the faithful remnant. By means of the few, God can do much if we persevere in faith!

We have reported to you recently in plain words, the challenges we face. The principal challenge is that our budget for this fiscal year shows a projected **loss** of around **\$140,000**. That is after two previous years of losing a total of more than **\$400,000**. As you can see, no one can run a business or a household in this way. The church is no different. The upcoming increased giving campaign, *In Giving, We Receive*, is an important step of facing our challenges with strength and faith. It’s our way of showing that ‘though we are struck down, we are not destroyed.’

However, along with the commitment to the parish, we need to remain faithful to the Diocese of Rochester as well. As we know, Bishop Matano has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy—in simple terms, that means that the claims against the diocese exceed the money that the diocese has available to pay them. What is available for claims has yet to be determined in the court system. Nevertheless, the Diocese of Rochester will have to continue its services such as supporting evangelization and catechesis in the parishes, celebrating confirmation and ordinations, maintaining pension funds for priests and employees, maintaining the tribunal to settle matters in regard to marriage and other issues of canon law (church law), and many other things.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) will begin again very soon. The diocese has notified us that our goal has not changed from last year. It is around \$50,000 and will support those things mentioned above. It is important that we continue to support this in the same way we have in the past.

Please pray for our bishop, our diocese, our parish and our mission to continue to serve people as ‘the hands of Christ in the heart of the city.’ Let us remember with St. Paul that, though we carry about in our bodies the dying of Jesus, we do this so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body so that God may be glorified and that others might come to know the love of God through us.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Mickey