



Since 1972  
Supporting charitable activities which  
promote the spirit of the Gospel of Jesus

December 2018

Dear Friend,

As we prepare for the birth of our Lord in this blessed season of Advent, please give to “**Catholic Strong**”, the 46<sup>th</sup> annual fundraising campaign of the Pillars Trust. If you’ve already given, “thank you” from the bottom of our hearts.

Why give to Pillars Trust? Because we are the sole fundraising organization for the 34 English-language Roman Catholic parishes in the Archdiocese of Montreal and we are on fire for Christ.

Everything we do, every cause we support, every dollar of your donation is aimed at growing the grassroots church in English-speaking Montreal and turning believers into disciples. In short, making our community “**Catholic Strong**”.

Here are a few of the great reasons to support Pillars Trust:

**We lead the way in local Parish Vitality initiatives.** Through direct funding and the efforts of our Parish Vitality Facilitator, Terrel Joseph, in 2018 Pillars Trust:

- funded parishioner surveys and helped direct parish renewal efforts at **St. Thomas à Becket**, **St. Willibrord** and **Holy Name of Jesus** parishes
- enabled **St. Ignatius of Loyola** parish to continue in the Divine Renovation Network, a world-wide parish renewal program
- funded, helped plan and presented at the **2018 Parish Vitality Conference** at Loyola High School run by the Office for English Pastoral Services.

**We support the faith education of our Catholic youth.** Pillars Trust funds the salaries of employees of the **Youth Ministry Office** (YMO) at the Archdiocese of Montreal and, in 2018, Pillars Trust helped the YMO send participants and volunteers to the **Decoding Love** conference, **Diocesan World Youth Day**, **Allez-Go Leadership** training for youth, the **2018 Youth Synod** meeting and the **Steubenville Toronto Youth Conference**. Pillars Trust also gives to the **Newman Centre**, the home of Catholic spiritual and intellectual life at McGill University.

**We support our priests.** In keeping with its longstanding tradition of financial support to the **Diocesan Priesthood Guild**, Pillars Trust is pleased and proud to support **four new seminarians** discerning their vocations to the priesthood. Our total cost to support the formation of these young men is likely to approach \$100,000.00. (Last year’s entire fundraising campaign netted approximately \$150,000.00.) While this is a nice problem to have, it’s the reason for this special appeal. We’ll absolutely need a big push from our donors to make this work.

We therefore call on St. John Mary Vianney (Curé of Ars), the patron saint of parish priests worldwide, to bless our efforts to raise these funds.

Please remember that when you donate to the Pillars Trust Fund, we all benefit. Your gift will ensure that these projects, and others like them, continue to garner the support they deserve.

Please be generous. Please be **“Catholic Strong”**.

Merry Christmas to you and yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John G. Murphy', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**John G. Murphy**  
President

**It is both convenient and fast to  
Donate online at [www.pillarstrust.org](http://www.pillarstrust.org)  
(Receive an immediate Tax Receipt for 2018)**

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