

DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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September 6, 2019

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to update you on the great success we had with our diocesan mission program called One Church: Unite Arkansas in Faith and Mission.

Since we launched this initiative in September 2018, parishes across the state supported the parishioners of St. Luke Church in Warren in a variety of ways, including donating funds to help build a new church. One Church contributions and other donations totaling nearly \$300,000 are allowing the new church building to be dedicated on November 23.

This year's success is the perfect example of how the parishes of our diocese can band together to give a growing parish a boost to becoming a thriving faith community. I am most thankful for your generosity.

Starting in September, the next *One Church* partnership will begin. Over these next 12 months, I ask each parish to support Holy Spirit Church in Hamburg. This community of hard-working families in Ashley County is a young parish. The church is limited in the ministries and outreach it can do because of its monthly loan payment for its new church and hall, which they have been using since 2013. Like a young family, the Holy Spirit community struggles to make ends meet. Their weekly collections at Mass are sufficient to pay the current bills, but that's about it. The parish dreams of being able to install a playground and do additional painting and carpeting in their building that was once a tire store.

It would be wonderful if all the parishes in our diocese could help raise \$160,000 to eliminate the mortgage for Holy Spirit Church. Beyond financial assistance, it would be great for parishes to think of other ways to help the church in Hamburg grow. One idea is medical, dental, or vision clinics to help with the health care needs of the people of Hamburg. I am encouraging pastors who are interested to contact their pastor Father Stephen Hart to see what creative ideas might work to build up not only the financial strength of Holy Spirit Church, but also its spiritual and social strength as well.

You can find out more about Holy Spirit Church and One Church by visiting dolr.org/one-church.

Please add One Church and Holy Spirit Church to your prayers. And thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Anthony B./Taylor Bishop of Little Rock