



## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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September 14, 2018

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This letter announces a new initiative in our Diocese called One Church: Unite Arkansas in Faith and Mission.

Arkansas is a missionary diocese and the Diocese of Little Rock is growing. Instead of agonizing over how to close churches, we face the happy challenge of how to build and expand parishes.

Many rural parishes have outgrown their buildings and these communities need our help.

A number of parishes have bold and generous overseas mission programs, serving in countries such as Haiti, Honduras, and Guatemala. We have opportunities in our own diocese for this missionary spirit to aid growing Arkansas communities.

Catholic Charities will be working with me to help build the Church in Arkansas. Each September, a growing parish will be selected to be adopted by the other parishes, to receive the assistance needed to get a leg up on their progress to become a thriving community. The needs of the adopted parish will vary from year to year and may include funding, labor to build and repair, supplies, and will always need prayerful support.

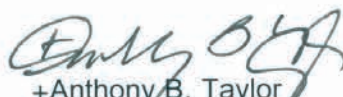
This year, St. Luke Church in Warren has been selected. This enthusiastic southeast Arkansas community is hampered by a church building that is too small for the number of parishioners. Further, the building is old and near the end of its usefulness. They have no parking lot. The religious education building is an old house and is so small they can only teach two classes at a time. And for other than Mass, parish functions must be held outside so that everyone is able to attend.

Consequently, the old farmers' co-op has been purchased and will be given life as the new St. Luke Church. This parish community needs a one-time boost to get a head start on paying for this venture. In the later stages of remodeling the repurposed building, there will be opportunities for work projects, such as interior finishing and exterior landscaping.

I ask each parish in the diocese find a way to help. Money may be raised through second collections or fundraising by organizations, such as youth groups. If every one of the 155,000 registered Catholics in the Diocese of Little Rock gives something, the mission will be successful. Find out more about St. Luke Church and how to support this new campaign by visiting [dolr.org](http://dolr.org) and viewing a short video.

God bless you and thank you in advance for your generosity and prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock