

# CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT STANFORD

Stewardship and Impact Report 2017-2018







## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT STANFORD

forms SERVANT LEADERS who  
encounter CHRIST,  
radiate the JOY OF THE GOSPEL,  
and TRANSFORM THE WORLD.

# MAKING IT POSSIBLE

*Thank you* for partnering on the mission to develop and cultivate human spirituality and Catholic faith here at Stanford: to counsel, teach, engage and inspire Catholics at Stanford so that they can in turn go out to inspire and lead others in the greater world. In fiscal year 2018\*, our community members addressed pressing issues of educating the heart as well as the mind, fostering growth, understanding and expressing Catholic faith, and demonstrated that intellectualism and spirituality are complementary, not mutually exclusive, pursuits.

The Catholic Community at Stanford (CC@S) offered opportunities for Stanford Catholics to deepen and nourish their spiritual growth—over 100 undergraduate, graduate student and permanent community members participated in Encounter Christ Small Groups. Through CC@S members' support, the number of students in one-on-one discipleship counseling was accelerated, there were two Ignite evenings for students to gather to listen to testimony, to sing praise and worship and sit in Adoration.

**You also made more possible.** We assisted the Catholic student leadership at the Graduate School of Business. We expanded our Encounter Christ Small Groups into the Law School. We promoted spiritual diversity and welcomed new members into the Catholic Church through infant baptism and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Through your generous donations of \$788,755 you offered opportunities for those at Stanford to grow spiritually, learn more about themselves, their gifts and their talents, and build community with others to do all of this and more. **It was a good year.**

\*July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018



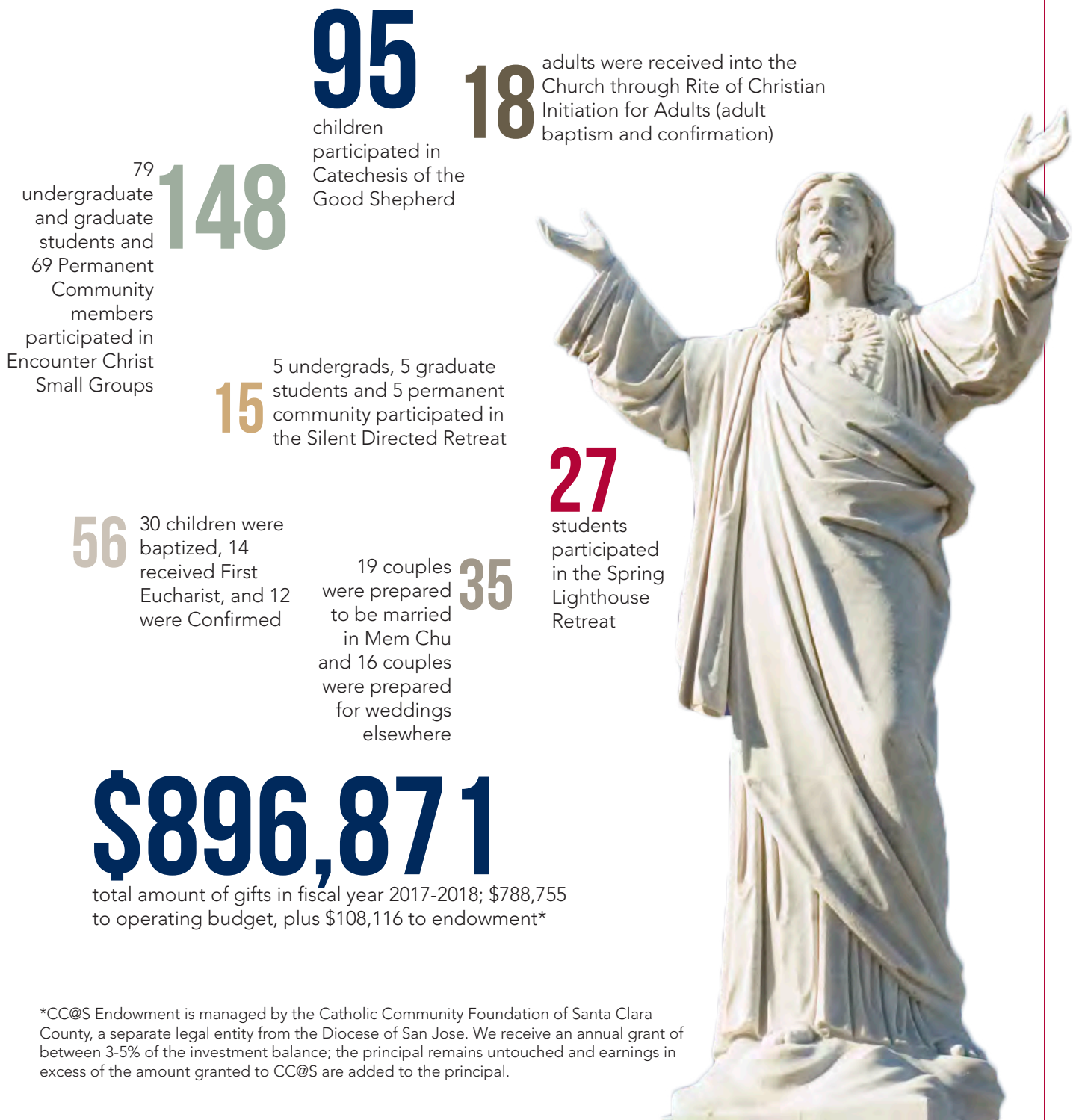


Photo credit:  
Ben Eloy

## **JOHN 13:14**

If I, therefore,  
the master and teacher, have  
**WASHED YOUR FEET**, you ought to  
**WASH ONE ANOTHER'S FEET.**

# YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK





# 2017-2018 AT A GLANCE

All we have and all that we are is a gift from God—our time, our talent, our treasure. We show our gratitude for these gifts by returning a portion of them back to God.

Your generous gifts of time, talent and treasure make disciples right here at Stanford who will go out and change the world, bringing God's Kingdom here on Earth.

The following pages provide a glimpse of the way CC@S supporters have made an impact not only on the Stanford students but also on others whom they will in turn touch in our world.









## **JOB 42:5**

I had heard of you by word of mouth, but  
**NOW MY EYE HAS SEEN YOU.**



# FORM SERVANT LEADERS WHO WILL ENCOUNTER CHRIST

by Alexa Melgoza '20

**Friend:** "Are you Catholic?"

**Me:** "Yes, I am."

**Friend:** "Why is it that Catholics....?"

**Me:** "I don't know."

Up until a few months ago, that was my answer for every question related to the Catholic faith. I had said 'yes' to my First Communion and 'yes' to my Confirmation. But, what was the point? What exactly did it really mean to be Catholic?

These questions did not prompt any significant effort to find the Truth—until college, that is. It started with a desire to belong, to be a part of a community.

That's when I came upon the first of many invitations to Encountering Christ, which manifested itself as a Small Group. Initially, I was nervous about "fitting in"—an experience quite typical of awkward freshmen like myself. But my worries and insecurities vanished, for it became one of the best decisions I've made at Stanford. It became a space where I could ask questions, meet people who were on the same journey, and explore the Word. Most importantly, my Small Group helped me see—and feel—God work around me. I didn't know it then, but I sensed what I later realized to be the Holy Spirit, moving in my small groups leaders. It reached out to me, fueling a desire to know more, feel more.

So, I sought out a priest and was blessed to have met Fr. Emmanuel, through which I received my second invitation. Fr. Emmanuel approached me one spring day, with his all-too-familiar grin and his iconic skateboard:

**Fr. Emmanuel:** "Why don't you come to our leadership meeting tonight?"

**Me:** "Oh...uhh sure, what's it about?"

**Fr. Emmanuel:** "Just come....you'll see," he said, still smiling (I laugh now, because I later found out that the event was, in fact, called "Come and See").

There, I witnessed an enlivening congregation of student leaders in the Catholic community and listened to their stories of the trials and triumphs embedded in their experiences of discipleship. Again, I felt the Holy Spirit moving around me. In fact, at Come and See, I came upon my third invitation to Encountering Christ when I met Lourdes, the Campus Minister at Stanford. With her help and guidance, I have been undergoing 1:1 Discipleship, through which I have been exploring my personal connection with Jesus using prayer and reflection and unraveling the answers to my burning questions.

Renewal. Healing. Unity. For me, this was the Dominican Institute for Student Ministers (DISM), a 3-day retreat for Catholic student leaders and campus ministers from western universities. Together we prayed, discussed, sang, and worshipped. I was fully immersed in the Spirit, captivated by the courage and wisdom in the people I met, by the beauty of personal prayer, and by our calling to spread the love we find in Jesus Christ.

I wouldn't say I found or discovered God. It was—and continues to be—about opening my eyes and recognizing Him in my life, for He has been here all along, working through the aforementioned individuals and leading me to this point in my spiritual life. I've said 'yes' before, and I will continue to say 'yes,' for I have been witness to God's abundant love. I look forward to this upcoming year and working with Stanford's Catholic Leadership Team so that others may too encounter and fall in love with Christ.





## **EVANGELII GAUDIUM**

**THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL** fills the hearts  
and lives of all who encounter Jesus.



# FORM SERVANT LEADERS WHO WILL RADIATE THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL

by Madi Kist '18

"Be where your feet are," said Sister Joannie, my high school campus minister, at my high school graduation. At the time, I did not quite understand what she meant by this. It wasn't until I was suddenly thrown into my new life at Stanford that I soon realized how important these words would be not only to my college experience but also to my relationship with Jesus.

Just a week before I began my future on the farm, I unexpectedly received an email from Kelsey, a current sophomore at Stanford and active member of the Catholic Community. She warmly welcomed me to the Stanford community and invited me to join her for Mass during my first weekend on campus. After that first weekend, however, I quickly became swept up into the whirlwind that is Stanford "Duck Syndrome," calmly swimming by on the surface with my feet furiously paddling away underneath. I was putting too much on my plate—rowing practice, chemistry tutoring, volunteering, research, student government. I didn't have time for Mass, for community, for prayer, for Jesus. I was just too busy.

However, my friend Kathleen extended yet another invitation to me my sophomore year—an invitation to join a small group. I was very hesitant to join, but she was persistent while continuing to meet me where I was at. I finally attended my first small group and was immediately welcomed with overwhelming support and a fire for Jesus. This small group was more than a typical Bible study—it was my home away from home. I re-encountered Christ, began my prayer life again, connected with the Spirit through scripture. I noticed how this small group was transforming everything else I was accomplishing at Stanford. Even my friends witnessed the positive changes. I was finally being present—being where my feet were.

During my junior year, I responded to God's call to lead my own small group, investing in others as others had invested in me. However, the temptation to start paddling furiously under the waterline crept back in as I struggled to get students to attend my small group. I knew God was challenging me to push deeper into my commitment to be a disciple of Christ. That was the moment I started 1:1 discipleship with Julie, a mentor from Evangelical Catholic (EC). Julie's investment in me allowed me to become grounded, inspired, acquainted with God at a much deeper level. It was through this spiritual direction in the art of discipleship that I was able to rise and become an effective small group leader. By the spring of my junior year, my small group was alive with the joy of the Word.

Finally, as I continued to lead my own small group as well as serve as the coordinator for all small groups my senior year, I realized that I would have never made it to my final year at Stanford or grown into who I am today without my small groups or my 1:1 discipleship. I knew that my ministry was only just beginning. I made the decision to stay as the EC Small Group Coordinator for Undergraduates for one year after graduation while also preparing for medical school.

This is just one story among many more that are currently being written and will continue to be written. None of this would have been possible without our permanent community's support in making our CC@S vision a reality. So thank you for giving me a fresh start. I hope you join me in continuing to give fresh starts to all current and future Stanford students who are lost and just need one soul to find them, one person to show them how to be where their feet are.





## POPE FRANCIS

Catholics must take the initiative **WITHOUT FEAR**,  
reach out to others, to seek those who are  
distant and to reach out to crossroads, to  
**INVITE IN THE EXCLUDED.**

# FORM SERVANT LEADERS WHO WILL TRANSFORM THE WORLD

by Dylan Griswold

Consolation and fortitude invigorated me as I walked into Memorial Church in the autumn of 2015 for the first time as Father X took command of the Holy Spirit and gave himself, a gift, to the congregation. I had just graduated from Williams that spring and was in need of a spiritual director for my new life as an 'adult.' I heard the Spirit's whisper confirm that Father X was to be my spiritual director.

I arrived in Palo Alto without a job, but sure that God wanted me there. I originally planned on applying to medical school the next year, but I heard God asking me to boldly trust Him. So I applied to Stanford in the beginning of October.

On October 9, I e-mailed Father X with the subject line, "Spiritual Direction." I walked into his office, and he, in what I now know to be his signature move, said nothing but greeted me with a smile that conveyed knowledge—not knowledge in an intellectual sense, but knowledge on a spiritual plane—a mutual harmonic resonance between us, tied through the eternal knowledge of the Holy Spirit.

That first meeting was the beginning of weekly, sometimes twice weekly, meetings that the Lord used to etch the shape of His Son upon my heart. I treasured these weekly meetings. Father X became my spiritual director, my confessor, and my friend. I took copious notes and reflected upon them during my three hours of commuting to and from UCSF each day where I was a research analyst in the neurosurgery department. I began sending a 'Meditation of the Day' text to my family and closest friend. This quickly grew and now reaches 5,000 people!

I characterize this chapter in my life as Abandonment to Divine Providence. The Lord continued to stretch my heart. By mid-January 2016 Matthew Decker and I were leading an Evangelical Catholic small group. We encouraged each other to pray and pray. God used us to show his love to our small

group, and he used our small group to teach us how to walk with humility and how to listen.

In February I was invited to interview at Stanford on the final day of interviews. To see God's hand ever more clearly in this story it is important to understand the improbability that I would attend Stanford for medical school. Roughly 8,000 students apply each cycle; the administration aims for a final class size of 85-95. I was not a competitive applicant by any means—so much so that my pre-med advisor at Williams told me the only way I would get into Stanford was if I fell in love with the daughter of the dean of admissions.

Yet, I retained a disproportionate level of optimism. I was almost sure that I was supposed to be at Stanford—certainly for medicine, even more so for evangelization. God was rooting me in the community and I had a strong sense that it was not to be a transient existence. Roots take time to grow and God was growing my roots into the Stanford community. On April 30, I received a call from Dean Gibbs offering me a place in the class of 2016. God had done the impossible; I was going to be at Stanford for at least another 4 years. I immediately texted Father X, "I'm in. We are infiltrating the med school!" And that's exactly what we've done.

The med school is a difficult environment for ministry, steeped in a progressive ideological framework devoid of God. I often come to my weekly meetings with Father X discouraged, burnt out, and irritated. Still, this last year we turned my room into a space for prayer. Father X bought us 4 full sets of The Liturgy of the Hours. A small community of students joined to pray Lauds in my room at 6:30 each morning.

As I return to campus it will be my fourth fall on campus, and third as a student. God continues to grow my roots. Father X continues to council me, to encourage me, and most importantly to remind me that I am the beloved son of the Father, with whom He is well-pleased.



# YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT 2018

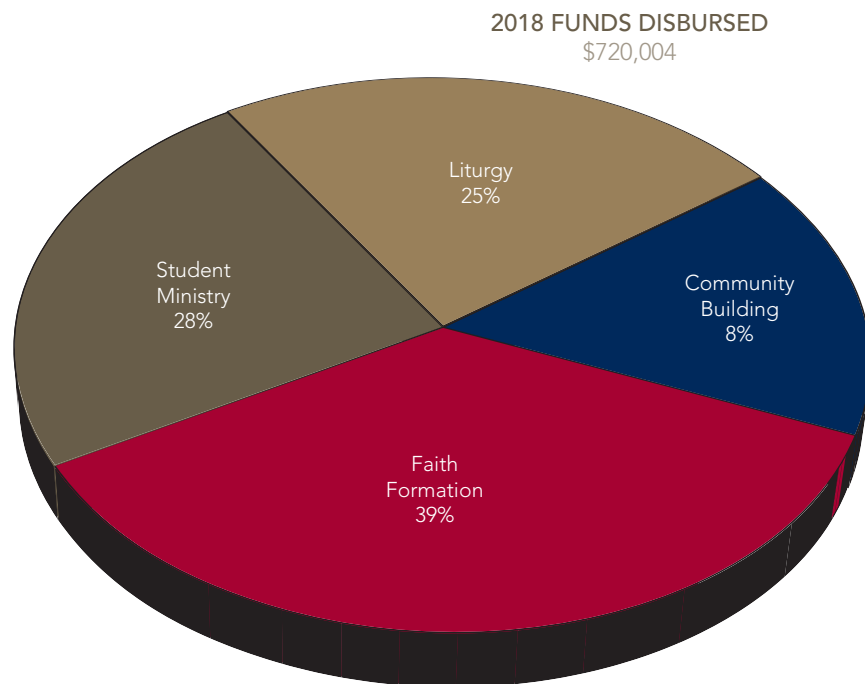
## FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018

For Fiscal Year 2018, we had revenues of \$1,044,525 and expenses of \$720,004 resulting in a net profit of \$341,540. Most of the surplus funds derive from a \$300,000 Special Gift which has been allocated to hiring increased personnel over the next several years.

| DESCRIPTION  | 2017-2018 BUDGET | 2017-2018 ACTUAL   |
|--|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>   |                  |                    |
| Collections (Sunday Plate and Holy Days)                             | \$73,790         | \$78,927           |
| Pledged Gifts  | \$166,125        | \$175,628          |
| General Fund   | \$162,147        | \$200,806          |
| Special Donations and Restricted Gifts                               | \$9,100          | \$325,013          |
| Stipends (Baptism, Weddings, Mass Stipends)                          | \$8,600          | \$8,384            |
| Fees (Children's Religious Education, Retreats, Wedding Preparation) | \$22,050         | \$21,735           |
| Quasi-Endowment at the Diocese*                                      | \$240,000        | \$234,032          |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>   | <b>\$681,812</b> | <b>\$1,044,525</b> |

\*The Quasi-Endowment is a separate fund treated as endowment by the Diocese, from which CC@S receives a quarterly income distribution. The Quasi-Endowment held at the Diocese is different from the CC@S Endowment held at the Catholic Community Foundation of Santa Clara County.





## A Glimpse of the Future

God showers His gifts on you daily in small moments of goodness, beauty and insight. But like all of God's gifts, you have to accept them gratefully, develop them responsibly, and share them lovingly if you are to return to the Lord with increase. You are stewards of God's gifts!

### FROM FR. XAVIER

Something wonderful is happening. More than I could have predicted!

It's easy to point to new personnel! Fr. Dominic DeLay, Fr. Bob McGlynn and intern Madi Kist. But more staff is not the goal! It is reaching more people.

Our mission is to form servant leaders who Encounter Christ, Radiate Joy and Transform the World. You are all leaders; you make an impact! But it is only joy that is truly transformative!

One GSB student said: I've just had this experience that God deeply loves me! ... Nothing can ever be the same again! ... Fear flies, smiles erupt, people are attracted, and lives are changed. But that joy of encountering Christ must lead to engagement with others if it is to take root and grow.

My dream is to make the Catholic Community a leadership school for engaging others: inviting, sharing, praying and pastoring. ... Faith is not a spectator sport; only the athlete experiences the real thrill.

I invite every member this year to take four risks!

#### JOIN A SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUP!

Praying and sharing lives empowers! Christ is in their midst! (Contact: Nancy Greenfield-Permanent Community; Lourdes Alonso-students)

#### MEET ONE-ON-ONE FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH!

Opportunities vary with more on the way. This year we will have two Silent Directed Retreats, and a Busy Person's Retreat that is done at home or the workplace. Consider seeking Spiritual Direction or One-On-One Discipleship Mentoring. (Contact: Fr. Xavier.)

#### SERVE SOMEONE!

Expanded service opportunities are in development, including a Work Day at Costanoa Commons, Santa Cruz.

#### LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

Newman Nights has already scheduled Fr. Gregory Boyle, SJ, of Homeboys Industries and Vatican Astronomer, Br. Guy Consolmagno, SJ. Expect more great names! Consider being a Fellow Traveler of our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) for those becoming Catholic. Take the D-Spirituality Program after Easter.





# Gather the People

What return can we make  
for all the Lord has done in our lives?  
We bring bread, wine, our clay dishes  
and our clay feet  
to this altar  
and we pray that we may here  
make a beginning--  
that somehow in our days  
we can begin to see the promises the  
Lord has made us.

The promises do not always  
glow with obvious light, or  
overwhelm us with their obvious truth.  
No matter what anyone says,  
it is difficult to understand an invisible God.  
And belief is not always  
The easy way out.

So we gather the people  
and we tell the story again  
and we break the bread  
and in the memory of the one  
who saves us,  
we eat and drink  
and we pray and we believe.

We gather, we pray, we eat.  
These things are for human beings.  
God has no need of them.  
Yet he himself gathered the people,  
prayed, broke bread  
and gave it to his friends.

And so the invisible God became  
visible  
and lives with us

*Ed Ingebretsen, S.J.*