

**A Catholic Strong Perspective:***From Christ the Good Shepherd in Vineland*

If you’re a homeowner, a top priority of the family budget is to renovate, upgrade and improve your home. If you’re a parent, your children’s wellbeing is a major concern.

The parish family of Christ the Good Shepherd Parish plans to address both during the Catholic Strong campaign that is currently taking place. The Catholic Strong goal is our family budget. Because we have not raised capital funds to support our church buildings for approximately 10 years, the need is strong to unite and support this program for the benefit of our parish family.

Let us first look at our housekeeping needs. At St. Isidore The Farmer Church, the church roof is leaking and needs to be replaced as does the interior ceiling. The choir area and baptismal font must be relocated and an air conditioning system needs to be installed in St. Isidore Hall. The rectory is in dire need of renovation. At Sacred Heart Church, a major restoration project must begin to repair its iconic stained glass windows. In addition the church’s heating and air conditioning system needs to be upgraded and the church parking lot has to be paved.

To see to the needs the children of our parish, Catholic Strong funds will be used to hire a full-time Youth Minister in collaboration with Saint Padre Pio and Divine Mercy Parishes. Together we will support and benefit from the Youth Minister, who will champion all youth programs for the Vineland Catholic Collaborative.

For our family members in need, the Catholic Strong initiative also will provide ongoing parish support to the Saint Vincent DePaul Society.

Stewardship is vital to a vibrant parish. Catholic Strong is stewardship in a very special way. It is family helping family. With your support, we will be Vineland Strong.