

Anne McHale

Ambassador Testimonial

Good morning, my name is Anne McHale. First of all, I would like to thank Father Laszlo for giving me the opportunity to talk to you about being an Ambassador for the 'Capital Campaign Committee'.

If you had told me a few months ago that I'd be standing here at the pulpit giving this presentation, or any presentation for that matter, I'd have laughed out loud. I thought I was the most 'unlikely Ambassador', but apparently God had other ideas and I have since become very passionate about this Campaign.

However, it didn't start out that way. When my husband, Chris, told me he had volunteered to be an Ambassador, I was supportive but not at all inclined to join him. I just didn't think it was the kind of thing I could do. I'm not exactly sure how it happened, but one day, I found myself agreeing, reluctantly, to go along with Chris to visit a Parishioner, as a replacement for an Ambassador who couldn't make it. I felt quite nervous but Chris reassured me that he would take the lead and I could chip in whenever I wanted, which was exactly what happened. I was actually surprised at how much I was able to contribute and how receptive the couple we visited were. I found it a very rewarding experience and not at all scary as I had anticipated.

I would like to share with you what becoming an Ambassador has meant to me, but before I do so, I'd like to tell you what Ambassadors do not do. We do not ask for money. We do not talk about how much anyone should give and we do not discuss anyone's personal situation.... Which is a good thing as this would make me feel very uncomfortable. We simply review the information on this brochure, and then leave the parishioners with the package of materials, which they can go over privately, and prayerfully to make their decisions.

So, what does it mean to be an Ambassador? Well for me it is really about building community and a great way to meet our fellow parishioners.

We share our stories and talk about our Faith and our Church. Our stories weave us together into community, the place where our Faith becomes active and often leads to moments where we experience God's presence in our lives.

I have received so much more than I have given and it is such a great privilege to talk with our fellow parishioners about their concerns, answer their questions and to talk about how we can fulfil our Parish Vision to Encounter, Follow and Share Jesus. We are building our future for the next generations as well as for our present parishioners. Living our Faith and Building our Future! Isn't that what it's all about?

I thought being an Ambassador would be hard but it is actually easy. First, we attend a training meeting, then we go out in Twos, just like the disciples, and you are always with someone who has experience. Each of us has something a little different to bring to the table and we offer support to one another.

Being an Ambassador is a privilege and has been a wonderful experience for me. I'm sure it would be for you too. Do you think God might be putting it on your heart to become an Ambassador? Our team would love to have you join us. There will be members of the committee at the back of the church after Mass, to answer any questions you might have and I hope that some of you will sign up for this very worthy and rewarding ministry!

Thank you!