

# FRATERNAL LEADER



## A Message from President and CEO Bill O'Toole and Senior Vice President John Borgen

Dear Chapter Leader:

What a year of disruption! COVID has accelerated the pace of change and requires us to operate in new ways. None of us can say for sure how things will be at the time of our Convention in 11 months so we are developing back-up plans to meet virtually in the event it is not safe to meet in person. Make no mistake - our goal is to meet in person September 17 - 19, 2021 in Milwaukee, but your health and safety will continue to be our top priority.

Included on page 4 is the feedback from our recent Chapter Leader survey which we also discussed at our virtual fraternal briefings this summer. As a result of your input we are accelerating the formation of the Triennial Judiciary Committee in order to discuss changes necessary to enable the Board to make decisions regarding a virtual meeting if necessary, and based on your feedback, the direct election of the Board of Directors by all adult members. The work of the Committee may result in actions that will require your vote later this year. Stay tuned!

Though our chapters haven't been able to conduct their usual schedule of activities, they have continued to support their local communities through the "Love One Another" and "Catholic Comeback" donations. We appreciate how many of you also added funds from your chapter treasury to benefit more groups and increase the impact of the donation. If you haven't already viewed our video spotlighting the "Love One Another" photos we received from our chapters, we encourage you to check it out at the Catholic Financial Life YouTube channel.

We're planning another series of Fraternal Briefings in December to provide further updates to our primary chapter leaders. Please plan to join us on one of the following dates. Information regarding how to participate in these important briefings will be sent in late November.

- Wednesday, December 9, 12:00 PM CST
- Wednesday, December 9, 6:30 PM CST
- Thursday, December 10, 12:00 PM CST

Please continue to follow the guidance of your local health officials remembering that our best defense against this virus is to follow best practices regarding masks, social distancing, avoiding large gatherings and handwashing.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Romans 15:13*

Fraternally,

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Senior Vice President John Borgen, Advisor Paul Hill, and President Bill O'Toole at an event in 2019.



# "Love One Another" Campaign and "Catholic Comeback" Program



**Chapter N442**  
St Thomas More Parish  
Somerset, MA



**Chapter WI43**  
Resurrection Church  
Allenton, WI



**Chapter 272**  
St Joan of Arc Parish School  
Delafield, WI



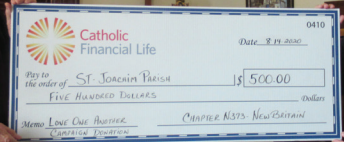
**Chapter 68**  
St Thomas Parish  
Newton, WI



**Chapter 137**  
Holy Trinity Parish  
LaCrosse, WI



**Chapter N373**  
St Joachim Parish  
New Britain, CT





In spring, we launched the “Love One Another” campaign to raise funds for chapters to donate to local organizations serving on the frontlines of the pandemic. Through the generosity of members, home office associates, chapter leaders, Board members, and friends of Catholic Financial Life, more than \$66,000 was raised and a \$50,000 match was provided by the home office. Over the summer, we distributed additional funds for chapters to donate to another group greatly impacted by the pandemic – local parishes. Some of the recipients are pictured here. Thanks to all chapters for donating these funds and especially to those that added more from their own treasury.

**“Love One Another” Campaign**

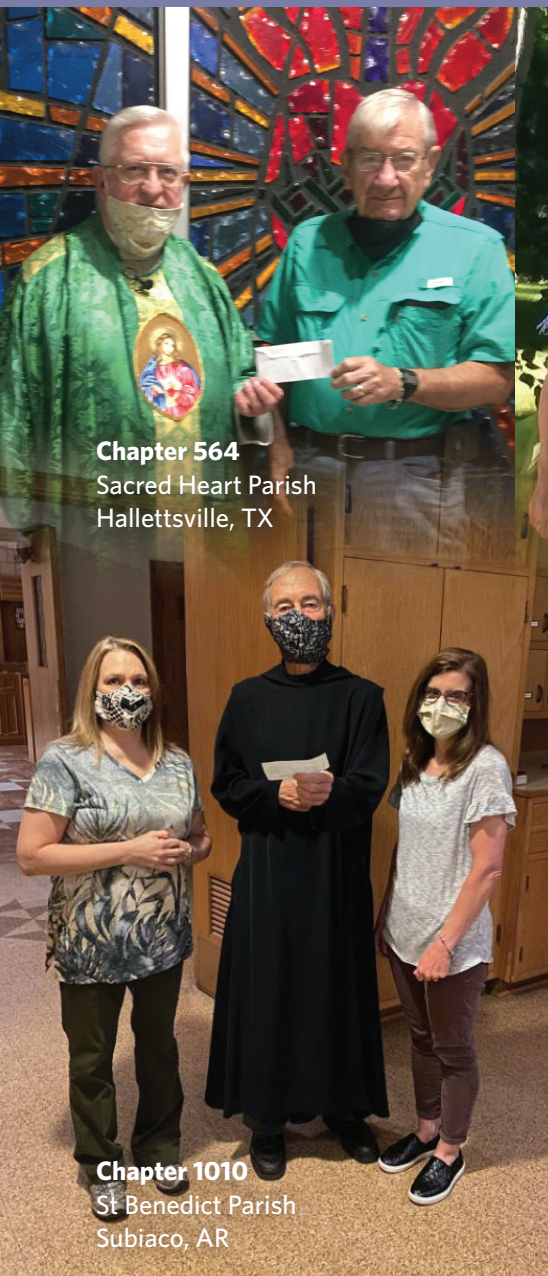
Funds Raised and Matched: \$ 116,500  
 Funds Added by Chapters: 28,270

TOTAL DONATIONS: \$144,770

**“Catholic Comeback” Program**

Funds Provided to Chapters: \$ 41,000  
 Funds Added by Chapters: 18,200

TOTAL DONATIONS: \$ 59,200



**Chapter 564**  
 Sacred Heart Parish  
 Hallettsville, TX

**Chapter 1010**  
 St Benedict Parish  
 Subiaco, AR



**Chapter W119**  
 St Gabriel  
 Catholic Parish  
 Lake Mills, WI

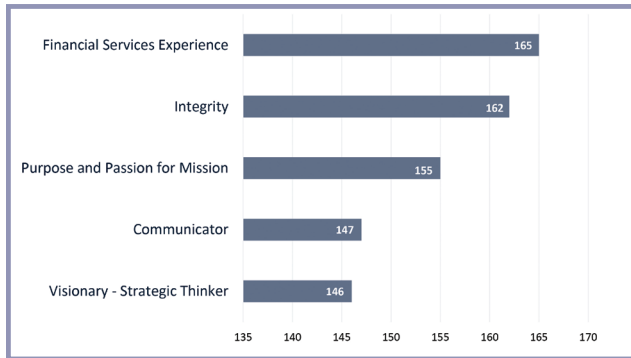
**Chapter 151**  
 St. Elizabeth Catholic Church  
 Kenosha, WI



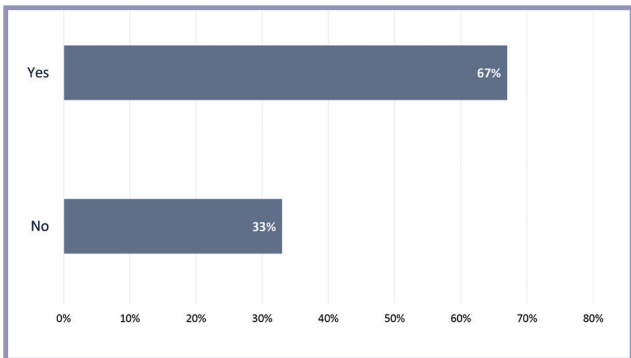
## Chapter Leader Survey

In July, our primary chapter leaders were sent a survey in which we asked for feedback on several topics. Nearly 60% of primary chapter leaders responded to the survey. Below is a summary of the responses we received regarding three key questions.

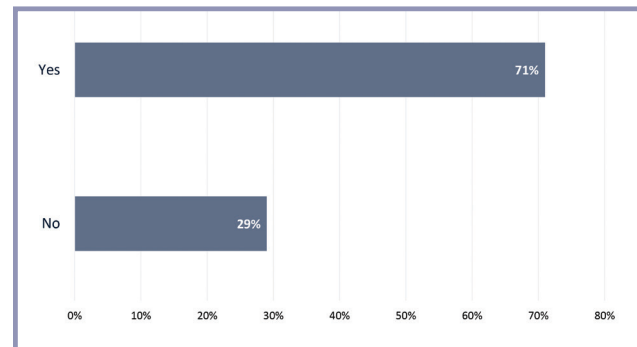
**Question:** Please rank the top four attributes that you believe are most important for the next President and CEO to possess. *The bylaws already require that the President and CEO be Catholic.*



**Question:** If there is no vaccine in 2021, would you be in favor of a virtual Convention?



**Question:** Due to the significant cost of a Convention (over half a million dollars), and the desire to allow all members to have a vote in electing the Board of Directors, many fraternalists have gone to a direct election of the Board. Would you support Catholic Financial Life engaging all adult members in the election of the Board?



Thanks to our chapter leaders for responding to this important survey. The Judiciary Committee is examining the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and may potentially make a recommendation to all delegates to provide the Board of Directors with the flexibility necessary to adapt to this pandemic and future, unforeseen challenges. More information will be shared on this topic during the December briefing.

## Chapter Reporting

There is no election of chapter officers required this year. Per the *Chapter Policies and Procedures Manual*, elections should take place in the odd-numbered years, with two-year terms beginning at the start of even-numbered years. However, please notify us of any changes that have occurred since the last election.

Remember to submit all chapter event information for 2020 either online, using the Fraternal Data System, or on paper. Although funding for 2021 will be based on a chapter's 2019 activities, rather than 2020, your chapter financial information should be up to date so that your 2020 year-end financial reports will be accurate and starting balances correct for 2021.

If you have any questions regarding topics in this newsletter, please contact:

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