

For the Lord is gracious;
with everlasting mercy;
and truth enduring from
generation to generation.

GENERATION
to GENERATION
CAMPAIGN

The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

[DIOCESELA.ORG/GENERATIONS](https://diocesela.org/generations)

Everlasting
Transformation

COVER PHOTO: JANET KAWAMOTO





For God's glory, for God's people, and for all the saints

Peter, John, and Paul. Mary, Phoebe, and Lydia. Building up the church in a hostile time, boldly testifying to the sovereignty of the Risen One and the God of love, they struggled in the shadows of a dark epoch. They contended with false teachings and heresies. Factions and schisms. Misunderstanding. Persecution. Indifference.

Still, these courageous leaders persisted.

By their faith and action, in their generation, the long pilgrim walk began. By their servanthood and sacrifice, working through the Holy Spirit, making all things new for those who believed, they built the foundations of the church we have inherited—a different church today and, we may hope, a better, more just church, always seeking to perfect our devotion to God's glory and all God's people.

As stewards of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, we now take on the same work as our first-century forebears. With them, we struggle to sustain the church of the Risen Christ and the God of love in a secularizing time, when powerful people and institutions, including other churches, proclaim false gospels.

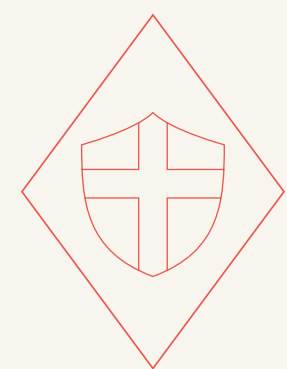
More than ever, our neighborhoods need the fellowship of Christ, our communities the justice of Christ, our world the love of Christ. A groaning creation has never been hungrier for these everlasting values. This hunger is within the nature and soul of every child of God.

We are 133 churches, 35 schools, and 18 affiliated institutions across six counties. We worship in many languages using the unifying language of God's love. As our forebears did, we love our churches and communities, even more so after the deprivation of the pandemic. Yet in the end, our mission and ministry are not for ourselves but for those who will inherit the church and nurture it in their times.

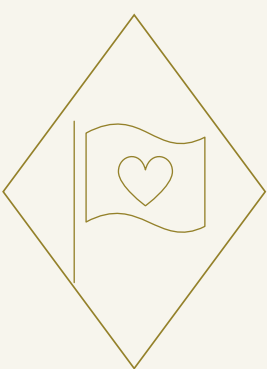
More than ever, our neighborhoods need the fellowship of Christ, our communities the justice of Christ, our world the love of Christ.

What we have received, what we love, we now bequeath to the days to come. Please join us for Generation to Generation, our \$40 million endowment campaign. All for God's glory. For all God's people. For all the saints to come, as it ever shall be, in everlasting transformation.

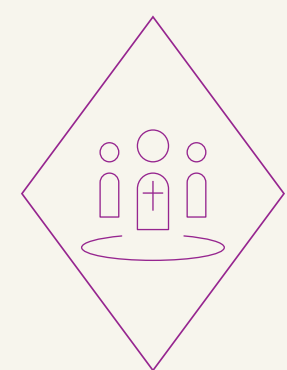
THE MEANS OF EVERLASTING TRANSFORMATION:



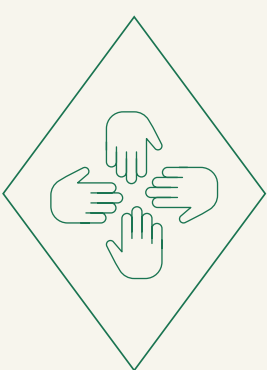
Diocesan Operating Endowment—*laying the bedrock of better budgeting*



Neighbors in Need Endowment—*putting the gospel to work where need is greatest*



Congregational Leadership Endowment—*forming transformational disciples*



Congregational Partnerships—*equipping congregations for transformation*



Clergy and lay members of the Diocese of Los Angeles fill the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion for the July 8, 2017 ordination and consecration of John Harvey Taylor as bishop coadjutor.



PHOTO: DANIELLE KLEBANOW / DANIELLEKLEBANOW.COM

Doing our part for the family budget

Diocesan Operating Endowment ≈ \$10 million

The heart of the body of Christ is local ministry. We may have issues with the Church, but we love *our* church. It rings with testimony, prayer, song, and celebration. In anxious times, it welcomes. In difficult times, it creates space for mourning and the Holy Spirit's work of healing. In lonely times, it offers the balm of fellowship. At its best, our local church is curious about the lives its neighbors are living—especially when privilege, injustice, and prejudice are at work—compelling us to witness for a better way.

The diocese supports and empowers local ministry. It coordinates leadership formation and transition. It helps with human resources and accounting services. It provides a headquarters for bishops, our chief pastors and teachers, and the means of conflict resolution and accountability. About 10 percent of diocesan spending

is for missions and ministry centers, a redistribution from privilege to the less privileged, enabling a diverse diocesan family to thrive in mutuality.

Our parishes and missions support the diocese generously. But it's not enough. The work of recent years has been to bring the budget in line with revenue. The diocesan staff is as small as it's been in a long time. We must stop drawing down capital funds that can only be replenished by the sale of real property. Fully funded, the Diocesan Operating Endowment will cover 5 percent or more of the diocesan budget in perpetuity, in these times and in all the times to come.

The everlasting transformation to which our God in Christ invites us depends on a secure, discerningly invested diocesan endowment, passed from generation to generation.

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of diocesan spending is redistributed
to missions and ministry centers

Rector Patricia Stansfield (center right) gathers with the altar party at St. John the Baptist Church, Corona, for a moment before worship.



Forming transformative leaders for the 21st-century church

Congregational Leadership Endowment ~ \$10 million

We all know good leadership when we see it. It inspires, it challenges, it encourages, it comforts us. And far too many of us also know how indifferent, anxious, self-centered, or abusive leadership has injured the churches we loved or alienated people from their faith forever.

The world needs better educated Christians. They have to know the traditions of the church and appreciate the word of God in all its clarity and nuance, illuminated by the best scholarship. They have to preach and teach inspiring, pastor empathetically, and administer wisely.

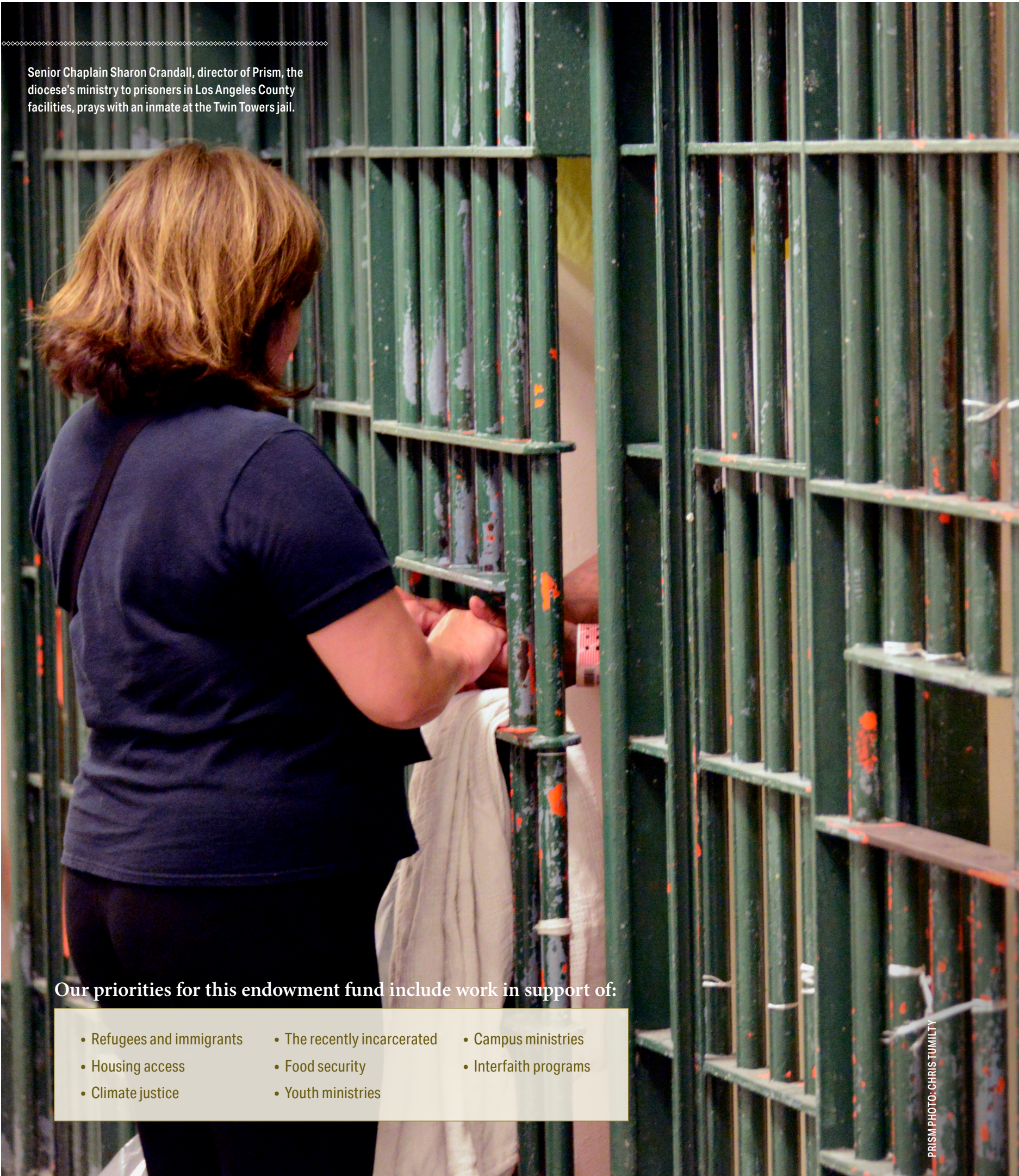
To dismantle racism and white privilege, both outside and inside the church, effective leaders must be polylingual and multiculturally competent. They need the temperament and training to lift up all the people of God and beat down under their

feet all barriers of orientation, identity, and age, of geography and socioeconomics. They must be bridge builders, collaborators, and gatherers of community, understanding their own spiritual and emotional needs so well that they will be beacons of hope instead of lightning rods for conflict.

They must be creative and discerning about the use of our resources, making sustainability the servant of mission and ministry. In today's church, good business sense is not a sin but a *sine qua non*.

We will use proceeds from this endowment for scholarships and grants for lay and ordained leaders (especially women of color) so they receive good generation-to-generation mentoring and breathe means into everlasting transformation.

Our leaders must be bridge builders, collaborators, and gatherers of community.



Senior Chaplain Sharon Crandall, director of Prism, the diocese's ministry to prisoners in Los Angeles County facilities, prays with an inmate at the Twin Towers jail.

Our priorities for this endowment fund include work in support of:

- Refugees and immigrants
- The recently incarcerated
- Campus ministries
- Housing access
- Food security
- Interfaith programs
- Climate justice
- Youth ministries

PRISM PHOTO: CHRIS TUMILTY



Replenishing the means of grace

Neighbors in Need Endowment ≈ \$10 million

Jesus Christ commanded us to give to everyone who asks. This isn't the church as a social service agency. This is a gospel command. For individuals, it is our obligation to family members and strangers who ask for our help.

Our churches have obligations of their own. To the food and housing insecure. To immigrant workers struggling for basic human rights. To parish- and mission-based service and sustainability enterprises. To those living in isolation in neighborhood convalescent care facilities. To those working to combat climate change, especially when it affects the poor and people of color. To ministers in jails and prisons. To ministries for children, youth, and young adults, especially those whose lack of privilege can make it hard to participate in our programs.

For ministry and grants to those most in need in our communities, we have until now relied on the diocesan budget, the sale of real property, and diminishing capital funds. To be Christ's reliable hands and heart, the time is upon us to raise an

endowment designated for this purpose and then create a transparent process for spending, either through existing diocesan ministries or direct grants.

This new endowment has a proven pioneer. At the start of the pandemic, the diocese launched the One Body and One Spirit Emergency Appeal to help our hardest-hit churches and other institutions. Over 460 generous donors made 630 gifts totaling \$295,221.91. A special committee reviewed a total of 39 grant applications and recommended 37 grants, \$242,103 in all, to the Corporation of the Diocese, which approved each one. We will adopt a similar process for grants from the Neighbors in Need Endowment, making sure all have equal access.

Jesus said the poor would always be with us. We pray that the injustices of human systems will diminish from generation to generation and eventually wither away. In the meantime, when people turn to us for help, thanks to your generosity, our answer will be an everlasting yes.

The congregation at Iglesia de la Magdalena (Church of the Magdalene) in Glendale joins hands in prayer.



Inviting congregations as co-visionaries

Congregational Partnerships ≈ \$10 million

Everything the diocese has determined to do to put ourselves on a firmer footing from generation to generation applies to our missions and parishes as well.

Like all nonprofit organizations, they need endowment revenue to form the bedrock of their operating budgets. They need resources for nurturing the gifts of congregational and community leadership. They need resources to provide the means of grace in their neighborhoods, manifesting the hands and heart of Christ. Like us, they have deferred maintenance even while nursing visions of expanded or brand-new facilities.

With several styles of congregational partnerships, our campaign offers an unprecedented opportunity to invest in and empower our churches to achieve their visions at home—repairing a roof, starting a ministry, or launching an endowment fund.

Some churches will wonder about the logic of undertaking even a modest capital

campaign when they struggle to fund their operating budgets. Others may worry that a campaign will interfere with their stewardship efforts. These and other equally understandable concerns proceed from the anxiety about membership, attendance, and revenue that plagues everyone in the church.

We battle against pessimism, the temptation to say *no* or *not yet*, by remembering why it's always safe to say *yes*. Because it's God's church, not ours, which generations after generations will need to find in good order. Because in our time, it has fallen to our denomination, and others similarly beset with money worries, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen to save and empower all people, regardless of color or creed, orientation or identification. Because the diocese is committed to staying in each community in our six counties where mission and ministry are alive and well. Because if not us, who? If not now, when?

Join us. Build up the church. Bear witness to the saints to come.

“One generation shall laud your works to another,” the psalmist promises God, “and shall declare your mighty acts.” This is our work without end, to be undertaken joyfully and unstintingly, for the sake of the whole body of Christ, now and forever. Amen.

For more information on the Generation to Generation Campaign, please contact:

Campaign Office
(213) 482-2040 • generations@ladiocese.org
www.diocesela.org/generations

www.diocesela.org/generations

GENERATION *to* GENERATION CAMPAIGN

The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles