



## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN

144 W. Wood Street  
Youngstown, OH 44503  
Phone: (330) 744-8451  
Fax: (330) 742-6448

May 24, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Ted Wills, representing Guidance In Giving, Inc. served in the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown as a consultant on a capital campaign for St. Peter of the Fields Catholic Church in Rootstown, Ohio. The campaign title was "Upon this Rock I Build my Church," and it was one that would pose a real challenge to the most experienced consultant.

A mere two years prior to the campaign there was actually talk of suppressing the parish because of a split in the parish community that was likened to "The Hatfields Verses the McCoys." The division led to the resignation of the then parish pastor and the appointment of a Parish Administrator, Reverend Kevin Fete. The need to build a new church, fulfill a diocesan campaign obligation and raise endowed funds to preserve the historic old church would require what was labeled by a group of pastors, "A miracle."

I personally felt sorry for Mr. Ted Wills who was assigned to make this miracle happen. Working closely with Reverend Fete and parish leaders, Ted quickly established himself as a humble servant with an aggressive proactive attitude that was contagious.

Thanks to the leadership, organizational abilities and strong inter-personal skills of Ted Wills, the campaign effort united the once torn parish community and raised significant funds to meet all the needs outlined in the case statement. A new church stands today as a tribute to this monumental undertaking. The accomplishment was so significant that our diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Exponent, featured the story in December of 2006.

We are grateful to Ted Wills for this great accomplishment that positively impacted a single parish community and the entire Church in the Diocese of Youngstown. I can be reached to share this story and serve as a reference for Mr. Ted Wills by calling 330-744-8451 ext. 325.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Pat Palombo, CFRE  
Director of Development & Stewardship