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Tertium Quid: A Third Thing

Life and Faith teach us that a thing, especially if its purpose is in praise of God, is always greater than the sum of its parts. This is sometimes difficult to see at first, so God, who knows us so well, chooses the least, most humble things of the world through which to show us His glory. This is especially true in the life of the Church. While we, its humble members, fail regularly, She remains spotless. The Church, although certainly the sum of Her constituent members, is in truth a new life unto Herself. She is a separate and wholly different thing, far more than the mere combination of the lives of Her members. She is a new thing, a new reality.

This simple, powerful truth is the motivation for this newsletter. We cannot claim, like the Church, to be divinely infused with the Holy Spirit, but it is most definitely our hope that by sharing our collective thoughts and experiences at the service of Christ's Church that we can obtain something greater and more meaningful than simply a collection of informative articles. Our work at O'Meara Ferguson integrates several different strategies to help address the increasingly complex challenges of the Church's temporal affairs. But, like this newsletter, we work to bring those ideas and strategies together in more innovative ways so as to create something greater than the sum of

their parts. For example, we have combined fundraising, stewardship education and development programs with operational consulting and new financing and asset management strategies to create complete, new, and heretofore unknown financial solutions for dioceses, religious orders, and Catholic universities.

Too often the financial needs of the Church are seen in isolation and met with siloed financial programs e.g., capital campaigns or bond financings. Alternatively, by integrating development, capital markets financing, and asset management with the right timing, mix, and emphasis to address systemic problems—rather than symptoms—wholly new and completely different solutions can be created. And when these new approaches are focused on truly growing the mission of the Church, they become much more than the sum of their parts. They become a new thing, a third thing, a Tertium Quid.

It is our sincere hope that you find this newsletter informative, enjoyable, and challenging. We also hope that in some small but special way, it serves to spark the thinking that will lead to new and more powerful solutions to advance the Church's mission.

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