



This will be our first complete update of Winter Wave parishes and some continued efforts with the Pilot Parishes. Great progress is being made. The final efforts for follow up at several Pilot Parishes still continue and more parishes will reach goal soon.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Bishop Boyea

The Campaign Team welcomes Bishop back to work after successful surgery. Leadership Gift solicitations will continue in the coming weeks.

Parish News

The proper aim of giving is to put the recipients in a state where they no longer need our gifts.

C.S. Lewis

Gifts continue to come in at **St. Jude in DeWitt** and we are profoundly grateful to our generous benefactors. This weekend, Jan. 21 and Jan. 22, will be Participation Weekend and our goal is to increase participation in the *Witness to Hope* campaign and surpass the current total of \$2.1 million in gifts and pledges.

Queen of the Miraculous Medal has exceeded the \$3 million mark through the leadership and enthusiasm of **Fr. Tim MacDonald**. The participation rate continues to climb as the parish has received gifts and pledges from nearly 630 families and individuals.

St. John the Evangelist Parish in Jackson will be conducting a combined campaign with a preliminary goal of raising \$2 million. The parish family is enthused about the goal of completing all the identified projects fully knowing that participation will be a

key element to success. **Fr. Chas Canoy** has challenged the parish communities of St. John and St. Joseph Oratory to respond gratefully to God's many gifts.

Fr. Ben Hawley and his parish senior staff have worked diligently over the last few weeks to prepare a timeline and strategies to most effectively engage the parishioners and students who call **St. Mary Student Parish in Ann Arbor** their spiritual home.

Although **Fr. Bosco** has been at home in India these last couple of weeks, the parish staff and finance council of **St. Mary's Manchester** have been working on the campaign preparation projects to successfully launch the *Witness to Hope* campaign upon his return.

St. Joseph, St. Johns has submitted case elements for approval. **Fr. Mike** will meet with both councils this week to discuss this campaign. He is eager to receive the first draft of the brochure.

St. Mary, Westphalia has submitted case elements for approval. **Fr. Eric** met with both his councils last week. He is starting to get members of his steering committee involved. He is eager to receive the first draft of the brochure.

St. Peter, Eaton Rapids has submitted case elements for approval. The parish had an unsuccessful campaign a few years ago due to an unrealistic goal and lack of support. **Fr. George** is optimistic for the future of this campaign.

Fr. Jim Eisele hosted the first campaign cabinet meeting at **Saint Michael in Grand Ledge** this week. Seven couples have volunteered to make up the core committee, with representation from each of the parish Masses. This Sunday, January 22, **Father** is hosting a reception between Masses for his key ministry leaders to learn of the campaign. The parish currently has three gifts totaling \$34,000 toward its goal of \$985,000.

Fr. Klein at **Saint Gerard in Lansing** will host his first campaign cabinet meeting next week. In addition to the campaign leadership, **Father** has also identified many of the key parish leadership giving prospects.

Most Holy Trinity in Fowler has completed its campaign case. Next week, **Fr. Dennis Howard** will begin reviewing the parish ratings and finalizing the proposed campaign timeline in preparation for Announcement Weekend. The case at the parish includes renovation of the stained glass, improvements to the Activity Center and parish office.

Under the astute leadership of **Fr. Michael O'Brien** both **St. Joseph, Owosso** and **St. Paul, Owosso** have their parish case for support statements completed and approved. **Fr. Mike** and staff continue to press on with organization steps including matching and integrating the parish rosters, finalizing the campaign timelines and identifying potential Campaign Co-Chairs as Cabinet Members.

Fr. Steve Mattson and Church of the Resurrection have some ambitious capital improvement plans for their combined campaign. They have renderings of their proposed capital improvements are finalizing their Case for Support and campaign calendar.

Fr. Steve Anderson, Holy Redeemer, has held 2 campaign planning meetings including a combined meeting of the Finance and Pastoral Councils. The Council is finalizing the parish's case for support for their standard campaign. The first campaign gift has been received.

St. Patrick – Brighton

Fr. Karl is in process of building the parish Campaign team and is having good success. The Parish council has attended the campaign orientation and is excited about what the campaign may bring. **Fr. Karl** is preparing for leadership calls in the coming weeks and announcement weekend in February.

St. Agnes – Fowlerville

Fr. Nate and team are gearing up for the first cabinet meeting and announcement weekend in February. The Finance and Parish councils have been reviewing the CASE and are in support of the parish elements and the entire campaign.

St. Augustine – Howell

Fr. Gregg and team have approved the CASE and roster and now moving toward the cabinet meeting and announcement weekend. Fr. Gregg will begin leadership calls within the next few weeks.

St. Robert Bellarmine, Flushing – Fr. Gordon Reigle

Fr. Reigle introduced the *Witness to Hope* campaign to the Finance Council and Pastoral Council. The Finance Council approved the parish case elements. The Campaign Chair has been recruited. The Campaign Announcement Weekend is set for February 4-5.

Good Shepherd, Montrose - Fr. Gordon Reigle

Fr. Gordon Reigle introduced the *WTH* Campaign to the Finance Council and Pastoral Council. The case elements were discussed and a final decision on the element is

forthcoming. Parish life pictures have been gathered. Campaign organizing activities are being conduct.

St. Mary, Mt. Morris – Fr. Thomas Nenneau

The Finance Council met and approved the *WTH* case elements. The Case Designation Form was submitted for approval. Parish life pictures have been taken. The Parish roster was submitted to the Diocese. Fr. Nenneau is forming the *WTH* Campaign Cabinet. Fr. Nenneau will be on vacation from January 25 – February 7. Campaign Announcement Weekend is tentatively set for February 24-25.

Pilot Parishes:

St. Anthony, Hillsdale

St. Anthony has surpassed the 120% of goal mark, the new pledge total is \$616,467, and pledges are still coming in. Fr. David Reamsnyder continues his appeal to parishioners to participate as the parish receives 100% of every dollar raised over 120%!

St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton

St. Mary Magdalen parish community has surpassed \$2 million on a goal of \$1.3 million. Nearly 600 parishioners have participated in the campaign.

Winter Wave Parishes:

Immaculate Conception, Milan, Michigan (Fr. Vincent Van Doan)

Fr. Vincent and Parish and Finance Councils met last week to review the campaign timeline and finalize the parish case statement. He will be working on finalizing the campaign leadership team that will assist in the running of the campaign.

St. Mary, Chelsea, Michigan (Fr. Bill Turner)

Fr. Bill Turner and parish leadership are finalizing the case statement for the campaign and beginning to identify Campaign leadership team members as part of the organization phase of the campaign.

St. Joseph Shrine, Brooklyn, Michigan (Fr. Bob Pienta)

Fr. Bob Pienta has secured his campaign chairs and the Parish Finance Council provided their recommendations to help finalize the case statement. A joint meeting between Parish and Finance Council is scheduled for later this month to outline the timeline.

St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Lansing is completing the organizational phase of the campaign. We are finalizing the parish case statements and are on track to begin our accelerated campaign. **Fr. Joseph Kim** is excited about the parish improvements that can be made as a result of the campaign.