



Winter Wave Parishes continue to make progress with major donor visits, home gatherings have begun and momentum is building. Several parishes have made great progress. The campaign team is enjoying the work with their pastors and parish leaders. Thanks for all your hard work! **Happy St. Patrick's Day** and **Happy St. Joseph Day** to one and all.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

## Parish News

*"No generous person has ever regretted being generous."*  
*Dan Elsener*

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At **St. John the Evangelist Parish**, **Fr. Chas Canoy** continues to schedule leadership visits as we rework the Parish Case and prepare for an all in ministry meeting in the last week of March. We are also scheduling small gatherings to be hosted by members of the leadership team throughout April.

The **St. Mary Student Parish** campaign team is reviewing the campaign case brochure and the parish lists while we are focusing on small major donor meetings with Pastor **Fr. Ben Hawley** and Bishop Boyea to be held throughout March and April. Larger parish gatherings are scheduled for early May.

**Bishop Boyea** will say Mass at **St. Mary in Manchester** on Saturday, April 29 and we will be distributing packets after Mass. We are currently scheduling leadership visits for **Fr. Bosco**.

**Fr. Bob Irish** is reaching out to several key parishioners who have yet to make a decision while the **St. Jude DeWitt** campaign cabinet has finished their efforts to reach those who have not yet pledged. A follow-up mailing is being prepared for mailing next week.

**St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Lansing** had an after mass announcement this past Sunday. Packets were also made available and over half of them were picked up by parishioners.

**Fr. Joseph Kim** continues to encourage his parishioners to participate in the campaign. One parishioner has surpassed **Fr. Kim's** pledge which means that **Fr. Kim** will have to increase his pledge to match that parishioner. It is the hope that larger gifts will come in.

**St. Robert Bellarmine – Flushing.** Leadership visits continue as parishioners prayerfully consider their best sacrificial gift. The first leadership reception will be held on Saturday night. **Fr. Gordon** presented the *Witness to Hope* campaign to the Knights of Columbus on Thursday evening.

**Good Shepherd – Montrose.** **Fr. Gordon** discussed the Campaign at the Knights of Columbus meeting this week. The Knights warmly received the Campaign Director and were very receptive to the campaign goal of \$155,596 of which early pledges have the parish at 12% of goal.

**St. Mary – Mt. Morris.** **Fr. Tom** and the Campaign Cabinet hosted three All Ministry Meetings this week. Over 60 parishioners attended and asked very good questions. Early pledges already have the parish at 3% of goal; \$478,332. **Fr. Tom's** surgery went well and he is feeling better every day.

**Holy Redeemer, Burton** held their first large parish reception on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and there is good momentum for the campaign. **Fr. Steve** has begun his leadership meetings and has some early pledges.

**Church of the Resurrection, Lansing,** is off to a good start with some generous pledges made as a result of **Fr. Steve's** initial gift requests to his Campaign Cabinet. The first parish reception is scheduled for Sunday March 26.

**Cristo Rey, Lansing: Fr. Fred Thelen** Leadership engagement meetings continue. Leadership and large parish gatherings are on the calendar.

**Fr. Robert Pienta** at **St. Joseph Shrine** in **Brooklyn** vividly communicated the transformational impact of the campaign for the wider church and the Shrine at the All-In ministry meeting this past Tuesday. **Fr. Bob** also thanked his motivated campaign co chair couples and encouraged all present to assist him in driving remarkable parish wide participation.

At **St. Paul, Owosso** **Fr. Michael O'Brien, Pastor** and **Fr. Dieudonne Ntakarutimana, Parochial Vicar** are encouraging parish leaders to meet soon and discuss an early and best sacrifice gift.

Thanks to the work of **Fr. Mike O'Brien**, diligent staff and our materials production team, **St. Joseph in Owosso** will have personalized packets for all registered parishioners for the joint parish Lenten Soup and Substance meeting on Wednesday evening, March 22nd.

**St. Patrick – Brighton:** **Fr. Karl** is continuing leadership calls over the next few weeks and following up with top prospects and in the process of closing the leadership gifts. The cabinet is begun to host a number of In-home gatherings. A big thank you to the Doud and Larson families for hosting this week. **Fr. Karl** is happy to announce they have already raised \$124,000 toward the goal and looking to climb up fast.

**St. Agnes – Fowlerville:** **Fr. Nate** and team hosted their first in-home gathering this week and have received their first gifts in the parish. **Fr. Nate** is preparing for his leadership calls. The parish receptions and host have been recruited and the Campaign is underway.

**St. Augustine – Howell:** **Fr. Gregg** has begun leadership calls at the parish. And the Cabinet has begun hosting In-Home receptions with great attendance and lots of great participation. **Fr. Gregg** is looking forward to the first gifts coming in to the parish.

**Fr. James Eisele** spoke at receptions following each Mass last week at **St. Michael, Grand Ledge** and will do so at another series of receptions the coming week. The parish case for an elevator and for air conditioning the school continue to receive strong support. To date the parish has 11 commitments totaling \$93,800.

**St. Gerard, Lansing** has received 76 commitments with pledges total of \$1,047,875. **Fr. John Klein** is actively reviewing the remaining list of leadership prospects and planning appropriate next contacts.

Individual leadership calls continued this week and are scheduled for next week, along with some small group gatherings at **Most Holy Trinity, Fowler**. **Fr. Dennis Howard** has made personal calls for visits, thus far realizing \$26,000 from two donors. A family emergency required Father's full attention this week.

**St. Joseph, St. Johns** has received its first gift of the campaign. **Fr. Mike** has many meetings this week with parish leaders and top prospects. The parish is preparing for its first of many parish gatherings.

**St. Mary, Westphalia** has reached 46% of its goal thus far. **Fr. Eric** is preparing for the all in ministry meeting this week. The parish will officially announce the campaign this weekend. The steering committee has finalized its parish based FAQ.

**St. Peter, Eaton Rapids** is finalizing its steering committee. **Fr. George** will begin meeting with prospective donors this week.