



As this week's reports are being produced the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Lansing is preparing to make the first distribution of parish share to Pilot Parishes. This distribution of parish share is the result of so much hard work and genuine self-sacrifice by many to support the mission of the Church. Parish Share distributions will continue each quarter for all Pilot Parishes and will begin for Winter Wave parishes on full quarter at the close of their campaigns. Congratulations to all Pilot Wave Parishes.

Winter Wave parishes leaders are asking all who have received a gift request to conclude their prayerful discernment prior to Holy Week. Our hope is to surpass the \$6 million mark by Holy Thursday. Thanks to all who are working so very hard.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Parish News

"Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."
Luke 6:38

At **St. John the Evangelist Parish**, **Fr. Chas Canoy** has begun leadership meetings. The response from attendees has been very positive and from just four commitments we have secured \$105,000 in pledges to the *Witness to Hope* campaign.

The **St. Mary Student Parish** campaign team has reviewed the campaign case brochure, which is now being printed, and we continue planning our small major donor meetings with Pastor **Fr. Ben Hawley** and Bishop Boyea to be held throughout April and May. In addition, ministry meetings and larger group parish gatherings are scheduled for early May.

Fr. Bosco has begun scheduling the lead parish visits and so far the response is very positive. We are anxiously awaiting the visit by **Bishop Boyea at St. Mary's in Manchester** on Saturday, April 29. We will be distributing packets that evening after Mass as we are expecting a large crowd for Mass and the celebration honoring Fr. Bosco's jubilee.

St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Lansing continues to receive pledge cards. They are currently at 35% of goal. **Fr. Joseph Kim** is going to be encouraging his parishioners to have their pledge cards turned in by Palm Sunday. The hope is to be at, or close to, goal by Easter.

Cristo Rey

Lansing

Fr. Fred Thelen

Three Parish Gatherings were held this week, two in Spanish and one in English. These served to be ideal settings where, after the case was reviewed, parishioners were encouraged to ask questions and offer comments or concerns. Many shared how the parish is part of their own family history and cultural faith experience, and why they are fully supportive of the campaign. Packets were distributed



Cristo Rey parishioner steps out of the kitchen to share why she has pledged to the campaign.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Flint

Fr. Paul Donnelly

A Parish Gathering was held this week. This was another ideal setting for welcomed questions, concerns and personal statements of support. Again, many shared their own family history at Our Lady of Guadalupe; how they feel this is their home, and recognizing Our Lady of Guadalupe Church as a cultural center of faith in a large geographic area. Parishioners are enthused about reducing their debt and seeing the light at the end of the tunnel so they can begin to plan for future needs. Parishioners are also very excited to welcome Bishop Boyea this Sunday where he will be celebrating both masses.

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

This past week **Fr. Vincent** made his pledge to the campaign and the parish campaign leadership team received two additional gifts to the campaign, bringing their pledge total over \$20,000! They are hosting their second small gathering and continue to receive positive comments from parishioners.

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

This past week the parish campaign leadership team hosted their first rectory gathering and 23 households were present to hear the presentation about the importance of the initiative. **Canon Turner** made his pledge to the campaign and received gifts from two members of his leadership team. The new pledge total is \$23,000!

St. Robert Bellarmine – Flushing. The momentum is picking up at St. Robert Bellarmine. **Fr. Gordon** and members of the cabinet attended two beautiful receptions this week at the home of Michael and Terri (Goggins) Witt. The parishioners shared their history with the parish and reflected about the great blessings to come in the future at St. Robert. Parish-wide receptions are scheduled for April and May.

Good Shepherd – Montrose. After Mass receptions began last weekend. Director of Catholic Charities, Dcn. Jim Kasprzak shared with reception attendees the great work of Catholic Charities around the Diocese and especially in Genesee and Shiawassee Counties.

St. Mary – Mt. Morris. **Fr. Tom** has a great team of volunteers who are preparing for the Bishop's visit on Saturday. Parish-wide receptions are scheduled for April.

Commitments now total \$117,054 at **St. Michael, Grand Ledge.** Bulletin announcements and comments by **Fr. James Eisele** will continue to invite people to pray and decide what commitment best reflects their ability to support the parish and diocese. The next campaign cabinet meeting will be April 4 where the committee will evaluate progress and develop a final-push game plan leading to an end of April Participation Weekend.

St. Gerard, Lansing continues to see strong participation since **Fr. John Klein** and members of his campaign team addressed all Masses last weekend. The parish has surpassed the halfway point toward its goal, with commitment of \$1,290,266. Announcements at all Masses along with invitations to participation will continue each week, with parishioners be prepared to make their commitment no later than Easter.

Fr. Dennis Howard continues to schedule individual visits and group receptions at **Most Holy Trinity, Fowler**. Additionally, after Mass receptions are being scheduled to ensure everyone the opportunity to learn of the campaign. To date the parish has commitments of \$86,650.

Thanks to the quick work of Diane Dover and **Fr. Robert Pienta** at **St. Joseph Shrine in Brooklyn** all attendees received personalized packets at the Parish Gathering on Wednesday evening.

At **St. Paul, Owosso** **Fr. Michael O'Brien, Pastor** and **Fr. Dieudonne Ntakarutimana, Parochial Vicar** are hoping more parish leaders will meet soon and discuss an early gift.

Fr. Mike O'Brien, Pastor and staff distributed forty plus packets at the Owosso joint parish Lenten *Soup and Substance* meeting last Wednesday evening at **St. Joseph, Owosso**.

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 has only 2 In-Home receptions left and this weekend we will host 5 after Mass receptions at the Parish. A big thank you to the McDonald, and LaMarra families for hosting this week. **Fr. Karl** is happy to announce they have already raised \$127,600 toward the goal and looking to climb up fast.

St. Agnes – Fowlerville

Fr. Nate and team are preparing for After Mass receptions this week and have received their first gifts in the parish. The large parish receptions and Senior lunch events are planned and RSVP's are coming in fast. They are currently at \$58,500 toward goal.

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 large parish gatherings next week. They are currently at \$9,500 toward goal.

St. Joseph, St. Johns will host parish gatherings before all masses this weekend. Lead visits continue with more appointments this week. **Fr. Mike** is excited to start distributing the packets.

St. Mary, Westphalia has reached 59% of its goal. **Fr. Eric** spoke at all parish gatherings after mass. Another parish gathering will occur this Thursday followed by the third steering committee meeting.

St. Peter, Eaton Rapids held its announcement weekend and all in ministry meeting last week. **Fr. George** will speak at the first parish gathering this Wednesday. The parish will host parish gatherings after all masses this weekend.