



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

"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love? "

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen

As we prepare for the Greatest Story Ever Told, we continue to thank God for the amazing sacrifice of His Son, Our Lord and Savior, Jesus. We pray that this Lent and this Easter will leave an indelible imprint of His Love on your souls, hearts and minds.

At **St. John the Evangelist Parish**, **Fr. Chas Canoy** continues leadership visits with generous and gracious responses. Those who have visited have shared their gratitude for the enthusiasm and renewed zeal of the faith formation programs undertaken by the parish. The *Witness to Hope* pledge total has grown to just under \$200,000 from six gifts.

The **St. Mary Student Parish** campaign case brochure has been printed and we are in the process of starting our distribution to various parish ministries, volunteers and staff. We are continuing our planning of small major donor meetings with Pastor **Fr. Ben Hawley** and Bishop Boyea to be held throughout April and 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 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.

Holy Redeemer, Burton has a small, "sample" pew which was sent out for refurbishment- including a new kneeler - that is set up in the church near the welcome desk. The pew is serving as a terrific visual aid in helping inspire parishioners about their Witness to Hope support. **Fr. Steve** is underway with leadership visits.

Church of the Resurrection, Lansing is at 16% of their \$2.1 million goal thanks to generous responses to their first large parish gathering and over 25 leadership meetings that **Fr. Steve** has had. Their parish projects: building a safe connection between the 2 school buildings and beautifying the sanctuary are receiving very positive feedback.

St. Robert Bellarmine – Flushing. The campaign is beginning to pick up momentum. **Fr. Gordon** and the Cabinet are planning more Receptions later this month after Masses. The cabinet is brainstorming how to engage parishioners to attend receptions, learn more about the campaign and receive their pledge packets. Pledges to date total \$85,000 from 8 parishioners. We pray for the blessing of a successful campaign!

Good Shepherd – Montrose. **Fr. Gordon** and the parishioners are planning for Bishop Boyeau's celebration of Palm Sunday Vigil. The parish is at 15% of \$155,596 on three pledges. Praise God for the generous support of the campaign.

St. Mary – Mt. Morris. **Fr. Tom**, campaign volunteers and over 50 parishioners gave the Bishop a great welcoming at the Campaign Reception after Mass last Saturday in the school gym. Thanks to the hard work of the parish school principal, the parish building and grounds keeper, and the campaign chair worked endlessly to organize and set up the gym for the Bishop. Great sharing and questions were answered about the campaign. The St. Mary Alter Society invited **Fr. Tom** and the campaign director to present the campaign at their monthly meeting. They expressed support for the campaign and many ladies offered their time to help with receptions and witness weekend. Their support of the campaign is key. **Fr. Tom** and the Campaign Chair schedule two more receptions for Easter Week, April 18 and April 20. Pledges to date total \$17,300 or 4% of the \$478,332 goal.

Cristo Rey, Lansing

Fr. Fred Thelen

Leadership gift solicitation continues. Cristo Rey parishioners are preparing for Bishop Boyea's visit on the weekend of April 29-30.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Flint

Fr. Paul Donnely

Bishop Boyea celebrated both masses last Sunday where he also gave an inspiring and informative presentation on Witness to Hope. Roses were presented to Bishop Boyea by members of the Altar Society out of gratitude. A reception followed where there were additional opportunities for campaign discussion and Q&A.

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 hosted its last In-Home reception this week a big thank you to the Pavlock family for their support. This past weekend we hosted 5 after Mass receptions at the Parish with good attendance and a senior reception after morning mass. **Fr. Karl** is happy to announce they have already raised \$190,720 toward the goal and looking to climb up fast.

St. Agnes – Fowlerville

Fr. Nate and team hosted an after Mass receptions this past weekend 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 \$82,000 toward goal.

St. Augustine – Howell

Fr. Gregg has begun leadership calls at the parish. And the Cabinet hosted its last In-Home reception. A big thank you to all our host and the families that came out to learn more. **Fr. Gregg** is looking forward to the first large parish gatherings in the coming week. They are currently at \$27,000 toward goal.

St. Joseph, St. Johns hosted parish gatherings before all masses and distributed many packets. **Fr. Mike** is glad that the parish has raised over \$50,000 so far. Lead visits will continue this week.

St. Mary, Westphalia has raised over \$650,000 and is over 70% of its goal. **Fr. Eric** will host parish gatherings this weekend and on Monday. He is working hard to increase participation and has completed 40 individual meetings with more scheduled.

St. Peter, Eaton Rapids held parish gatherings at the end of all masses last week. **Fr. George** was glad to see many parishioners pick up their packet. **Bishop Boyea** will speak at the parish gathering this Wednesday.

St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Lansing has surpassed the 50% mark of their goal from 17% of the packets that were handed out. **Fr. Joseph Kim** has asked his parishioners to have their pledge cards turned in by Palm Sunday. We anticipate that there will be a large amount of pledge cards turned in over the next two weeks and that they will be at, or near, goal by Easter.

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

This past week the parish campaign leadership team hosted the last of their small gatherings and another 6 households were present to hear the presentation about the importance of the initiative. The team will now start preparing for the Parish Wide Gathering for late April and May. The new pledge total is now \$40,020, 13% of target goal!

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

This past week the parish campaign leadership team hosted another round of rectory gatherings and another 15 households were present to hear the presentation about the importance of the initiative. Canon Turner received the parish's largest gift to the campaign. The new pledge total is now \$59,000, 10% of target goal!