



As the weather warms up the Winter Wave of parishes have heated up their activities to successfully conclude their campaigns. Summer Wave parishes will meet with their campaign directors soon to begin their campaign efforts. Work still needs to be done to complete the Winter Wave but we are seeing great activity at many parishes.

We continue to make progress in reaching out to Leadership Gift prospects to ask for their support for their parishes and the overall wider Church needs. Two leadership gifts were received this week.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Parish News

"You receive through the same doorway through which you give. The way to receive freely is to give freely. Begin giving and let God perfect your giving..."

B. Jensen

Holy Redeemer, Burton is fast approaching their base goal of \$1,088,000 with 413 families pledging \$1,000,000. With a census of 1,100 parishioners **Fr. Steve Anderson** continues to encourage participation, as the parish is working hard to meet their bonus goal of \$1,306,000. This weekend is the parish's annual Festival so things are busy in Burton. **Fr. Steve** and **Deacon Ken** are urging folks to return their pledge card through the collection basket or by going to the website and pledging on-line.

Church of the Resurrection, Lansing reports 197 pledges (109% of participation goal) totaling \$1.2 million, which is 57% of the campaign goal. **Fr. Steve Mattson** reports that the parish is working hard to make the goal before the end of the month.

St. Patrick – Brighton

Fr. Karl is continuing to close his few remaining leadership calls and following up with top prospects that still need to make their gift to the campaign. The parish will be having its Follow Up Weekend this weekend. The parish has surpassed \$1.9 million and looks forward to increasing that after this weekend.

St. Agnes – Fowlerville

Fr. Nate and team hosted continue to promote the campaign as they near their goal. A parish wide email was sent out this week to promote the upcoming Follow Up Weekend. **Fr. Nate** is

happy to announce that they are less than \$70,000 away from goal. The parish is working towards meeting goal within the next couple of weeks.

St. Augustine – Howell

Fr. Gregg announces they are currently at \$184,797 toward goal. This weekend they will be having their Follow Up Weekend. The Cabinet will be working on a plan to follow up with people who have picked up their packets.

St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Lansing – The parish is just shy of 120% of their goal. **Fr. Joseph Kim** had the ushers' hand out follow up letters this past weekend. The parish is pleased that they have had over 50% of their parishioners make a pledge and are eager to get more involved in the campaign.

Major gift visits continue at **St. John the Evangelist** in Jackson. **Fr. Chas Canoy** has made nearly 70 personal visits and we are approaching 35% of our goal from the personal visits. Momentum is really building as we continue Parish wide gatherings as we have distributed personally 345 gift request packets.

At **St. Mary Student Parish** the campaign case brochure has been printed and we are in the process of distributing them to various parish ministries, volunteers and staff.. Personal meetings with Bishop Boyea are being scheduled for dates in June and July.

Fr. Bosco, Pastor of St. Mary Manchester, has begun personally distributing gift requests and we are beginning to see responses come in. Parish-wide gatherings will continue throughout May and into early June. We have raised approximately 12% of the goal and we expect a large influx of returns this weekend. We have personally distributed 123 gift request packets so far.

Fr. Robert Pienta and staff are preparing for participation weekend at **St. Joseph Shrine** in **Brooklyn** on 3-4 June. **Fr. Bob** has been speaking to the essential need to support the campaign to build up the Shrine and wider church.

At **St. Paul** in **Owosso**, **Fr. Michael O'Brien** will have Co Chair Matt Hufnagel present the In-Pew process at all Masses on Commitment weekend on 3-4 June.

At **St. Joseph** in **Owosso** pastor **Fr. Mike O'Brien** is hoping that some families will consider *Witness to Hope* as their chance to give their once-in-a-lifetime most significant gift to the parish and wider church.

St. Robert Bellarmine – Flushing. Pledges to date total \$751,521 from 205 parishioners. **Fr. Gordon** and the Campaign Cabinet made phone calls this week encouraging pledges this weekend - June 3 and 4 – Participation Weekend.

Good Shepherd – Montrose. Pledges to date equal \$114,460 from 51 pledges. Participation weekend is Pentecost weekend – June 3 and 4.

St. Mary – Mt. Morris. Pledges to date total \$393,525 from 177 parishioners. Twenty-one parishioners pledged during follow-up weekend and there are still more than 40 parishioners praying about their pledge. **Fr. Nenneau's** retirement party is June 11, 2017. **Fr. Nenneau** and the Campaign Cabinet are very enthused that the goal is in within reach.

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

Fr. Vincent and the campaign leadership team held their first Participation Weekend this past weekend and collected pledges totaling close to 25% of their goal. The new pledge total has increased to over \$150,900, 51% of the target goal from only 48 families! The plan is to strongly encourage participation over the next two weeks.

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

Fr. Bill and the campaign leadership team held their first Participation Weekend this past weekend and collected pledges totaling close to 25% of their goal. The new pledge total has increased to over \$375,875, 65% of the target goal from only 107 families! The plan is to strongly encourage participation over the next two weeks.

Fr. John Klein is continuing to motivate his parish to inspire further participation in the *Witness to Hope* campaign. Parishioners continue to consider and make decisions with their gift which has allowed **St. Gerard** to attain 82% of the final goal.

This upcoming weekend, **Most Holy Trinity** will be conducting their main drive for participation during all weekend services. **Fr. Dennis Howard** is taking strong leadership in meeting parishioners individually to educate and inspire contributing to the campaign.

At **St. Michael Parish** in **Grand Ledge**, we are continuing to receive positive responses from the parish follow up mailings. **Fr. James Eisele** is leading the parish for further prayerful consideration to appeal towards the parish case elements.