



The Winter Wave is very close to reaching the base goal for the Wave. We congratulate St. Joseph, St. John and Most Holy Trinity, Fowler parishes for reaching their parish goals. We are very grateful to Fr. Michael Williams and Fr. Dennis Howard and their parish staffs and the people of these two wonderful communities for their generosity, hard work and faith filled response!

Please check out the really amazing video of the over goal celebration at St. Mary, Westphalia on the Witness to Hope website. The enthusiasm and community spirit are wonderful!

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 meetings were scheduled this week.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Parish News

"Giving is not a strategy, it is a way of life..."

Anonymous

Most Holy Trinity, Fowler has reached their goal – bringing them to a total of \$674,590 from 201 parishioners. **Fr. Dennis Howard** continues to appeal to the parish to drive participation through follow up letters going out next week. The community is in great celebration as a result of the collective efforts to bring the message of Witness to Hope to the parish body.

St. Michael, Grand Ledge has reach their participation goal at 103% for 411 commitments. **Fr. James Eisele** continues to encourage the parish community to turn in their gifts, thus far realizing \$670,509 towards goal. Our progress will be announced at each mass and pledge cards will be available for those wishing to appeal to the campaign.

St. Gerard, Lansing has received 695 commitments with pledges total of \$1,987,144. **Fr. John Klein** is continuing to make personal calls for visits, and leading the parish staff to host a series of follow up calls to parishioners considering their pledge, thus driving participation.

St. Joseph, St. Johns has reached its goal! **Fr. Mike** did a wonderful job leading follow up weekend this past weekend. The parish has raised \$1,009,177 so far and is at 116% of goal. The parish is encouraging more parishioners to participate and **Fr. Mike** celebrated by popping a bottle of champagne!

St. Mary, Westphalia celebrated their continued success by giving **Fr. Eric** a well-deserved "Gatorade Shower". The parish has raised \$2,196,131, which is 234% of goal. The parish has received 487 gifts or 54% participation.



St. Peter, Eaton Rapids has received a few more pledges. **Fr. George** is following up with the parishioners he spoke with individually. The parish has raised \$475,865, which is 131% of goal.

Gift packets continue to be distributed at **St. John the Evangelist** in Jackson. **Fr. Chas Canoy** has made nearly 70 personal visits and we are nearing 40% of our goal from the

personal visits. We plan to conduct participation weekend near the end of June if gifts continue to come in the way they have the last couple of weeks.

At **St. Mary Student Parish** the campaign gift packets will be distributed the next two weekends at small parish gatherings after Mass on Sunday. Personal meetings with Bishop Boyea are being arranged 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 June. We have raised approximately 25% of the goal and we expect a large influx of returns this weekend. We have personally distributed 173 gift request packets so far.

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

Fr. Vincent and the campaign leadership team are holding their second Participation Weekend this weekend. The new pledge total has increased to over \$215,000, close to 80% of their target goal!

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

Fr. Bill had a very successful knee surgery this past week as well as a very successful Participation Weekend this weekend. The new pledge total has increased to over \$550,866, 96% of the target goal from 213 families! The plan over the course of the next few weeks will be to continue to encourage participation.

Holy Redeemer, Burton received a generous 5 year pledge from their Knights of Columbus Council this past week which helped them reach 430 pledges for \$1,038,000...just \$50,000 away from their base goal. **Fr. Steve Anderson** continues to encourage participation and is confident that they will be able to reach their bonus goal of \$1,306,000.

Church of the Resurrection, Lansing has 210 pledges (116% of participation goal) totaling \$1,215,000, which is 58% of the campaign goal. **Fr. Steve Mattson** reports that their follow-up mailing went out this week and he is hopeful that they can make the goal by the end of the month.

St. Patrick – Brighton

Fr. Karl and **Fr. Vince** closing out their few remaining leadership calls and following up with top prospects that still need to make their gift to the campaign. The parish hosted its follow up weekend this past weekend. They had additional families making a first time gift to the campaign. **Fr. Karl** is happy to announce they have reached 114% base goal and pushing forward now to their total combined goal. The parish is currently at 2,035,543 in total gifts.

St. Agnes – Fowlerville

Fr. Nate and team hosted their follow up weekend this past weekend with 10 new families making their gift to witness to hope. **Fr. Nate** is happy to announce they have raised \$357,410 and working hard to get to goal.

St. Augustine – Howell

Fr. Gregg and the Cabinet hosted their follow up weekend and **Fr. Gregg** is planning a phone a thon to try to close out the campaign. **Fr. Gregg** announces they are currently at \$198,487 toward goal.

St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Lansing – The parish is over 120% of their goal. **Fr. Joseph Kim** in his homily last weekend talked about risk. He encouraged his parishioners to take a risk with their finances and to make their best sacrifice to the campaign. We are hopeful that that will ignite a new enthusiasm for the campaign and bring them closer to 150% of goal in the near future.

Cristo Rey, Lansing: Fr. Fred Thelen

Campaign Cabinet met and are following up with over 100 phone calls to those who are regular donors to the offertory but have not yet turned in their pledge card. Cristo Rey is at just over 76% of goal, with 102 pledges totaling \$303,972.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Flint: Fr. Paul Donnelly

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish is at 46% of goal with 49 pledges totaling \$185,485. A reception was held at the parish rectory with over 30 people in attendance. Packets continue to be distributed

St. Joseph Shrine in Brooklyn has 50 households on board thus far taking them to 50% of goal. Follow up speakers this weekend will encourage all registered households and summer visitors to complete a pledge to support the pressing needs the Shrine and wider church.

At **St. Paul in Owosso Fr. Michael O'Brien** is grateful for the 140 households that have already pledged taking the parish beyond 60% of goal. This weekend follow up speakers will inspire more parishioners to make their best sacrifice decision of faith.

Fr. Mike O'Brien at **St. Joseph in Owosso** is hoping that many families will make their *Witness to Hope* best sacrifice pledge this coming weekend.

St. Robert Bellarmine – Flushing. Blessings of reaching the campaign goal are expected this weekend as pledges to date total \$1,077,406 or 93% of goal from 353 parishioners. **Fr. Gordon** will stress participation this follow-up weekend as Masses of thanksgiving are celebrated for the ordination of Deacon Tony Smela this weekend, June 10. Praise God!

Good Shepherd – Montrose. Fr. Anthony encouraged participation last weekend as Good Shepherd received 24 pledges last weekend bringing total pledges to \$144,642 or 93% of goal from 76 pledges. Participation during follow-up weekend is key to reaching the goal.

St. Mary – Mt. Morris. Fr. Nenneau will celebrate his retirement Mass this weekend with several priests as he celebrates over 35 years of serving the church. Tickets to his retirement celebration at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mount Morris sold out. **Fr. Nenneau** and his Campaign Cabinet will also celebrate reaching participation goal with pledges from over 189 parishioners totaling \$413,725. Volunteers and campaign advocates will make phone calls this week encouraging pledges from parishioners still praying about their best sacrificial gift.