



Witness to Hope celebrates a great accomplishment as the Winter Wave parishes have eclipsed the base goal for the wave and have now raised over \$18 million or 101% of the base goal. Parishes continue to fund raise and are moving towards the challenge goal for the wave. We are very grateful to everyone for their hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to Fr. Tom Helfrich and the people of St. Rita Parish, Clarklake one of our 16 Pilot Parishes that surpassed its Combined Campaign goal this week. We are grateful to Fr. Tom and his leadership team for their perseverance and dedication.

We would also like to congratulate the Fr. Eric Weber and the people of St. Mary, Westphalia who have become the first parish to surpass 60% participation among all registered households in the parish, this is a remarkable achievement for any parish in any campaign setting!

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. Bishop has a leadership meeting scheduled for this week and has several more scheduled over the summer months.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Parish News

“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.”
Proverbs 11:24

Fr. James Eisele at **St. Michael, Grand Ledge** has exhorted the parish community to continue their discernment in their commitments to the campaign. To date, the parish has received \$682,314 towards their goal for a total of 424 gifts.

St. Gerard, Lansing has received 732 gifts with pledges for total of \$2,030,884. **Fr. John Klein** leads the campaign efforts through another parish appeal in a follow up mailing

to the parish community. As a result of last week's follow up calls, more contributions to *Witness to Hope* are coming into fruition.

Most Holy Trinity, Fowler proceeds to grow in participation – bringing them to 118% of goal for a total of \$789,005 off of 283 gifts. **Fr. Dennis Howard** has reached the families whom have not responded to the campaign through a follow up mailing. The parish staff believes more parishioners will make new pledges as a result of the mailing appeal.

St. Robert Bellarmine – Flushing. With gratitude, joy, and thanksgiving, parishioners at St. Robert Bellarmine continue to respond to **Fr. Gordon's** encouragement that all parishioners give their best sacrificial gift to the campaign; 423 families of the 1006 registered families have pledged \$1,148,004. Congratulations Fr. Gordon and St. Robert Bellarmine Parish for "Going Above and Beyond."

Good Shepherd – Montrose. Congratulations to Fr. Gordon and Good Shepherd Parish as parishioners continue to pledge above and beyond their goal; 90 families of the 206 registered families have pledged \$159,867.

St. Mary – Mt. Morris. The Campaign Cabinet and parishioners are very grateful for **Fr. Nenneau's** leadership and confidence during the *Witness to Hope* campaign, as **Fr. Nenneau** celebrates his last Mass as Pastor of St. Mary Catholic Church. Thank you Fr. Nenneau. Over 209 families have pledged \$444,000 towards their goal of \$478,732 with families continuing to pray and pledge their support for campaign.

Holy Redeemer, Burton has received 472 pledges for \$1,073,600...just \$14,400 away from their goal. Their campaign participation goal was 330 families so they have exceeded expectations for participation at 142% of their goal. **Fr. Steve Anderson,** Deacon Ken and the Campaign Cabinet are very happy with the response from parishioners. The parish's follow-up mailing is producing good results. They feel confident they will make their goal in the next 2 weeks, and they are hoping they can make their bonus goal of \$1,306,000.

Church of the Resurrection, Lansing has 223 pledges (124% of participation goal) totaling \$1,281,300, which represents 61% of the campaign goal. **Fr. Steve Mattson** reports that his follow-up mailing was received at homes this week and it is already yielding results. They are planning another mailing in early July.

St. Mary, Westphalia has received 534 pledges, which is over 60% of the parish. **Fr. Eric** is thrilled that more parishioners are making pledges. The parish has raised \$2,281,785, which is 243% of goal. The final meeting is scheduled for next week.

St. Joseph, St. Johns is still receiving some pledges and has raised \$1,120,509, which is 130% of goal. **Fr. Mike** is on vacation the next two weeks.

St. Peter, Eaton Rapids has raised \$481,845, which is 132% of goal. **Fr. George** is reviewing the follow up letter. The final meeting is scheduled for next week.

Fr. Chas Canoy has made over 70 personal visits at **St. John the Evangelist** in Jackson and we are nearing 60% of our goal from the personal visits. Packets have been distributed at Mass the last two weekends and we will now mail and hopefully conduct participation weekend shortly after the Fourth of July weekend. We are receiving extraordinary gifts from those that have participated thus far and we are encouraged by the progress.

At **St. Mary Student Parish** in Ann Arbor, we are beginning to see gifts come in. We are still distributing packets and we also have personal, individual meetings beginning July 1. As we move through July we will continue to have personal meetings and host some small gatherings.

Fr. Bosco, Pastor of **St. Mary Manchester**, has now mailed the balance of gift requests that were not previously picked up. We have raised approximately 28% of the goal and we anticipate a good response as these continue to come in. We will also have some additional witness talks this weekend to encourage both participation and the timely return of pledge cards.

St. Patrick – Brighton

Fr. Karl and **Fr. Vince** are 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 has hosted its follow up weekend and the follow up letters are now on the way to the remaining parishioners. **Fr. Karl** is happy to announce they have reached 120% base goal and pushing forward now to their total combined goal. The parish is currently at 2,186,221 in total gifts.

St. Agnes – Fowlerville

Fr. Nate and team have hosted their follow up weekend, and the follow up letters are on their way to additional families in the parish. **Fr. Nate** is happy to announce they have raised \$367,260 and working hard to get to goal.

St. Augustine – Howell

Fr. Gregg and the Cabinet have hosted there follow up weekend and **Fr. Greg** is now conducting a phone a thon to try to close out the campaign. **Fr. Gregg** announces they are currently at \$224,497 toward goal.

Cristo Rey, Lansing: Fr. Fred Thelen

Campaign Leadership continues with follow up phone calls; follow up letters are in the mail week. Cristo Rey is at just over 88% of goal, with 114 pledges totaling \$351,102!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Flint: Fr. Paul Donnelly

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish is at 55% of goal with 65 pledges totaling \$223,485. Packets have been mailed. Follow up continues.

Fr. Bob Pienta at the **St. Joseph Shrine in Brooklyn** has received pledges totaling 53% of their goal from 93 households. **Fr. Bob** is planning a follow-up weekend on July 1-2 to encourage both 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 166 households that have already pledged taking the parish beyond 70% of goal. **Fr. Mike** is hoping more parishioners will make their best sacrifice pledge soon.

Fr. Michael O'Brien and **St. Joseph, Owosso** have received pledges from 98 households to put them at 33% of goal. **Fr. Mike** and staff continue to encourage all households to make a pledge to the *Witness to Hope* campaign.

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

The campaign continues to make great progress. The pledge total has increased to \$283,230, 96% of the target goal! The follow-up letter is in production and the response from this appeal should help the parish surpass the goal.

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

The campaign continues to make great progress. The pledge total has increased to \$593,226, 103% of the target goal! The follow-up letter is in production and the response from this appeal should help the parish surpass the goal.