



Activity continues in many of our Winter Wave parishes and leadership is being recruited and trained at many Summer Wave parishes. As the summer heats up so does the work at all of the remaining parishes conducting Witness to Hope.

Bishop Boyea had three great Leadership Gift meetings this week. Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide the hearts of those he met with!

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Parish News

"God doesn't want your careful virtue, He wants your reckless generosity..."

Francis Spufford

We join **Fr. Chas Canoy** in prayer for the repose of the soul of his father. While Fr. Chas has been away, the communities of St. John and St. Joseph have continued in their great work on the *Witness to Hope* campaign reaching 75% of their goal with just under 220 gifts. Participation weekend should put us well over goal.

St. Mary Student Parish in Ann Arbor is preparing for ongoing lead gift visits and campaign gatherings. Good gifts are coming in and we continue to encourage more participation.

St. Mary Manchester has raised approximately 45% of the goal and we are still following up with parishioners to return their pledges.

Christ the King Parish in Ann Arbor will be conducting a combined campaign and we have begun meeting with our campaign cabinet and structuring the campaign timeline. The parish leadership will also be hosting two parish information sessions in late August as we also prepare for individual visits.

Fr. Tim McDonald is eager to begin his second parish campaign at **Our Lady of Fatima** in Michigan Center. We are in the early stages of preparing for the campaign, putting

our team together and educating the parish family about the *Witness to Hope* campaign elements.

We have begun our preparation and engagement phase work at **Old St. Patrick Parish** in Ann Arbor with Fr. Tom Wasilewski and are looking forward to a successful campaign.

St. Joseph – Howell Fr. Dave Speicher is in process of building the parish Campaign team and is having good success. The Parish/Finance councils have attended the campaign orientation and are excited about what the campaign may bring. **Fr. Dave** has begun leadership calls and gift are beginning to come in.

St. Joseph – Dexter Fr. Brendan Walsh and team are gearing up for the first cabinet meeting and announcement weekend in September. The Finance and Parish councils have been reviewing the CASE and are in support of the parish elements and the entire campaign. Fr. Brendan is preparing to begin leadership calls this week.

St. Thomas/St. John, East Lansing has identified potential steering committee members and is reaching out to them. The case is approved, research is ongoing and the calendar is almost complete. **Fr. Mark** has already participated in leadership asks and is praying about his own gift. He is excited to begin meeting with parishioners.

St. Therese, Lansing is in the process of finalizing their case elements and a calendar is almost complete. **Fr. John** has identified the potential steering committee and will begin engagement visits with them next week. He is praying about his own gift.

St. Catherine Laboure, Concord is moving fast. **Fr. Tim** has selected his steering committee; the case is approved and has reviewed the data. The pastoral and finance committee met earlier this week to learn about the campaign and review the feasibility study results. The campaign calendar is complete.

Cristo Rey, Lansing Fr. Fred Thelen

Cristo Rey Church is close to goal at \$374,990, 94% of their goal, with 129 pledges. Responses to the follow up letter continue to come in. Follow up phone calls are being made to those who indicated they were making a pledge but have not yet turned in their pledge card. While summer months present a challenge, efforts are also being made to reach out to consistent weekly offertory participants who have not yet turned in a pledge card.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lansing Fr. John Byers

The goal and case are set for this Combined Campaign and the campaign calendar in place. Parishioners are enthused to know that a gym will be built and an endowment for IHM-St. Casimir School will be established. One-on-one/engagement meetings with Fr. John will soon begin.

Fr. John Klein at St. Gerard, Lansing continues to engage parishioners considering contributions to *Witness to Hope*. Many parishioners are still discerning their involvement with their best sacrificial gift. To date, the parish has received 904 commitments for a total of \$2,268,732.

James Lothamer PSS at St. Mary, Morrice is working with the parish staff to organize the roster. Invitations for individual meetings are being sent out for Father to discuss leadership opportunities in the campaign.

Fr. Jonathan Perrotta at St. Mary, Durand and St. Joseph, Gaines has finalized the campaign calendar. To date, we are working with the parish staff to review our roster. Individual meetings are being established to invite families to prayerfully consider a finical gift to the *Witness to Hope* campaign.

Fr. Dwight Ezop at the Catholic Community of St. Mary and St. Ann, Charlotte / Bellevue is working on the invitations for the parishioners to join the *Witness to Hope* campaign cabinet. Leadership prospects are being identified and scheduled to build progress in the campaign.

St. John the Baptist, Howell is in the process of finalizing the campaign calendar. **Fr. Francis George** is working diligently to build the brochure with the campaign director. Final edits to the production materials are planned to be done at the end of the week.

St. Isidore, Laingsburg and Holy Family, Ovid are in the beginning stages of organizing the *Witness to Hope* campaign. The parish data is being reviewed and the campaign schedule is being finalized. The Case Designation Form has been submitted for approval and the pictures have been gathered for the brochure. **Fr. Duaine Pamment** is recruiting his campaign cabinet. Fr. Pamment has shown his support for the campaign with a generous sacrificial campaign gift to both parishes. Blessings to Fr. Pamment.

St. Pius X, Flint is well along in the beginning stage of organizing the *Witness to Hope* campaign. The parish data is being reviewed, the Case Designation Form has submitted for approval and the pictures have been gathered for the brochure. **Fr. Anthony Strause, KHS**, is eager to get started and is activity recruiting his campaign cabinet.

Fr. Ken Coughlin held a joint meeting of the Finance Council and Pastoral Council for both **SS Charles and Helena, Clio** and **St. Francis Xavier, Otisville**. Fr. Ken and staff prepared the parish data, submitted the Case Designation Form, provided pictures for the prayer packet and have established a joint campaign calendar.

Catholic Community of St. John the Evangelist and Blessed Sacrament, Davison and Burton are in the organizing stages of the *Witness to Hope* campaign. **Fr. Andrew Czajkowski** has recruited his campaign cabinet and set the campaign schedule for the first cabinet meeting, the leadership meetings, and the all ministry meetings and announcement weekend.

Holy Redeemer, Burton has reached and exceeded their base goal. As of August 1st 502 pledges have been received for a total \$1,103,053 in pledges. The parish will continue to work towards their bonus goal of \$1,306,000 and a final mailing went out to parishioners last week and new gifts are being received. **Father Steve Anderson** reports that the average pledge is about \$2,200 and he continues to encourage his parishioners to respond generously.

Church of the Resurrection, Lansing has received 258 pledges (143% of participation goal) totaling \$1,361,000, which represents 64% of the campaign goal of \$2.1 million for the parish's combined campaign. **Fr. Steve Mattson** reports that his 1st follow-up mailing in June produced good results and he sent a 2nd mailing this past week with the goal of 50 more pledges to help close the funding gap.

St. Francis of Assisi in Ann Arbor, with a goal of \$8 million for their combined campaign is gearing up for the start of leadership meetings, as **Fr. James Conlon** has just returned from his annual visit to his family home in Ireland. Fr. Shaun Lowery will be assisting Fr. James as there are over 100 families to be visited.

