



Significant progress has been made a several parishes in the Summer Wave and Winter Wave parishes continue to drive to the successful completion of their campaign efforts. The campaign continues to receive amazing gifts from pastors and clergy and Bishop Boyea continues his efforts to reach out to key lay leaders for their support.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Parish News

"Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others."

Booker T. Washington

Christ the King Parish in Ann Arbor will be hosting parish information sessions on August 23 and again on August 27 to share the case elements and engage more parish families in the *Witness to Hope* campaign effort. The campaign cabinet is working in preparation for a September campaign announcement and reviewing the list of parishioners who will meet personally with pastor, **Fr. Ed Fride**.

Fr. Tim MacDonald is in the process of nominating and inviting campaign leaders for **Our Lady of Fatima** in Michigan Center. We submitted the case elements for Diocesan approval and are beginning to identify those families that will meet with Fr. Tim personally as he reviews the campaign calendar to schedule campaign events and meetings.

We are conducting preparation and engagement phase work at Old **St. Patrick Parish** in Ann Arbor with **Fr. Tom Wasilewski** and we will be meeting with the parish council on September 7th to review the campaign plan and timeline. The case elements have been approved so we will be finishing the work on the parish brochure.

St. Mary Star of The Sea, in Jackson guided by the Holy Trinity, is a community that strives to be a community united by love. **Fr. Timothy Nelson** is working hard to get

most of this first phase accomplished. We are currently organizing the parish data, and collecting the brochure materials.

St. Joseph, in Ypsilanti is a parish community that has much to be grateful for as they have started the Witness to Hope campaign, after celebrating their 125 anniversary. **Fr. Pieter vanRooyen and Deacon Stan Kukla** are very excited and working hard through this first organizational phase, collecting the brochure materials, and getting the case elements projected costs.

St. Thomas/St. John, East Lansing is in the process of finalizing research and the calendar is complete. **Fr. Mark** has recruited a majority of his cabinet members. He is eager to begin individual meetings.

St. Therese, Lansing is in the process of finalizing parishioner ratings. **Fr. John** is excited that he has recruited half of his cabinet. More meetings are scheduled for next week.

St. Catherine Laboure, Concord has begun engagement visits and leadership visits. **Fr. Tim** has made his very generous contribution to the campaign. The ratings are final and materials will be sent to print soon.

James Lothamer PSS at St. Mary, Morrice is meeting with key families to inform about the *Witness to Hope* campaign. Families are responding invitations to participate as advocates, cabinet co-chairs, and prayer champions in support of this historic effort to build the church. Father Jim will be meeting with families individually to discuss their financial support in the upcoming week.

Fr. Jonathan Perrotta at St. Mary, Durand and St. Joseph, Gaines is scheduling more families to meet individually to discuss their contribution to the campaign. St. Mary's first cabinet meeting will be held next week to discuss methods for getting the message out to the larger parish community.

Fr. Dwight Ezop at the Catholic Community of St. Mary and St. Ann, Charlotte / Bellevue is preparing the cabinet for the first meeting this week. Father Ezop continues

to reach out to the key families in the community to invite families to make a decision of faith in support of the *Witness to Hope* campaign.

St. John the Baptist, Howell is in the final stages of organizing the *Witness to Hope* campaign. **Fr. Francis George** is preparing families in the cabinet to learn more about the campaign. The cabinet will be meeting next week to go over the campaign process and discuss ways to invite families to support the larger church community.

St. Francis of Assisi in Ann Arbor, with a goal of \$8 million for their combined campaign has early pledges totaling over \$34,000. **Fr. James Conlon** reports that he is recruiting campaign volunteers and finalizing the campaign calendar with the kick-off scheduled for September 10th.

St. Joseph – Howell

Fr. Dave is off on retreat for the next 2 weeks. In the mean time the cabinet is busy preparing for the upcoming receptions and All in Ministry meeting. **Fr. Dave** has begun leadership calls and gifts are beginning to come in. They are currently at \$143,630

St. Joseph – Dexter

Fr. Brendan and team are looking forward to their second cabinet meeting and are planning for their leadership receptions and their announcement weekend in September. **Fr. Brendan** has begun leadership calls and is off to a great start. They are currently at \$433,680.

St. Mary – Williamston

Fr. Mark has approved the parish Case and is in the process of completing the parish brochure. **Father and Deacon Steve** are in the process of recruiting the cabinet and are busy planning the first meeting of the Cabinet and a information session for both Councils.

St. Mary, Pinckney – Leadership meetings have started with **Fr. Dan Kogut** and they are going well. The finance council has been met with and informed about the specifics of the campaign. The staff at the parish has been great and are enthusiastic about the campaign.

Sacred Heart, Hudson – Fr. Joe Krupp has met with 6 families this week for leadership gifts. He has a whole day blocked off next week to meet with more families. Parishioners have been very receptive to the campaign. An evening reception is being planned for a couple of weeks from now.

St. John the Baptist, Ypsilanti – Fr. Bob Roggenbuck has blocked out times in his schedule to begin his leadership meetings. A cabinet meeting has also been set up. He is hoping to get as much done before the school year starts for the students as well as for himself.

St. Mary of Good Counsel, Adrian –Fr. Tom Murphy, OSFS has been on vacation this week. Time has been set aside time to begin leadership meetings. They will begin shortly after his vacation. A calendar has also been set for all of the mass announcements and activities.

St. Joseph, Adrian –Fr. Tom Murphy, OSFS will be making himself as available as possible for the events at St. Joseph. A cabinet was held this week with **Deacon Leonard Brown** to go over the campaign and the strategy going forward. The cabinet was very receptive and provided crucial information.

Fr. Pamment is actively recruiting his campaign cabinet for **St. Isidore, Laingsburg** and **Holy Family, Ovid** Deacon John is taking an active role in organizing the campaign at **Holy Family**. **Fr. Pamment** is also preparing to set leadership gift meetings.

Fr. Anthony Strouse, KHS approved the draft parish brochure for **St. Pius X** parish. **Fr. Anthony** is scheduling leadership gift meetings.

Fr. Ken at **SS. Charles and Helena, Clio** and **St. Francis Xavier, Otisville** is scheduling leadership gift meetings. The first campaign cabinet meeting at St. Francis is next week and the first campaign cabinet meeting at SS. Charles and Helena will be held the week after next.

The Catholic Community of St. John the Evangelist and Blessed Sacrament, Davison and Burton are well along in the organizing stages of the *Witness to Hope* campaign. **Fr. Andy** is on pilgrimage to Poland and will return at the end of August.

Cristo Rey, Lansing: Fr. Fred Thelen

Work continues at Cristo Rey Church as they continue get closer to surpassing their goal of \$400,000. Responses to the follow up letter and follow up phone calls continue to come in, and reminders continue at weekend liturgies to turn in pledge cards. At \$392,290, they are 97% of their goal, with 135 pledges!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Flint

Fr. Paul Donnelly and the Campaign Cabinet will be meeting to plan follow up strategy, that will include parish reception and in-pew solicitation which will be held when school is back in session.

St. Casimir, Lansing

Fr. Bill Lugger and his staff have worked diligently in pulling together data and case details. The case elements have been submitted for approval. On the heels of a very successful annual Corn Roast, we are busy finalizing the campaign timeline and reviewing the parish roster in preparation for engagement meetings as well as presentations to the Parish and Finance Councils.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lansing

Immaculate Heart of Mary is conducting a Combined Campaign to finish the elements of a previous campaign (a new gym) and the establishment of a Catholic School Endowment for IHM-St. Casimir school. We are in the process of setting appointments for engagement visits. We are anticipating success as parishioners are anxious to see progress with the gym.

Fr. Tom Firestone and staff at the **Catholic Community of Flint** have worked diligently to finalize their parish brochure and parish roster. Parish share funds will support parish life through Evangelization, Education and Charitable Outreach especially at the St. Luke N.E.W Life Center where lives are saved and lives are changed daily.

Fr. Philip Schmitter at **Christ the King parish in Flint** is reaching out to parish leaders to build his campaign cabinet. Parish share funds will further develop outreach and evangelization to empower the poor and share the Catholic faith in Flint.

Fr. Robert at **St. John the Evangelist, Fenton** has already made his best sacrifice gift to

the campaign and is definitely leading by example. Parish share funds will reduce Debt, upgrade Facilities and make needed improvements to the historic stone Chapel.

Fr. James Mangan at **St. Matthew, Flint** is reaching out to campaign cabinet co chair candidates for the *Witness to Hope* campaign. Parish share funds will drive Evangelization, Education and Charitable Outreach at **St. Matthew** as a witness to the beauty of the Catholic faith in downtown Flint.