



Last week Diocesan Assembly, “Called by Name” was a tremendous success. Our Campaign Directors have been hearing from people at all of the Pilot Parishes who attended and who were truly moved by the Holy Spirit! This is an exciting time for the Diocese of Lansing as the priests and people reach out to the Lost Sheep and prayerfully make their generous sacrifice to support the Sacred Mission of the Church.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

### Bishop Boyea

In addition to leading the Assembly, Bishop attended a parish gathering for Witness to Hope last week, has attended two more gatherings this week with one more to go this weekend and... followed-up with some of the people he spoke with about leadership level gifts. Thanks Bishop for leading the way!

### Parish News

**“You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know  
how soon it will be too late.”** *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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At **St. Mary on the Lake** we are now planning for our various parish projects and hoping that all who have not yet given to the Witness to Hope campaign will prayerfully consider participating. In the next few weeks we will send out one more mailing seeking their involvement and

At **Queen’s** Parish we are seeing first hand the truth that God’s generosity can never be outdone...our parish family is responding to the **Witness to Hope** campaign in such magnificent ways especially through the openness to meet with Fr. Tim and to pledge to meet the Diocesan and parish goals. For the next two weeks we will be hosting gatherings at the parish Rectory and are looking forward to fruitful events.

**St. Jude** parish in Dewitt is entering this next week with great enthusiasm and hopefulness as we host our Bishop at the 11:00 AM Mass. We are grateful to Bishop Boyea for joining us, praying for us and celebrating with us after Mass in the parish hall. It is our hope and prayer that all will seriously and prayerfully consider participating in the Witness to Hope campaign.

At **St. Rita in Clarklake** motivated families continue to hand their *Witness to Hope* pledge envelope to **Fr. Tom Helfrich** to help build enthusiasm and momentum. **Fr. Tom** is so grateful for the witness speakers and volunteers for Witness Speaker/Packet Pickup Weekend on 29-30 October.

**Fr. Bill Ashbaugh** and **Fr. Todd Koenigsknecht** at **St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor** and staff are all set for **Bishop Boyea's** visit for Mass and a *Witness to Hope* gathering on Sunday, October 30. **Fr. Todd** has been reaching out to some families to discuss their *best sacrifice 5-year pledge!*

**Fr. John** and the **Holy Spirit – Brighton** team have hosted the wave of parish gatherings a big thank you to the Knights of Columbus. This past weekend was their Witness weekend and **Fr. John** was excited to see so many families stop by and pick up their packet of information. Over 250 families stopped by and that is great news for the campaign. Holy Spirit is currently at 43% and climbing up fast.

**Msgr. Reilly** and the **St. Mary Cathedral – Lansing** team hosted their Parish gatherings this week and **Msgr.** would like to thank the campaign cabinet for outstanding work on behalf of the Church. **St. Mary Cathedral** is currently at 30.5% of goal.

**Fr. Jeff** and the **Light of Christ – Deerfield/Blissfield** team hosted the final parish gatherings this week, and are in the planning stages for this weekend's witness weekend. There is a lot of excitement and great enthusiasm for the Campaign at the parish. **Fr. Jeff** would like to thank everyone who has had a hand in serving or preparing food during all the parish gatherings.

**Church of the Holy Family, Grand Blanc** held home receptions this week. Bishop joined parishioners on Tuesday night October 25<sup>th</sup> and the home of Mark and Kay Knight. Through gatherings and receptions, over 600 campaign packets have been picked up and approximately 1,000 will be mailed after this weekend's Witness talks. The campaign total has surpassed \$1 million, towards the \$4 million goal.

At **Holy Rosary, Flint** pledges now total \$233,711 or 39% of goal. **Fr. Horning** provided an update during all Masses. He also asked that everyone who has received a packet to

continue to pray and make their gift in the coming week. Additionally, he stressed his desire that every member of the parish pick up their information and to respond with what their best sacrifice. Father and the team are now preparing for Witness Weekend.

**Fr. Louis Ekka** at **Saint Mary Queen of Angels** in **Swartz Creek** spoke at all Masses, celebrating the initial response now at \$42,200 from 11 donors so far. Father's homily focused on implementation of the Called by Name Assembly, the future of the parish, and how Witness to Hope is a central part of the implementation. He made a personal request that everyone stop after Mass pick up their packets and make a prayerful gift. Volunteers staffed the booth with many not only picking up the information, but staying to ask questions.

As of this week, **Fr. Michael Kuchar** at **Saint Mark the Evangelist** in **Goodrich** has received commitments of \$318,000 from 36 donors. At all Masses last weekend, Father and the campaign committee hosted receptions. Speakers provided a brief overview of the campaign and impact at St. Mark. Following the presentation, members of the parish raised questions and encouraged discussion. Following each presentation members of the campaign committee were in the Narthex to answer individual questions and distribute individual packets and encourage participation.



**St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton** has held several parish gatherings over the past week with amazing attendance. Fr. David and his campaign cabinet have reached out to every parishioner to ask him or her to attend a gathering and the response has been superb. Bishop Boyea attended one of the largest gatherings last weekend. Kudos to the **St. Mary Magdalen** team for all their hard work!

**St. Anthony, Hillsdale** has had a great week. Fr. David Reamsnyder continues to visit with parishioners to ask for their prayerful support to the campaign and the leadership team organized two very successful gatherings. Bishop Boyea will be attending a parish gathering in November and the parish has passed the 20% mark with just 10 gifts!

**St. James, Mason** had a very successful Witness Weekend this past weekend. **Fr. Kusi** spoke about the campaign during mass and strongly encouraged parishioners to pick up their packet. The parish will conduct participation weekend next weekend. The parish has raised over \$300,000 and has currently reached 70% of its goal.

**Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian, Leslie** hosted a candlelight rosary with the Bishop last Wednesday. About 40 people attended and it was a special evening. **Fr. Jim** sung a wonderful rendition of Ave Maria as we started the rosary. We handed out more campaign packets and received completed pledge cards. **Fr. Kusi** also shared his enthusiasm with the parishioners. He is excited that the parish has raised over 60% of its goal thus far and he is making follow up calls to those that did not make a pledge yet. The parish will host Witness Weekend on Sunday.

