



**Several parishes conducted Witness Weekend this past week and delivered packets to hundreds of parishioners. As we move closer to the goal for this wave and as the leaders of each parish work tirelessly towards their goal, we ask that you keep them in your prayers.**

**Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director**

### **Bishop Boyea**

Bishop attended two parish gatherings for Witness to Hope last week, and has two more in the coming week. The response to Bishops presence has been great and many people have commented how great it has been to hear Bishop speak about his vision for the campaign. The Campaign Cabinet met with Bishop this week and has begun to lay out plans for additional leadership gift visits.

### **Parish News**

*"Happiness does not result from what we get, but from what we give..."*

Dr. Ben Carson

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**St. Mary on the Lake** has successfully surpassed the campaign goal of \$350,000 and pledges now total \$435,000 from 91 families. We will be starting some of our parish projects soon and all are looking forward to seeing the changes. It remains our hope and goal to secure additional pledges from those who will receive a letter from Fr. Joe and Bishop Boyea inviting their consideration and participation. Letters will go out in December and again in the spring of 2017.

This weekend, Nov. 5 and 6, **Queen of the Miraculous Medal** Parish will have Witness Weekend. Several individuals who have made their sacrificial pledges will speak at all the Masses and share their personal *Witness to Hope* stories. Also, two additional gatherings were held with one more planned for next week. Fr. Tim continues to lead the campaign with his enthusiasm and active engagement of parishioners. Pledges now total 47% of the goal from approximately 3% of the parish participating thus far. Campaign packets will be distributed and collected over the next three weeks.

Bishop Boyea will join the **St. Jude** parish family this Sunday, Nov. 6 at the 11:00 am Mass. He will share with the parish families his vision of the campaign, and his gratitude for their prayerful participation and generosity. Over the next three weeks, we will continue distributing the balance of the parish packets and follow-up with all those who have already received their packets. Because our typical parish involvement is so extraordinary, we anticipate a very good response.

**St. James, Mason** is getting ready for participation weekend this weekend. **Fr. Kusi** will make his appeal about the campaign during mass and strongly encourage parishioners to make a decision. The parish has raised over \$420,000 and is over 90% of its goal. **Fr. Kusi** will push participation and stress the opportunity to reach 120% of goal.

**SS. Cornelius & Cyprian, Leslie** just conducted witness weekend. **Fr. Jim** spoke briefly about the campaign and encouraged those to pick up a packet who have not done so yet. The parish has raised over 80% of its goal with 34 pledges. The Business Manager was very happy when she found out the updated total of the campaign, her response, "I'm stunned." **Fr. Kusi** is going to be at the parish in two weeks for participation weekend and is following up with parishioners.

**Fr. David Reamsnyder** and the Campaign Leadership Team Chris Finch, Shelley Taylor and Fred Yaniga welcomed Bishop Boyea for the first of three parish campaign gatherings. Over forty households were in attendance. **St. Anthony of Padua, Hillsdale**, another \$50,000 in pledges over the last week. Their new total is now \$187,000, 37% of goal.

**St. Mary Magdalen** continues to make great progress towards its goal. **Fr. David Howell** has hosted several gatherings at the rectory with superb attendance. Three gatherings are scheduled for this weekend and many families are expected to attend. The parish has now reach 20% of goal from just a handful of families.

At **St. Rita, Clarklake** Witness Speaker Bob Richardson inspired many families to pick up their *Witness to Hope* packets last weekend at all the Masses. **Fr. Tom Helfrich** is truly leading by example with a remarkable 5-year pledge to demonstrate his *All-In* support for the campaign. **Fr. Tom** is so grateful for the home gathering hosts, participation advocates and witness speakers!

**Bishop Boyea** concelebrated the 11:00 Mass last Sunday at **St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor**. After Mass **Fr. Bill Ashbaugh** and **Fr. Todd Koenigs knecht** joined **Bishop Boyea** for a gathering in the Parish Hall to discuss the transformational aspects of the

*Witness to Hope* campaign. **Fr. Bill** and **Fr. Todd** are expressing their deep gratitude to the twenty families that have already made their *best sacrifice* 5-year pledge!

### **Holy Spirit – Brighton**

**Fr. John** and team have hosted the wave of parish gatherings a big thank you to the Knights of Columbus. This coming weekend is their participation weekend and **Fr. John** is excited to see how many families truly make a spiritual gift to the campaign. Over 50 families have made gifts to the campaign and that is great news for the campaign. Holy Spirit is currently at 50% and climbing up fast.

### **St. Mary Cathedral – Lansing**

**Msgr. Reilly** and team hosted their *Witness* weekend this past week and **Msgr.** would like to thank the campaign cabinet for outstanding work on behalf of the Church. This weekend is participation weekend and **Msgr.** is looking forward to seeing the outcome. **St. Mary Cathedral** is currently at 39.1% of goal.

### **Light of Christ – Deerfield/Blissfield**

**Fr. Jeff** and team hosted their *witness* weekend this week, and are in the planning stages for this weekend's participation weekend. There is a lot of excitement and great enthusiasm for the Campaign at the parish.

**Holy Family, Grand Blanc** held *Witness Weekend* on October 29 and 30 and all remaining campaign packets were mailed out to parishioners on November 1<sup>st</sup>. **Msgr Jerry** has set a participation goal of 700 families, 40 % of registered households.

At **Holy Rosary, Flint** pledges now total \$255,631 or 42% of goal. **Fr. Horning** led the *Witness Weekend* presentation at all Masses last weekend, with parishioner speakers during each Mass. More than half the parish packets were collected during receptions or picked up after Mass. The team is preparing for Participation Weekend, Nov. 14 & 15, and the calling team is preparing for training and making their calls.

**Fr. Louis Ekka** at **Saint Mary Queen of Angels in Swartz Creek** is seeing early results from his appeal for participation. The parish has doubled its commitments since last week, now at \$89,275 from 29 families. Speakers for *Witness Weekend* are preparing for that session.

At **Saint Mark the Evangelist in Goodrich** the team is preparing for *Witness Weekend* on Nov. 5 & 6. A meeting with Father, ushers, committee, and speakers was held Tuesday. The response following last weekend's informational meetings, the parish now has commitments from 42 families for a total of \$371,650 or 41% of goal.