



Congratulations to Fr. Kusi Cobona, his leadership team and the people of St. James Parish, Mason for being the second parish to reach goal during the campaign. The enthusiasm of Fr. Kusi and his leadership team, their willingness to follow the plan and their love for the Church were all key factors in their success. Thanks and congratulations to everyone at St. James!

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Bishop Boyea

Bishop attended another parish gathering this past weekend continuing his efforts to encourage people to participate in this history making campaign. In addition, Bishop received another significant lead gift to the campaign, bring the amount raised by Bishop to \$1,250,000 in just three gifts.

Parish News

“Give according to your income, lest God make your income according to your giving...” *Anonymous*

SS. Cornelius & Cyprian, Leslie is getting ready for participation weekend. **Fr. Kusi** is going to be make his appeal about the campaign during mass and strongly encourage parishioners to make a decision. The parish has raised over \$135,000 and is over 90% of its goal. **Fr. Kusi** will push participation and stress the opportunity to reach 120% of goal.

St. James, Mason is getting ready for follow up weekend and conducted participation weekend. **Fr. Kusi** will continue to follow up with leadership prospects that have not made a gift. The parish has raised over \$625,000 and is over 140% of its goal. **Fr. Kusi** will push participation and stress that every dollar raised will come back to the parish. He celebrated with the campaign director and staff.



Gifts continue to come in at **St. Mary on the Lake** and we are grateful to all of our benefactors. We continue to make plans and set timelines for the projects that we have been blessed to receive funding for through this campaign. Parishioners will soon see the impact of their generous giving as projects begin.

Queen of the Miraculous Medal began the distribution of packets this weekend and numerous members of the parish family spoke as **“witnesses to hope”** as they shared their reasons for participating in the campaign at all Masses. They shared their enthusiastic support as we announced reaching the \$1.5 million mark on our \$2.875 goal. Packet distribution will continue this weekend.

Bishop Boyea joined the community at **St. Jude** in DeWitt this past weekend and offered his encouragement and prayerful support of the Witness to Hope campaign. The campaign will not only benefit the Diocese but most importantly, it benefits the parish project to relocate and centralize our offices and ministries. We are most grateful for the incredible generosity demonstrated so far as we have reached the halfway point toward our goal.

Fr. Bill Ashbaugh and **Fr. Todd Koenigsknecht** are leading by example with their sacrificial gifts to support the *Witness to Hope* campaign to strengthen **St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor** and the wider church. They are looking forward to conducting

Commitment Weekend next weekend and continue to inspire participation by inviting every household to reflect deeply on their *best sacrifice* 5-year pledge.

Fr. Tom Helfrich has done an outstanding job of explaining the critical nature of the *Witness to Hope* campaign for the future of **St. Rita Parish** in **Clarklake** and the wider church. Pledge redemption continues as Father is realizing the fruits of his many meetings with parish leaders and multiple parish-wide gatherings. Way to go!

Holy Spirit – Brighton

Fr. John and team hosted their participation weekend last week with over 130 families celebrating their gift to the *Witness to Hope* Campaign raising over \$200,000.

Fr. John was excited to see how many families truly made a spiritual gift to the campaign. We still need families to pray about make a commitment to the Campaign as the Parish still needs about \$70,000 to reach goal. **Holy Spirit** is currently at 86% and climbing up fast.

St. Mary Cathedral – Lansing

Msgr. Reilly and team hosted their participation weekend last week with over 110 families celebrating their gift to the *Witness to Hope* Campaign raising over \$167,000.

Msgr. Reilly was excited to see how many families truly made a spiritual gift to the campaign. We still need families to pray about make a commitment to the Campaign as the Parish still needs about \$120,000 to reach goal. **St. Mary Cathedral** is currently at 81% and climbing up fast.

Light of Christ – Deerfield/Blissfield

Fr. Jeff and team hosted their participation weekend this past week, and are in the planning stages for follow-up weekend in the coming weeks. They currently have 58 participating families in the *Witness to Hope* Campaign. There continues to be a lot of excitement and great enthusiasm for the Campaign at the parish.

St. Anthony, Hillsdale

The campaign at **St. Anthony** continues to progress. Over 100 families have had an opportunity to attend the presentation at Campaign Gatherings over the last two weeks. The parish received 10 more commitments this past week and is now 40% towards their campaign goal, over \$200,000 pledged. This weekend campaign leadership will be speaking at all Masses witnessing to their support and commitment.

St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton

The campaign at **St. Mary Magdalen** continues to make steady progress. Over 100 families have had an opportunity this past weekend to join **Fr. David Howell** at his rectory to gather for fellowship and learn more about the Witness to Hope initiative. The parish has now received over 60 pledges, just shy of \$500,000 pledged, and is now closing in on 40% towards their campaign goal. This weekend campaign leaders will welcome all families to parish wide gatherings after the 4:30 Mass Saturday night and after the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday.

Heading into Participation Weekend, **Holy Rosary in Flint** has reached 47% of goal from 76 donors. **Fr. Horning's** invitation for everyone to join him in support of the campaign was in the bulletin last weekend. During the education period, more than half those registered have picked up their packet, and the importance now is focused on asking everyone to act on the information they received.

Participation continues to grow, with 36 donors giving \$117,815 to this point at **Saint Mary Queen of Angels in Swartz Creek**. **Fr. Ekka** has addressed the parish the last three weeks, providing an update of progress and stressing the need for everyone to do something. Well more than half the personal packets have been personally delivered and Father now as called for everyone to act.

At **Saint Mark the Evangelist in Goodrich** Michael and Doris Goetz were powerful witness speakers at all Masses last weekend. Their message tied their spiritual journey to the importance of the parish effort and its future. **Fr. Kuchar** challenged everyone to return their cards on or before Participation Weekend coming Nov. 19 & 20. Today the parish is at 49% of goal, or \$440,700 from 68 donors.

This weekend is Participation Weekend at **Holy Family, Grand Blanc**. **Msgr. Jerry and Fr. Gary** are asking 700 families to join with them in supporting Witness to Hope. Thus far over 100 families have made their commitment for total pledges of \$1.3 million