



Congratulations...again to Fr. Kusi Cobona, his leadership team but this time to the people of SS. Cornelius & Cyprian Parish, Leslie for being the third parish to reach goal during the campaign. Thanks and congratulations to everyone at SS. Cornelius & Cyprian. Several other parishes had very successful Participation Weekends and are rapidly closing on their goals.

Tony Gwiazdowski, Campaign Executive Director

Bishop Boyea

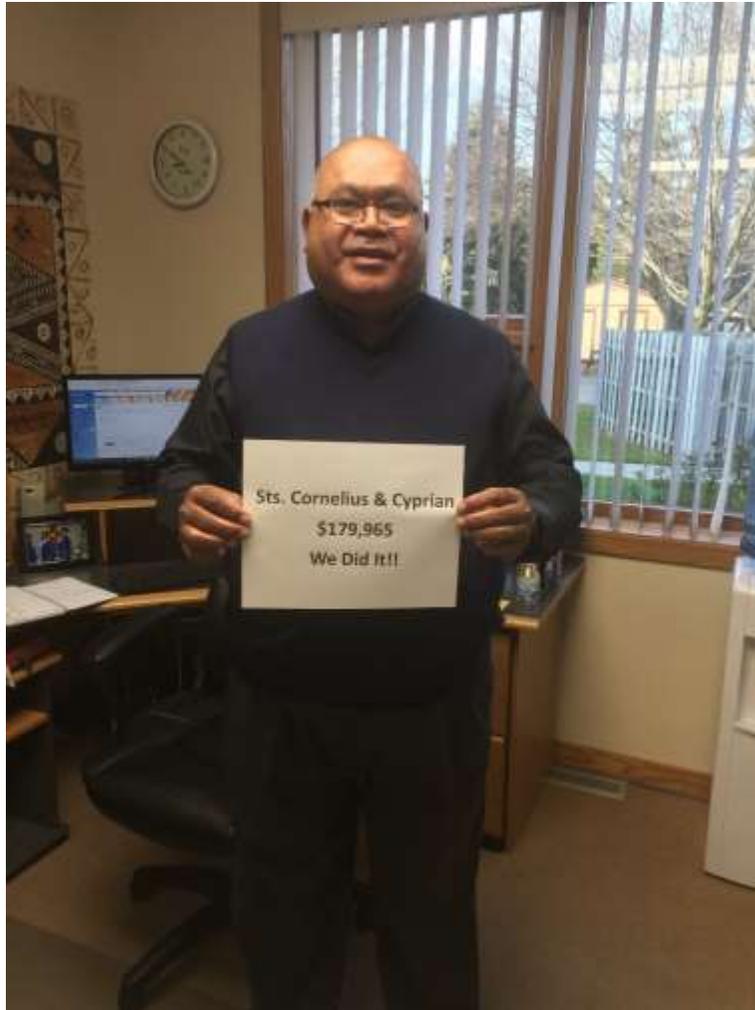
Bishop continues to visit parishes on behalf of the campaign. Meetings with other Leadership gift donors are in process with the hope of scheduling a few more before the end of the year.

Parish News

"The Pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts. No Americans have been more impoverished than these who, nevertheless, set aside a day of Thanksgiving."

SS. Cornelius & Cyprian, Leslie is getting ready for follow up weekend. **Fr. Kusi** led participation weekend and encouraged parishioners to make their best sacrifice. The parish has achieved its goal and raised over \$179,000. This is 118% of goal.

St. James, Mason conducted a successful follow up weekend. **Fr. Kusi** will thank the parishioners this weekend. All parish wide campaign events have been completed. The Knights of Columbus are also planning to make a gift to the campaign. The parish has raised \$688,560 and is at 159% of its goal.



Fr. Kusi Cobona 2 for 2

Queen of the Miraculous Medal hosts Participation Weekend this Saturday and Sunday as we all prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday. We are so grateful to those who have made their generous and sacrificial gifts to support the Diocese and our Parish Home...Our good and gracious God has blessed us with so much and we are profoundly grateful for His many blessings. Let us remember this Thanksgiving week the privilege of being "*witnesses to Hope*" as we celebrate with our families.

Witnesses to Hope shared with fellow parishioners their reasons for participating in the campaign that will serve **St. Jude, DeWitt** and the Diocese of Lansing this past weekend. As we near the \$1.3 million mark in pledges, we are enthused and most appreciative of those that have given so generously and we pray for the ongoing success of the campaign. It remains our most ardent goal to seek participation from all **St. Jude** families. We look forward to Participation Weekend December 3 and 4.

Holy Family held their Participation Weekend and realized 170 gifts for \$891,000, representing an average gift of \$5,240. The parish has raised a total of \$2,268,380 thus far which is 57% of goal. 290 families have pledged pushing the participation to 41% of the participation goal. On Monday November 21st, Witness to Hope volunteers will be manning a phone bank to call all families who have not yet responded to the campaign

Fr. John and team are in the follow up stage this week and planning for a follow up participation Sunday next weekend. They have had 195 families make a gift to the Witness to Hope Campaign raising so far \$502,852. **Fr. John** has been very 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 \$48,000 to reach goal. **Holy Spirit, Brighton** is currently at 91% and climbing up fast.

Msgr. Reilly and team are in the follow up stage this week and planning for a follow up participation weekend next week. Currently the parish has seen 148 families celebrating their gift to the Witness to Hope Campaign raising over \$509,700. **Msgr. Reilly** would like to ask families to continue to pray for the Campaign and to discern what gift they may give. The Parish still needs to raise \$48,000 to reach goal. **St. Mary Cathedral** is currently at 91% and climbing up fast.

Fr. Jeff and team at **Light of Christ – Deerfield/Blissfield** hosted their participation weekend this past week, and are in the planning stages for follow-up weekend in the coming weeks. They currently have 90 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.

Fr. Horning led Participation Weekend at **Holy Rosary in Flint** this past weekend. The results are being tallied, progress will be announced this weekend along with a message seeking continued support. **Fr. Horning** made personal contact with the top prospects prior to the weekend, and the calling team will begin their work in earnest following Thanksgiving.

At **Saint Mark the Evangelist in Goodrich** has reached 55% of goal with Participation Weekend this coming weekend. **Fr. Kuchar** completed personal calls to all outstanding leadership prospects and those who participated in the feasibility study but who had not yet responded.

Saint Mary Queen of Angels in Swartz Creek conducted Witness Weekend at all Masses. **Fr. Ekka** again stressed the need for everyone to make a statement of support for the campaign. He set a minimum goal of half the parish to participate in Witness to Hope. Witness Weekend is set for Masses following Thanksgiving.

Fr. Tom Helfrich is leading by example with his sacrificial five-year pledge to support *Witness to Hope* to strengthen **St. Rita in Clarklake** and the wider church. **Father Tom** conducted Participation Weekend last weekend and will inspire more participation on a Follow up weekend in November to invite every household to reflect deeply on their *best sacrifice 5- year* pledge. Way to go!

Fr. Bill Ashbaugh and **Fr. Todd Koenigsknecht** at **St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor** spoke at the Masses last weekend and articulated the importance of the campaign citing wonderful examples of how *Witness to Hope* will positively transform both the wider church and the parish for generations. **Fr. Bill** and **Fr. Todd** and staff are preparing for participation weekend on 19-20 November.

St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton continues to have tremendous attendance at its parish gatherings. Over 400 packets have been distributed and many parishioners are now discerning their gifts. **Fr. David Howell** and his leadership team continue to encourage attendance at gatherings and for prayerful participation. The parish has now passed 46% of goal with gifts from just 78 parishioners.

St. Anthony of Padua, Hillsdale has surpassed 44% of their goal from just 28 parishioner gifts. **Fr. David Reamsnyder** and his Campaign Team have completed their parish gatherings and are now moving on to Witness Weekend. There has been great enthusiasm among those who have attended gatherings for the campaign.