

What is the goal of the *Witness to Hope* campaign?

The \$65-million diocesan-wide *Witness to Hope* campaign will fund a diverse balance of critical pastoral and financial needs. Each parish will have its own goal and fund its own priority projects as it determines. Parishioners will be invited to pledge their faithful generosity over as many as five years.

Why is the diocese conducting the campaign at this point?

Witness to Hope is a continuation of Bishop Boyea's pastoral letter *Go Announce the Gospel of Jesus Christ*. This campaign will advance the ability of our parishes, as well as our diocese, to fulfill the shared mission given to us by Jesus. The impact of this generous support will be felt in parishes and throughout the diocese for years to come. This support will provide us financial backing to increase our evangelization efforts, provide a welcoming home for all who seek the faith, and ensure a continued sound financial base for future members of the faith to build upon.

What share of funds will Saint Mark the Evangelist receive?

Each parish has a base goal equal to its annual offertory. At Saint Mark, to meet some pressing priorities, it was determined a total goal of \$900,000 is needed to fund both the parish and diocesan case elements. In our successful campaign the parish will realize \$665,064 with the additional being our share to fund the needs of the larger Church.

Will funds for the *Witness to Hope* campaign reduce offertory support for the parish?

In presenting the campaign, it will be important to emphasize that all gifts to *Witness to Hope* should not reduce other giving commitments to the Church, but should be extraordinary generosity made freely and faithfully to meet the extraordinary challenges and opportunities presented through the campaign. Over the long term, this historic, unprecedented campaign will build the capacity of parishes to realize their mission potential.

Will we be conducting the Diocesan Support Appeal as well as *Witness to Hope*?

There will NOT be a Diocesan Support Appeal (DSA) conducted in 2017.

How was the parish case established?

Each parish, through the leadership of its pastor and councils, determine what the parish share will fund. Father and the councils agreed that we must replace the surface of the current parking lot, and address some general maintenance needs inside the Nave and common areas.

How long is the pledge period, and when will I receive my reminders?

Pledges can be made over as many as 5 years, and parishioners may choose the beginning month and choose whether to receive monthly, quarterly, or annual reminders. Each parishioner will also select when they wish to begin making their payments to best fit their personal financial situation.

How do I learn more?

There will be series of bulletin inserts to provide more information about the campaign. The parish will host a number of receptions where members can come listen, learn, and ask questions. Each member will receive a packet of information. You may also contact the parish office to set up a meeting with a member of our campaign team.

PLEDGE GUIDE:

The *Witness to Hope* campaign is a historic, unprecedented effort to position parishes and the Church throughout the Diocese of Lansing for a strong and vibrant future. It invites the faithful to prayerfully consider what their best sacrifice is. A decision of faith made in prayer and guided by gratitude, joy, and love will not only help one's parish and the larger Church; it will also be a great blessing to the donor. "For God loves a cheerful giver" (Cor. 9:7).

Monthly Pledge	My Sacrifice Equals	Total 5-Year Pledge
\$167	\$5.56 per day take out lunch	\$10,000
\$83	\$2.78 per day premium coffee	\$5,000
\$50	\$1.67 per day large soda	\$3,000
\$25	83¢ per day lottery ticket=\$1	\$1,500

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a pledge?

A pledge is a good-faith promise that offers you a way to be generous over a period of time. Pledges are not legally binding.

When will I receive reminders to make payments on my pledge?

Unless you indicate that you would like a later start date on your pledge card, you will begin receiving reminders a few weeks after you make your pledge. You can choose whether to receive those reminders on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis.

Is it possible to set up automatic payments for my pledge?

Yes, some donors set up automatic bank draft or credit card payments. Some also send checks or transfer stock. Another option is to arrange for gifts from IRA distributions, thus lowering tax liabilities.

To whom should checks be made?

Checks should be made out to "Witness to Hope."