



St. Mark the Evangelist Parish Preliminary Case Statement

For nearly 40 years St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church has been a beacon of our Catholic faith and heritage in Goodrich. Through the efforts of its founding Pastoral Coordinator, Sr. Joan May and its faith-filled parishioners, our parish has continued to thrive and grow.

Today under the leadership of Rev. Michael Kuchar, our first pastor, our parish has over 400 families and continues to grow. Our parish has many ministry programs, vibrant liturgies and superb educational programs for young and old.

Our parish church and property was first developed and built in 1982. Since that time our facilities have received regular maintenance but it has become apparent that we have some important capital needs facing our parish. The major area of concern is to reconstruct and restripe our parking lots. This reconstruction project entails storm water management to safely manage run-off. Our Church interior needs to be upgraded with significant ceiling repairs, new lighting and a new sound system. Finally, and if funds are available based on the results of this study, we will upgrade the restroom sinks, faucets and toilets and add an exterior rest room and storage for our outside activity areas. Our priority is to only fund what we can afford with the first priorities being our parking lots and the Church.

The current estimated cost for all of this work is \$800,000.

As we look to the future as a parish, so also is the Diocese of Lansing. Our larger faith family has embarked on its first ever-diocesan wide capital campaign called *Witness to Hope*. *Witness to Hope* seeks to raise \$65 million to support the many ministries of our the larger Church, including support for our seminarians and retired clergy, youth and young adults, Catholic education, evangelization and funds for social ministry. A complete overview of the *Witness to Hope* case is attached. Each parish of the diocese will participate in this campaign, but because of the significance of the project here at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church we are planning to conduct an expanded campaign to support our major facilities expansion along with the case for the wider Church.

Our Participation

It is our plan to conduct a Combined Campaign to support our own parish needs and those of the wider Church. Under this plan our parish would seek to raise \$1,000,000. Of this amount, \$765,000 would remain in our parish to fund our projects and the balance would support the wider Church efforts outlined in the *Witness to Hope* Case statement. The difference for our projects would be made up through funds the parish currently has available. The Diocese would

pay for all of the cost of the campaign including printing; postage, pledge redemption, and other related campaign costs and our parish would pay a significantly reduced fee for additional professional service from *Greater Mission*, who will be conducting the campaign. There will be no solicitation for the DSA in 2017.

Our parish leadership believes that by conducting a Combined Campaign we will not only be able to meet our own important needs, but we will, as part of the Universal Church play an important role in fostering a better and stronger future for the Catholic faith in South Central Michigan.