



A Walk in Faith

Capital Stewardship Campaign

Special Edition Campaign Newsletter June 2013

- ◆ Brides currently change or prepare in a school classroom, a distance away from the Sanctuary, because we lack a proper room.
- ◆ Wedding receptions of weddings performed at St. Peter's are often held at other parish halls only because our parish hall capacity is inadequate.
- ◆ Ironing and preparation of church linens is currently done on tables in the hallway for lack of space. Tables need to be moved into the hallway from another area each time to do this.
- ◆ Because the kitchen area and cooking capacity is so small, cooking is done in shifts for large events. Classrooms are used as food preparation areas because of lack of kitchen space.
- ◆ We lack storage space for ministries. Items are stored far away from where they are needed or in a different building, e.g. Parish Hall tables in portable, church items in daycare basement, kitchen items behind stage etc.
- ◆ Plugging 2 appliances into some parish hall or kitchen outlets trip the circuit breaker.
- ◆ Restrooms near the church form lines each Sunday and overall restroom capacity is too small for larger events. We had to rent porta-potties for the Scott Hahn conference.
- ◆ We don't currently have enough classrooms for CCD and RCIA on Sundays even with the portables whose time is running out.
- ◆ Our Gathering Space cannot accommodate the flow of worshippers and becomes congested.

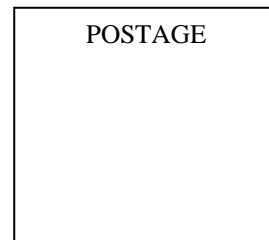
Did you know???



A Walk in Faith

Capital Campaign for the New Parish Hall

515 E. Knight Street
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827



“We’re Starting A Very Important Campaign”

St. Peter Parish is a vibrant faith-filled community that is committed to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. More than 100 years (and several moves!) after the founding of our parish, we continue to touch the lives of those who consider St. Peter their faith home.

Our parish is known for outstanding worship, quality ministry, faith formation programs, social activities and outreach ministries. It takes but one glance at our monthly events calendar to know that the ministry and teachings of Christ are very much alive and abundant in our parish! We are joyful as we look to the future ministry of St. Peter's and are approaching our planning in a purposeful way to ensure we build a parish hall that meets our needs while using our resources wisely.

We are excited as we look forward and envision a parish hall that will become the “hub” of parish life. During the next several months, a thoughtfully planned campaign will occupy the time and talents of many of our parishioners. Achieving our goals will be a big task, and if each of you will accept a small part of the task, we can get the job done!

You will have an opportunity to serve on one of several campaign teams that are being organized. As you become involved you will learn how important this campaign really is to the future of St. Peter Catholic Church. A member of one of the teams may call you and ask for your help and you won't have to talk to someone else about money. So when you are asked to help, **please say YES**.

Our “A Walk in Faith” capital stewardship campaign requires not just a few of our parishioners, but every parishioner to pray, to sacrifice, and to support this important campaign. Because each of us is blessed differently and capable of different gifts, we are each asked to financially support this campaign accordingly. However, what you give should be *over and above* your regular giving.

No one will tell you what to give toward this campaign—that is between you and the Lord. “A Walk in Faith” only asks that you pray and make a sacrificial gift according to how you’ve been blessed—act as the Lord leads. A new, enhanced, and functional parish hall is our goal, and Christ is our reason and example.

Fr. Bennett Constantine
Pastor

Donna Fedewa Chris and Kathleen Smith
Campaign Co-Chairs

HOW MUCH DO WE NEED TO RAISE?

Parish Church gathering space expansion with new Parish Hall fully equipped including some remodeling of the parish office space and storage.

Total Amount Needed \$2,250,000



Some QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q. How much do we need to raise?

A. \$2,250,000 in a 1-year capital stewardship campaign.

Q. What is the timeline of the campaign?

A. The Campaign will provide time for information during July, prayer/discernment in August and time for commitment starting the end of August, concluding with the September 28/29 Announcement Weekend.

Q. When will I have an opportunity to make my financial commitment?

A. First prayerfully reflect on your blessings and what a sacrificial pledge would mean in your life. Parishioners will be asked to confidentially register their financial commitments starting on commitment weekend which will be August 24/25.

Q. What if I'm uncertain about my financial future?

A. No one knows the future. But, EVERYONE should prayerfully consider what a sacrificial commitment would be. Should your circumstances change, you may alter your commitment by notifying the parish office. Pray to know God's direction and trust God as you are led.

Q. How much will I be asked to give?

A. You will not be told to give a specific amount. Everyone is asked to first reflect on his/her individual blessings and then pray about a *sacrificial* commitment to be paid over the next year. Your commitment should be *over and above* your current giving to the church.

Q. What does "sacrificial" mean?

A. A sacrificial commitment is one that requires you to change your lifestyle while fulfilling it.

Q. How do I decide what I should commit to our capital stewardship campaign?

A. Prayer and reflection! One of the campaign themes is "Not Equal Gifts, but Equal Sacrifice." Everyone is blessed differently. Everyone cannot give the same amount. But, if your gift is *truly sacrificial...* then the gifts are equal in the sight of God. *"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you."* Deuteronomy 16:17

Consider this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through us produces thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:6-11



But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also." 2 Corinthians 8:7

What is a capital stewardship campaign?

The process to raise the needed funds for building and maintaining our faith home. The campaign focuses on keeping everyone informed, answering questions and providing spiritual food for thought.

You'll receive mailings and be invited to presentations to learn more about the plans and how important your participation in this campaign is to the future of our parish.

Each of us will be asked to prayerfully consider a sacrificial commitment *over and above* our annual offertory support. No one will be pressured or told how much to give. Each of us is asked to give according to his/her blessings.



Everyone is needed!

We can accomplish all of this.....

- Without anyone being pressured to ask others for pledges or money.
- Without asking anyone to give more personal time than is reasonable.

If We all Help—

We can do it!

Not Equal Gifts—

But, Equal Sacrifice

What is the result of living as a steward and disciple?
The promise is a beautiful one. Jesus says in Matthew 25:23,
"COME AND SHARE YOUR MASTER'S JOY."

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If everyone accepts a small task, then together we can achieve our common goal! Here is a quick list of teams that are being assembled to help with the campaign. **When asked, please say "YES" to assist with the campaign.** Don't worry, no one will be asked to discuss, or talk to someone else about money.

Contact Team

A contact team will be built to make courtesy phone calls to parishioners prior to scheduled information meetings simply to ensure awareness and encourage attendance.

Hospitality Team

The hospitality team will provide any needed hospitality on our Commitment Weekend as well as encourage attendance.

Children and Youth Activities

The children and youth team will seek to get the children and youth involved in the campaign with activities to ensure their understanding and help them appreciate their God-given gifts to reinforce their learning about stewardship.

Mailing Team

A mailing team will be responsible to fold, stuff, label, etc. all campaign mailings.

Event (Commitment Weekend) Team

The team will plan, organize and coordinate all activities associated with commitment weekend to help make it a special/enjoyable time in the life of our parish.

Commitment Team

The commitment team will phone parishioners who have not yet made their intention known following commitment weekend simply to encourage them to register their intention. No one will be asked to convince anyone to participate.