



**TODAY'S
CHALLENGE
TOMORROW'S
HOPE**
Capital & Endowment Campaign
Diocese of Greensburg

Issue 6, May 30, 2010

Marvelous

Function: adjective

Meaning: 1 causing wonder or astonishment

Synonyms: amazing, astonishing, astounding, awesome, eye-opening, fabulous, miraculous, portentous, prodigious, staggering, stunning, stupendous, sublime, surprising, wonderful, wondrous, **St. Mary Mother of God Church**

WOW!!! Several years ago when the Diocese announced this capital campaign, many people were skeptical about its success. The economy was plummeting and there were so many uncertainties in the choices people were forced to make. The Diocese begged the question: Would our parishioners be able to sustain such an ambitious campaign? You Bet! **"It's a miracle,"** Bishop Brandt exuberantly expressed to the Leadership Team at confirmation. Not only has the campaign been successful here at St. Mary's, but in the whole Diocese of Greensburg, as well. Truly the hand of God was guiding *Today's Challenge ~ Tomorrow's Hope*.

And I say unto you,
Ask, and it shall be
given you; seek, and ye
shall find; knock, and it
shall be opened unto
you. **Luke 11:19**

Generous

Function: adjective

Meaning: 1 giving or sharing in abundance and without hesitation

Synonyms: bounteous, bountiful, charitable, free, freehanded, liberal, munificent, openhanded, unselfish, unsparring, **St. Mary's parishioners**

AWESOME! Once again the St. Mary family has stepped up to the plate and hit a grand slam homerun out of the park. The diocesan set goal for St. Mary's was formulated by extracting historical data from contributions made to past campaigns and weekly collections. The parish set goal was based on what is needed for our project and did not include any extras for such project. **We have exceeded both of these goals!** We will be able to create the multi-purpose hall AND correct the accessibility problems in the church WITHOUT going into debt!!!!

Our ancestors would be proud! Their legacy of preparing for the future will prevail. We will leave behind a better place for the parish families of tomorrow. We will be an inspiring example of faith in action for future generations. The Holy Spirit is an active verb at St. Mary's parish. It is living! It is thriving! It is vibrant! Hold your breath...the future is hopeful!

St. Mary Mother of God Church

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Progress

Function: *noun*

Meaning: *1 a movement toward a goal or to a further or higher stage 2 advancement in general*

Synonyms: *growth, development, advancement, improvement, St. Mary's Fellowship Hall*

LO AND BEHOLD! The money has been raised, so what is the next step? Several sets of blueprints are needed before the project may begin. Each set will illustrate different aspects of the project. Currently, the second set of blueprints is in progress and when it is complete, it will be sent to Greensburg for approval by Bishop Brandt. Once approved, the third and final set of blueprints will be drafted by the architects. The project may then be put out for bid by contractors as well as begin the application process for the appropriate state and county permits.

God bless
each and
every one of
you.

During this time of "paperwork" and "red-tape", the parish can actively advance the project by preparing the hall for the remodeling. Pots, pans and other kitchen items are ready to be sorted, boxed and stored. Construction oriented parishioners can dismantle the stage, remove some of the unneeded cabinets in the kitchen, and, essentially prepare the space for the beginning of reconstruction. Obviously, the more prep work we full-heartedly volunteer to do as a parish, the less the contractor will be required to do at a fee! If you are willing and able to lend a hand, or two, please join our volunteers by contacting the administrative center at 724-295-2281.

Thanks

Function: *noun plural*

Meaning: *1 acknowledgment of having received something good from another*

Synonyms: *appreciation, appreciativeness, gratefulness, gratitude, thankfulness*

ALLELUIA! "Shout joyfully to the Lord, all you lands; worship the Lord with cries of gladness; come before him with joyful song." (Psalm 100) The "miracle" of not only meeting our goal but of exceeding it is a result of each one of you sowing the seeds of generosity. And on to those seeds you poured the nourishing waters of prayer. Your material and spiritual commitment to sustaining the life of St. Mary's parish into the future is deeply and humbly appreciated.

And let us celebrate the tireless and persistent direction of Fr. Ed Volz, Jeff Polana and Debbie Baustert, and the guidance of Mike Hutchison, of Graham-Pelton Consulting, without whom our capital campaign would not have been such a seismic success. Moreover, kudos to each member of the Parish Leadership Team and the 58 volunteers they assembled to reach and communicate with every member—active and inactive-- of our church family.

St. Mary's family demonstrated a willingness to give of their time, their talents and their treasure in order to realize *Today's Challenge ~ Tomorrow's Hope*. And they shall be known by their deeds...

Tracking Our Success

As of May 17th

Diocesan Goal:	\$355,000
Parish Goal:	\$635,000
Total Pledged*	\$714,720
Percentage of Diocesan Goal:	201%
Percentage of Parish Goal:	113%
Parish Rebate:	\$357,832
Number of Pledges:	366
Average Gift:	\$1,953

* Pledges are made over a 5-year period