



# "Our Faith in the Future" CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS REPORT 2013

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are about to begin the final year of the "Our Faith in the Future" capital campaign and I have been reflecting on the title of the campaign. Our faith is really placed in Jesus Christ and only in our connection to him, the branches to the Vine, is there a future for this Catholic Faith of ours. I am heartened by the beauty of the faith I encounter in the diocese and am confident that Christ's bride does indeed love her Bridegroom. That Faith in Jesus Christ and our connection to him ensures the future.



Rev. Francis Dobrzanski  
Diocesan Administrator

The expressions of our love in the generous contributions of time talent and treasure bear witness to a living faith here in Upper Michigan.

Without a bishop we are all experiencing the sadness that comes from being without our own successor to the Apostles. That loneliness calls to mind the words of Cardinal Newman describing his own response to loneliness: "I am in a great measure . . . thrown upon Himself . . . God, I trust, will support me in following whither He leads." We are still the Diocese of Marquette, and we are still entrusted with the work of announcing the Good News of Salvation and cooperating with God's grace for the salvation of our souls.

Thanks to your support for the campaign and the faithful fulfillment of your pledges, we continue that work of encouraging personal holiness toward union with Christ and the redemption of our souls.

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## RESTORING OUR CHURCH

After many decades, weather and other elements take a toll on our church buildings. The "Our Faith in the Future" capital campaign was an opportunity for many of our churches to make repairs and improvements.

### *A Very Big Year Saint Kateri, Bay Mills St. Francis Xavier, Brimley*

These two congregations, located in the northeast corner of the Diocese of Marquette, are linked and share a single pastor, Rev. Augustine Jacob. When Father Augustine began his new assignment here in 2012, he may not have anticipated the big year that lay ahead for both parishes!

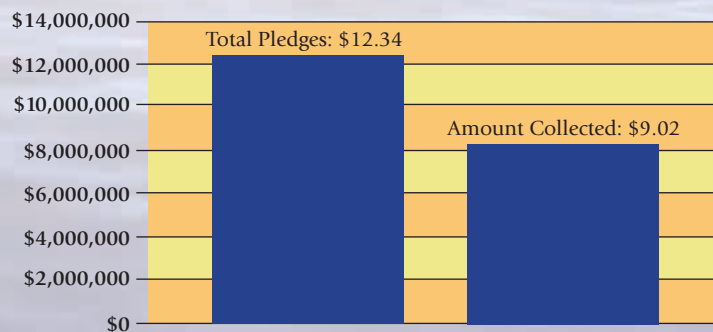
As if the October canonization of its namesake, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, and the subsequent re-naming of the mission from "Blessed" to "Saint" wasn't enough, St. Kateri and St. Francis Xavier, which jointly celebrated the Easter Vigil on March 20, saw a total of 29 welcomed into the Church— probably a record number in one year for this small community. Twenty-four received Baptism and five were welcomed to full communion with the Church. Additionally, St. Francis Xavier

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## Campaign Update

The "Big Picture" as of March 31, 2013

Total Pledged	\$12,340,700
Percent of Goal	123%
Amount Collected	\$ 9,022,571
Percent Collected	73%
# Responses	9,396
% Response	40%



Note: Update reflects all parishes, including parishes that chose "piggyback" campaign option. One parish with a delayed "piggyback" is counted at its guaranteed amount.

Now more than halfway through the campaign we are beginning to see the results of our common efforts, the work that no one of us could accomplish alone.

With the promise of my prayers for you and a plea for your prayers for me, I remain,

In Christ our Redeemer,

Father Francis Dobrzenski,  
Diocesan Administrator.



*The exterior trim of St. Francis Xavier church was recently painted.*

the flooring in the parish hall was redone. "The special flooring material used, Threadflex, is non-slip and is really good stuff," said parish secretary, Karen Serfass. At St. Francis Xavier, the exterior of the church has been painted. Both churches will be updating their audio/visual systems. Dianne Compo, who serves on the St. Kateri Pastoral Council, commented that while both parishes struggle with low weekly offertory collections, both did quite well with fundraising for the diocesan-wide capital campaign, and parishioners and friends have been very generous with donations above and beyond the capital campaign for special parish projects.

"I hope that people will continue to faithfully fulfill their campaign pledges, as a sign of their love for and stewardship of these wonderful churches that were built by and handed down to us by previous generations," said Father Augustine.

celebrated its 125th anniversary in August, drawing people from far and wide for a special commemorative Mass and program highlighting the history and future of the church.

With all of the doings, Father Augustine is glad for the "Our Faith in the Future" campaign proceeds that are flowing into both churches for renovations. At Saint Kateri, the decaying steps leading into the church were replaced and moved over a few feet, and

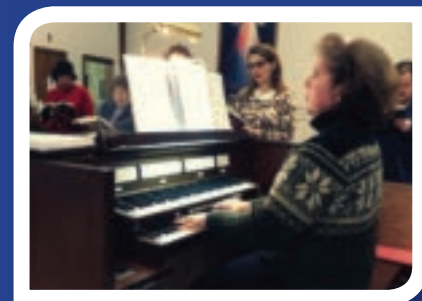


*Archbishop Sample with children of St. Kateri in the parish hall. The hall was recently "spruced up" with the help of capital campaign proceeds*

### *Three Parishes Launch Delayed Campaigns*

- St. Anthony, Gwinn
- St. Joseph, Northland
- St. Joseph & St. Patrick, Escanaba

When the "Our Faith in the Future" campaign was conducted in 2010, several parishes were granted "delayed" campaigns due to special circumstances at the time.



*Theresa Chartier of St. Anthony, Gwinn plays the new organ purchased with capital campaign proceeds.*

Three of those parishes launched their delayed "Our Faith in the Future" campaign during this past year.

St. Anthony, Gwinn and its mission, St. Joseph, Northland, conducted their campaign last fall. St. Anthony raised over \$161,000 in pledges to boost their "Rainy Day Fund" and purchase a new organ. St. Joseph raised more than \$83,000 in pledges toward replacement of their church furnace or other emergency needs.

In Escanaba, St. Joseph & St. Patrick parish is currently conducting their delayed piggyback campaign this spring.



# INTERIOR RESTORATION ADDS BEAUTY & HONORS HERITAGE

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Bark River*



*Repaired statue  
from closed church,  
Sacred Heart, Shaffer*



*Repaired statue  
from closed church,  
St. Michael,  
Perronville*

Taking good care of the church in Bark River is personal for Brad Madalinski, pastoral council president at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. "The church was built in 1932 and my grandparents wedding was the first to be celebrated there," he said. The parish used its capital campaign proceeds for major interior restoration.

The sanctuary floor was replaced with glistening porcelain tile. The walls were reinforced with fiber glass sheeting and repainted. Beautiful stenciling on the ceiling and sanctuary walls depicts holy images that add depth and meaning to the celebration of the Mass. New lighting fixtures brighten the environment. "They (Affiliated Artists of Milwaukee) did a phenomenal job!" Brad said.



*Newly renovated sanctuary of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Bark River*

Statues of St. Michael the Archangel (which came from St. Michael Church in Perronville) and St. Therese the Little Flower (which came from Sacred Heart Church in Schaffer), which were deteriorating and broken, were repaired and repainted and now stand proudly honoring the heritage of those parishes which merged with St. George Parish in Bark River in 1995 to form the new parish of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. The statues represent three parish communities that have come together under one roof.

# CAMPAIGN MAKES SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS POSSIBLE

Parishes that subsidize a Catholic school were asked to share their parish portion of campaign proceeds 50/50 with the local school. The nine Catholic schools in the diocese are using campaign proceeds to make a variety of physical plant improvements, technology upgrades, and curriculum enhancements.

A display board in the entrance of Father Marquette Elementary School proudly boasts, "Watch for New and Exciting Improvements Over the Summer!" and "Provided by Capital Campaign Funds!" Plans call for all new windows and a new flat roof.

The current windows are the originals from 1958 when the school was built. Fourth grader Ruth Hummell said, "When it's cold outside it lets the cold air in and when it's hot outside it gets really hot in the classroom."

Fourth grader Madison Balko is excited about the new windows. "I am moving to the Father Marquette Middle School building next year, but my little brother still goes here and these improvements are really needed."

The improvements are scheduled to be completed by fall, in time for the start of the new school year.



*Excitement Builds*

*Father Marquette School, Marquette*



## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

A portion of the capital campaign funds is designated for the Foundation. The Foundation is a vital component of our diocese's future planning and vision. The perpetual

nature of the endowment ensures a consistent and reliable funding source. Grants from the Foundation benefit our parishes, missions, Catholic schools, Catholic Social Services of the Upper Peninsula, and other important ministries that foster the Catholic faith. To learn more, visit [www.LegacyOfFaith.net](http://www.LegacyOfFaith.net).

Coming Soon: Parish and school grants for the 2013-2014 year will be announced.

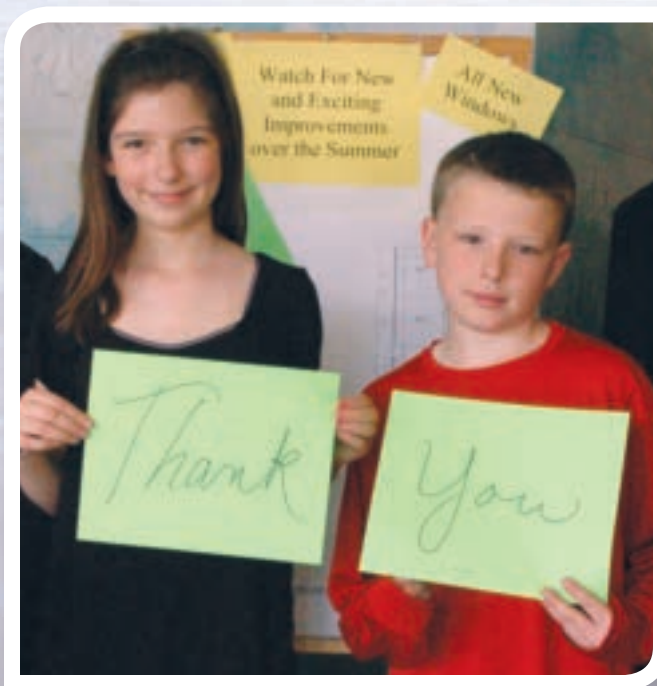


*A new fire suppression system has been installed over the hall kitchen range at St. Paul the Apostle in Calumet. This fully licensed kitchen is used often in service to parishioners and community with weekly bingo concession, funeral luncheons, fall festival, and more.*

## PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS!

Your timely pledge payments enable us to provide the necessary funding to parishes and schools for vital improvements to the physical plants and ministerial programs.

Should you have any questions or wish to make a change to your pledge, please call Wendy Negri at 906/227-9104 or email [wnegri@dioceseofmarquette.org](mailto:wnegri@dioceseofmarquette.org).



## Perpetuating Christ's Work In The Church

Fulfillment of the church's mission is dependent in part on the sustained support of the people of the Diocese of Marquette. You can help support the good works of the Church in the Upper Peninsula through a variety of planned gift methods.

Please remember the Church in your estate planning. Request our brochure on Catholic stewardship and planned giving by calling 906/227-9108 or emailing [tgadzinski@dioceseofmarquette.org](mailto:tgadzinski@dioceseofmarquette.org).

