



The Catholic Diocese of Lansing

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish/St. John Church & Student Center  
Preliminary Case Statement**

For many years the East Lansing Catholic Community has been a beacon of our Catholic faith and heritage in East Lansing. Through the efforts of its many pastors and its faith-filled parishioners, our parish has continued to thrive and grow.

Today under the leadership of Fr. Mark Ingot, our parish has over 3400 families, making it one of the largest parishes in the Diocese of Lansing. Our school and campus ministry programs continue to thrive. Our parish has many outreach programs, vibrant liturgies and superb educational programs for all ages.

In recent years it has become apparent that our parish not only needs additional space, but additional work needs to be done to some of our existing properties. At the present time we are proposing to move forward with the following projects:

- Repairs to St. Thomas Aquinas Church floor
- New on-site rectory
- Renovation of heating/cooling at St. John Church & Student Center)
- New pre-school & after care building at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School  
(includes demolition of old convent)
- Pole barn for storage of maintenance equipment
- Replace roof systems at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School
- Replace intercom system at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School

It is estimated that the total cost of all of these projects is \$2,590,000.

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 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 the East Lansing Catholic Community, we are planning to conduct an expanded campaign to support our major projects 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 \$4,300,000. Of this amount, \$2,590,000 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 Diocese would pay for all of the cost of the campaign including printing, postage, pledge redemption, and other related campaign costs. 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 be able to meet our own important needs and play an important role in fostering a better and stronger future for the Catholic faith in South Central Michigan.