CSA Gap Closure Meeting

Oct. 21, 2026 6:00 pm

Attendees

- Staff:
- Stewardship Committee:
- Finance Council:
- Pastoral Council:

1) **2026 goal and pledge status:**
   a) Goal: $ 245,461 (5.75% increase over 2025 goal)
   b) Pledges and payments as of Oct. 18: $219,889 (89.6% to goal, 435 households out of 1023)
   c) Amount Collected: $172,396 (Aug 31)
2) **Review reference information on page 2 (Diocesan CSA Report, thank you Bob Allen for compiling)**
3) **Discuss actions taken since Sept. 9 Leadership Meeting and results from these actions:**
   a) Letter campaign to non-pledged households.
   b) Bulletin and social media postings.
   c) Intercession prayers.
4) **Discuss if further actions are needed and what those actions might be.**
5) **Discuss if further CSA meetings are needed and possible schedule.**
6) **Adjourn**

Reference Information

1) Comparison to 2025 HRP CSA (Aug 31).

- **a)** 2025 Goal: $232,110
- **b)** 2025 Pledges: $242,521
- **c)** Average pledge: $535
- **d)** 2025 Payments: $240,231
- **e)** Rebate paid to parish: $8,121
- **f)** Number of donor households: 438 out of 1017 (43.1%)

2) Comparison to parishes of comparable size (Aug. 31).

- **a)** Total parishes in the Diocese: 79
  - **i)** Parishes with CSA Goals > $200K: 10 (below)
  - **ii)** Holy Redeemer CSA Goal ranking: 5th highest
- **b)** Number of parishes at or above CSA Goal: 37
- **c)** % of parishes with household participation at or above 50%: 15%
  - **i)** Average % of household participation across all parishes: 39
- **d)** Holy Redeemer performance to Goal, rank: 51st out of 75
  - **i)** Holy Redeemer % of household participation, rank: 38
- **e)** % Paid versus pledged: 85%
- **f)** Number of donors participating across all parishes: 13,590

Parish / City as of 8/31	Goal	Total Pledged	Total Paid	Goal Shortfall	% of Goal	% of Goal Rank	No. of Donors	% of Parish Participation	% of PP Rank
Holy Spirit - GR	$282,627	$274,085	$233,395	$8,542	97.00%	41	507	32.00%	49
St Robert of Newminster - Ada	$275,983	$342,123	$312,002	-$66,140	124.00%	9	428	20.10%	70
St Thomas The Apostle - GR	$272,908	$358,119	$294,732	-$85,211	131.20%	5	325	43.70%	23
Our Lady of Consolation - Rockford	$251,971	$291,761	$240,408	-$39,790	115.80%	20	419	25.20%	65
Holy Redeemer - Jenison	**$245,461**	**$213,624**	**$172,396**	**$31,837**	**87.00%**	**51**	**387**	**37.70%**	**38**
St Sebastian - Byron Center	$244,827	$267,882	$236,614	-$23,055	109.40%	25	383	38.10%	37
St Anthony of Padua - GR	$243,991	$202,019	$179,271	$41,972	82.80%	57	450	29.40%	57
Immaculate Heart of Mary - GR	$228,764	$264,687	$222,715	-$35,923	115.70%	21	310	42.20%	26
Holy Family - Caledonia	$222,974	$226,719	$186,242	-$3,745	101.70%	33	293	28.10%	58
St Pius X - Grandville	$213,296	$250,714	$199,789	-$37,418	117.50%	16	349	41.80%	27

CSA Pledge Meeting Minutes – Stewardship Committee, Finance Council, Pastoral Council, Business Manager
Oct. 21, 2026

Attendees: Bob Allen, Pete Walenta, Dan Vaughn, Shelley Yakubowski, Keith Tolger, Dorothy Rabourn, Bernie Bowhuis, Ken Hall

Discussion Items:

- Current pledge status is $221,014 to the goal of $245,461 ($24,447 gap).
- There are ten parishes in the diocese, including HRP, with CSA goals > $200K. Seven of these parishes had met their goals by August.
- The percentage of households participating in CSA at HRP is consistent with other parishes of similar size.
- Households at HRP may be feeling financially stretched, resulting in less giving.
- There are many donation requests for worthy charities made during the year. Perhaps some parishioners get "donation fatigue" from all the requests. Also, some may prefer to donate to a specific charity they understand versus a diocesan charity they don't.
- The letter to households that have not pledged has been sent. Some responses.
- Priests emphasizing CSA giving is important; must be balanced with other giving requests and announcements.
- There is concern about over-communicating for CSA. People become tired of hearing about CSA, especially when it is not clear what the funds are used for. We need to be thoughtful in our communication approach.
- Ideas for 2027 CSA planning and communication were discussed. Prior to starting the 2027 campaign, Stewardship, Finance, Pastoral and Staff groups will meet to align on a plan.
- Shelley and Ken have had discussions with Alex Winn of the Diocesan Foundation. He leads diocesan CSA activities, and was helpful in sharing information. He has offered to speak at upcoming Masses on CSA.

Actions:

1. **Continue with bulletin, Flocknote and social media updates.** Review a specific item in each update that CSA supports (e.g. "Did you know that CSA provides financial support to diocesan seminarians.").
    - Shelley has discussed with Sally Bosch and together they will manage the updates.
2. **Continue with prayer during Intercessions.**
3. **Create "thermometers" to track pledges.** Ask high school students to create.
    - Shelley has discussed with Amy Fleck, who will work with HS students. Shelley has found a space on bulletin boards in the hallway to Shepherds Hall to display thermometers.
4. **Show CSA videos on screens in Shepherds Hall after Masses.**
    - Shelley is working with Sally to display the videos. We need to be sensitive to over-communication.

5. **Ask Alex Winn of the diocese to speak about CSA at upcoming Masses.**
    - Shelley had spoken to Alex and Fr. Victor. This is tentatively planned for Dec. 5/6 or Dec. 12/13, pending Alex reviewing his schedule (he and his wife are expecting a baby soon!). Also, Fr. Victor will have returned from his Nov. trip to Vietnam.
6. **Ongoing leadership communication and next meeting.**
    - We agreed to communicate about action updates, pledge status and other items by email for the next 4 to 8 weeks. Target Jan. to bring this group back together in person. If needed a quick meeting will be set up by Ken prior to Jan.