

**January 2012**



**Life Center 2011 Progress: Faithfulness and Abundance!**

Good news is fun to share, and we have much of it to report.

First, thank you for your faithful support of the vision for the Life Center at St. Thomas. Each gift is vital and an honored part of moving us forward to begin construction in 2013. With two years still left in the campaign, we have collected \$2,477,129 in pledges to date. This amount exceeds what we had anticipated receiving by the end of 2011 because of some very faithful donors who have paid their entire pledge, increased their pledge, or applied matching gifts from their employer to St. Thomas.

Second, the campaign received an important gift in December that demonstrates the wider community's appreciation for the Life Center as a resource beyond our parish. The Medina Foundation, a family foundation established by Norton Clapp to "improve the lives of those in need by fostering positive change and helping people attain independence and dignity," made a grant of \$100,000 to the Life Center. This generous grant is one of the largest grants ever provided by the Medina Foundation.

So, we are very encouraged and enthusiastic about our goals for the Life Center. We are on track to meet or exceed our pledge commitments from within the parish, and we continue to build relationships and seek support from donors outside of the parish who have an interest in the Life Center project. Each gift is very important.

With your continued support, we expect to break ground for the project in the summer of 2013. A few commitments for 2011 remain outstanding. To paraphrase Mother Teresa, we are not called to be perfect; we are called to be faithful. If you have not fulfilled your pledge for 2011, please let us know if we can be helpful in any way; it is not too late.

Look for more updates on Life Center progress in the weeks and months to come, and feel free to ask questions of anyone at Sunday coffee hour wearing the "Ask Me" button.