



Board of Trustees Report: 3 Peaks Campaign for Mt. Irenaeus Update

Prepared by Rob Buckla, Campaign Director

November 2025

The 3 Peaks Campaign Cabinet is pleased to report that much progress has been made toward our working goal of \$7-12 million. The latest, up-to-date cash and pledge total will be shared during the Board meeting but, as of November 3, 2025, more than **\$4,993,370** in written and verbal commitments have been recorded in the campaign's leadership gift phase. The Top 10 largest commitments total nearly \$4.25 million of the \$4.99 million total. Of the \$4.99 million total, \$1,175,000 is committed through estate plans.

The Campaign Cabinet expects to recommend a 3 Peaks Campaign goal in early 2026 and announce the public phase of the fundraising initiative.

It is important to note that most donors are paying pledges over five years which means the full impact of the endowment investment revenue stream will not impact Mountain finances until 2030. Therefore, the Mountain Fund and Mountain Auction must remain strong and continue to grow in order to be responsive to the increased costs of sustaining the Mountain's mission.

The Cabinet is co-chaired by the New Jersey-based duo of **Les Quick & Bob Daugherty** while Rochester-based **Jim Gould** is chair of our Upstate NY division. The Campaign effort is supported by **Br. Kevin Kriso, ofm**, Board Chair **Kathy Colucci**, Executive Director **Mike Fenn**, Board member **Evan McElroy**, fundraising volunteer **Dick Tantillo** and Campaign Director Rob Buckla.

As of November 3, 2025, all 13 members of the Mountain's 2024-25 Board of Trustees were contacted and invited to participate in the Campaign. Seven written commitments have been secured; two verbal pledges have been recorded; the remaining Trustees are considering their gift amounts. One new (2025-26) member of the Board of Trustees was invited to participate in the campaign and considering an amount; the remaining two will be asked in the 2025-26 fiscal year. Trustee giving is being inspired by former Trustee **Maureen Dee** is matching Trustee gifts up to

a total of \$200,000 to the Campaign. \$41,000 in Dee matching gifts are still available. Our Board goal is, of course, 100 percent participation.

The first campaign-centric Mt. Irenaeus reception was hosted by Olean philanthropist **Marianne Laine** and held on Saturday, November 1 at Moonwinks Restaurant in Cuba, NY. **Mike Fenn, Rob Buckla, Mary Giardini and Br. Joe Kotula** participated in the reception for donors and prospective donors in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Allegany counties. A campaign reception, followed by a Mass presided by **Fr. Bill McIntyre, ofm**, will be held on November 16 in the Cleveland area and hosted at the home of SBU alumna **Laurie Forino Colagiovanni**. Additional receptions are being planned as the Campaign's public phase begins to roll out. An 80s Weekend Overnight is scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2026; approximately 25 alumni of the 1980s are expected at Mt. Irenaeus for this special space-limited gathering.

Our 13-page Case for Support—a source document is being tapped for proposals and solicitations. The document has been converted into a printed brochure which will accompany a Ways to Give brochure. Personal profiles on all Mountain friars and those engaged in Mt. Irenaeus ministry have been created. **Evan McElroy, Mary Freeman and Amy Moritz** helped Rob Buckla write these profiles. All Campaign communications materials have been designed by a contracted Buffalo-based free-lance designer.

Lastly, the campaign's Decades Initiative was launched this fall and is expected to include face-to-face solicitations, Zoom solicitations and receptions. This fundraising effort will be one component of the public phase of the Campaign where decades of St. Bonaventure alumni will be invited to support the Mountain and its campaign. Volunteers, representing the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, 2010s, have been recruited for this effort and working individually with Rob Buckla to execute customized plans. It is very important to note that this effort is critically important for the Mountain's future fundraising as the base of support is widened and bolstered.

A big thanks to **Michelle Marcellin** and **Mary Giardini** for their support of the campaign as well as the campaign finance team of **Martha Kopcienski, Katie Trosch, Mike Fenn** and Rob Buckla.