



Office of the Archbishop
830 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

September 24, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This letter begins with a word of thanks to all who have participated in the Pulaski Corridor Grouping for the Renew My Church parish grouping process. In your encounters you learned more about each other and listened to Jesus' call for a kind of renewal that involves making disciples, building communities and inspiring witness.

These are the aims of Renew My Church, with the goal of fostering a greater sense of belonging, especially among our young people, with the hope of achieving vibrant and sustainable parishes and schools that are life-giving and which form existing and new members. In a word, Renew My Church asks us to come together in solidarity and bring the light and hope of Jesus Christ to a world in need.

You have undertaken the task of reviewing the structures of your area with an eye to determining the best way to organize your efforts for greater ministerial vitality supported by increased financial stability.

Having studied the reports based on months of your review, discussions, feedback, and discernment regarding the future structures for your area, I have made the following decisions:

- i. St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish will continue in its current parish structure, with a full-time resident pastor.
- ii. St. Catherine of Alexandria School will continue as a ministry of the parish.
- iii. St. Terrence will continue in its current parish structure, with a full-time resident pastor.
- iv. St. Terrence Parish leadership and Archdiocesan leadership will identify an alternate grouping for further discernment.
- v. St. Germaine and Our Lady of Loretto Parishes will unite to form one new parish led by one pastor and one staff team, effective July 1, 2019.
- vi. Within the next couple of years, at a time determined by parish leadership in consultation with Archdiocesan leadership, the newly formed parish will come together at St. Germaine Church while Our Lady of Loretto Church will close. St. Germaine School will remain as a ministry of the parish with the prior benchmarks and goals established by the Office of Catholic Schools.



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Through the new parish structures, the Alsip, Hometown and Oak Lawn communities will unite their resources to become a stronger, more sustainable Catholic presence for the future capable of reaching more people in their work of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Over the next few months, the Archdiocese will work with all involved to ensure an orderly and smooth transition to the new parish structure. The Archdiocese's Priest Placement Board will work with you to identify a pastor to lead the new parish. Your cooperation with the implementation phase is appreciated.

Once again, I thank you for your work, time, and dedication throughout this process. You are in my prayers, and I ask you to keep me in yours.

Wishing you every blessing, with kind regards I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago