



Jesus Christ calls us to constantly renew His Church. *Renew My Church* is the Archdiocese of Chicago's response to His call and our invitation for renewal.

### We Need Your Input

Below is a summary of where we are today, but much more will be shared in our next parish meeting on Monday, April 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. – please come to learn more and share your feedback and input.

### Process Overview

Renewal requires envisioning, planning, and new means to bring Jesus Christ to others. There are nearly 100 groupings of parishes and schools across the Archdiocese. Each grouping will engage in a process to address necessary questions of structure, how to work together across communities within each grouping, and to establish a strong foundation for vitality through focused evangelization and faith formation efforts. Supporting our parishes with the best structures enables us to breathe renewed life into our efforts to make disciples, build communities, and inspire witness.

### Initial Scenarios

To initiate discussion, the Archdiocese has offered our grouping a set of initial scenarios that show potential models of how parishes and schools could be configured in the future. These initial scenarios, which will be shared in detail at our next parish meeting, are conversation starters only. **No decisions have been made.** These scenarios reflect our grouping's local realities using a set of criteria to evaluate how a structure would support vitality and ensure viability, such as:

- **Ministerial and spiritual needs of the parish:** To ensure quality resources for worship, pastoral care, religious education, and evangelization, parishes ordinarily will have a justly-paid, professionally-trained staff team. On average, a parish will need a minimum **operating revenue of \$500,000** (excluding rental income) to support staffing and other operating expenses. **Operating revenue of \$750,000 or more (excluding rental income) is strongly preferred** to invest in important ministry roles.
- **Parishioner count and Mass attendance:** Based on the projection of pastors available across the Archdiocese, parishes ordinarily need a **minimum of 800 parishioners** attending Mass each weekend to be assigned a **full-time resident pastor**, with consideration given to particular local and cultural circumstances; a **minimum of 1,200 parishioners attending weekend Mass for long-term vitality**
- **Balanced workloads for priests:** It is critical that our pastors are supported with the resources and teams to support sacramental life, pastoral care, and parish administration.
- **Parish financial stability and facilities:** Parish financial stability and adequate, accessible and safe facilities with capacity for growth and ongoing repair/maintenance.
- **School vitality and financial stability:** A key measure is the **potential to enroll a minimum of 240 students in PK-8**, considering area demographics and parish student population; as well as ensuring quality education, strong student social development, and sustainable operations.

On the following page are the initial scenarios to begin the conversation for our grouping. Our grouping consists of Our Lady of Loretto Parish, St. Germaine Parish and School, St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish and School, and St. Terrence Parish.

There are four initial scenarios for how the parishes and schools could be organized differently from today – possibilities to bring together resources and leadership to enable new methods for carrying out our mission in the grouping. The scenarios refer to a united canonical parish: a model in which two or more current parishes become one parish – with one pastor, budget, staff, Finance Council, etc. – but that can have multiple active worship sites.

