



February 20/21, 2021
Renew My Church Update

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Hope,

On February 9th, the Renew My Church Grouping team met for the second time. At this meeting we established a name for our group of six parishes. Our grouping will now be referred to as the **O'Hare Neighborhood Group**. As stated in the previous update, this meeting focused on the process of discerning and discussing possible structural renewal options within our grouping. Conversations of possible scenarios for the O'Hare Neighborhood Group will continue at our next meeting on February 23rd. The scenarios that are being proposed center around the benchmarks of parish vitality set by the Archdiocese: an average of at least 800 people in attendance at weekend masses and annual collection revenue of at least \$750,000.

As a reminder, **no church buildings will close in this process**; however, there is a possibility of change in parish structures within the grouping. As an example, this could include changes in things like programs and ministries offered or staffing structure.

In addition to conversations centered around structural renewal, we learned about the process our team will undertake over the next four weeks to discern and highlight the strengths and opportunities of our parish, and to ensure that the renewal through Renew My Church will build on our strengths and enrich areas in need for change.

To share more information with parishioners about the initial scenarios that the lead team for Renew My Church has proposed for our grouping, we will offer two informational meetings:

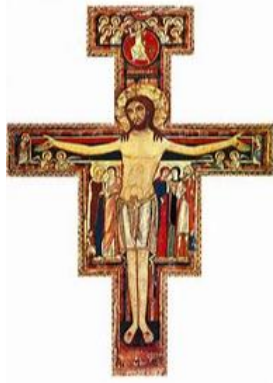
1. **Sunday, March 7th after the 10:30am mass.** (This will be an in-person meeting and will only be open to those that have registered for the 10:30am mass. The meeting will also be live streamed following the mass.)
2. **Sunday, March 7th at 6:00pm via Zoom.**

Participants in these meetings will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments (this option will not be available for those observing the in-person meeting via livestream after the 10:30 mass but will be available to those meeting in-person and to all participants of the evening Zoom session). Additionally, you can reach out with questions or comments to Tom Wetzel at thomaswetzel@ameritech.net as the team contact person.

Please continue to keep our team and all the parishioners of the O'Hare Neighborhood Group in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Our Lady of Hope Renew My Church Grouping Team



A prayer for Renew My Church

Lord Jesus, you speak to us today,
as you spoke to holy men and women
who have gone before us.

In every age and in our own time,
you call to us and say: Renew My Church.
Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us,
and so enable us
to hear you clearly
to listen to each other attentively
to imagine our future boldly
to discern your direction wisely
to persevere in your holy will courageously
to stay together in charity
to surrender our own plans readily
to embrace the greater good
to hand on your gifts to future generations.

May we remain in the holy company of
the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles and all the saints.

May their example and presence
inspire us with patient confidence
in the work of your grace.

We ask this of you who live and reign
with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever. Amen