



January 16, 2021

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Hope,

The Renew My Church Grouping Team for Our Lady of Hope is composed of 5 individuals who will represent the parish and needs of the parishioners in upcoming grouping meetings. Our team members include:

- Fr. Wojciech Oleksy, who has been the pastor for 2.5 years
- Geriann Gentile, business manager and a parishioner for the last 26 years
- Christy Bowman, current co-chair of the parish council, and a parishioner for 36 years with her husband and two young children
- Tom Ramsden, parishioner for 17 years with his wife and two high school aged sons
- Tom Wetzel, current parish council member and parishioner for 2 years with his wife

Our grouping consists of the following parishes: Our Lady of Hope (Rosemont), Our Lady of Ransom (Niles), Immaculate Conception (Chicago), St. Juliana (Chicago), St. Paul of the Cross (Park Ridge), and Mary, Seat of Wisdom (Park Ridge). The first meeting with the parishes in our grouping is January 26th. The groupings will continue to meet every two weeks through March.

At the first meeting, the groupings will discuss possible scenarios of the Renew My Church plan, specifically as it relates to all six parishes mentioned above. **The good news is that no buildings in our grouping will be closing**, meaning that Our Lady of Hope, as a Church, will continue to be open. The question is in what capacity. The three options that stand at this point are as follows:

1. No change to the parish structure - This means that all six parishes would remain as are, with the possibility of shared ministries across parishes to use resources more effectively.
2. Join another parish - This means Our Lady of Hope Church would act as a worship site/satellite church of another larger parish. The church would still continue to provide pastoral ministry to parishioners and visitors.
3. Become a Mission - This means Our Lady of Hope Church would take on a special task, not only serving the current parishioners, but also perhaps a special population of people or with a unique purpose.

As the Renew My Church Grouping Teams meet in the future, they will provide updates to the parish through our various communication tools. The purpose of the meetings is to create a recommendation that will be presented to Cardinal Cupich, who will then, after consulting the advisory councils, make the final determination in what our grouping will look like through the Renew My Church process. If you have any questions, you can reach out to Tom Wetzel at **thomaswetzel@ameritech.net** as the contact person.

Please keep our Team and all the parishioners of all six parishes 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