



March 6, 2021

Dear Parishioners of St. Bede the Venerable, St. Denis, and St. Thomas More,

First, please know of my prayers for you as we continue our Lenten journey.

As Cardinal Cupich's Liaison for Renew My Church, I lead the Renew My Church (RMC) Executive Committee who reviews each grouping. The other members of the RMC Executive Committee are your regional vicar Bishop Andrew Wypych, our Vicar General Bishop Robert Casey, as well as the archdiocese's Chief Operating Officer, Chief Strategy Officer, and Superintendent of Catholic Schools. We have the great joy of meeting with each grouping to have a live discussion about the feedback emerging from your discernment.

On behalf of the RMC Executive Committee, please accept our gratitude for the hard work your Grouping Feedback & Discernment Team (GFDT) has done over the recent months. We had a rich conversation with members of the GFDT on February 10th about the feedback report submitted for your grouping. Your GFDT should be commended for their excellent discernment and feedback.

In the decision making process, Cardinal Cupich hears from two advisory groups before making a decision: the Renew My Church Commission, comprised of lay representatives from across the archdiocese, and the Presbyteral Council, an advisory group of priests Cardinal Cupich hears before making decisions that affect parish structures. Each of those groups wrestled with the relative pros and cons of the scenarios your GFDT considered in which all three parishes would form one parish (meaning one staff, one budget, one set of financial accounts) or two parishes. Based on their feedback and concerns, more time is needed to follow up on questions and concerns that remain before Cardinal Cupich makes a final decision for your grouping. **To confirm, this means there will not be a decision this month about your grouping's parish structure. The all parishioner meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, will be cancelled. We expect to resolve the questions and concerns in the coming weeks so that Cardinal Cupich will make a decision in early May.** We want to ensure the final decision addresses the full set of pastoral concerns raised by your grouping leaders, the RMC Commission, and Presbyteral Council so the future structure best serves the future needs of the local Church in your area.

We know the Lord remains with us, and we will be strengthened by keeping each other in prayer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Jason Malave".

Rev. Jason Malave
Cardinal's Liaison for Renew My Church