

The West Town 7 Catholic Community of West Town

January 31, 2021

Dear Church Members:

As you know, St. Helen, Holy Innocents, St. Malachy +Precious Blood, St. Mark, St. Stephen, King of Hungary, and **Santa Maria Addolorata** Parishes engaged in Renew My Church discernment process through the fall of 2020. The Group Feedback and Discernment Team (GFDT), which was composed of members of each parish community, met to review and discern the future parish structures for our area. Their feedback was presented to the Archdiocese Standards and Recommendation Commission which evaluated the feedback and submitted it to be reviewed. In the past few weeks, Cardinal Blaise Cupich, the archdiocese's auxiliary bishops, and the archdiocese's Presbyteral Council met to discuss the GFDT's feedback and the recommendation from the Commission. Based on the discussions and the prayerful consideration, Cardinal Cupich has made the following final decision regarding West Town.

Parish #1

New parish name and new pastor is to be determined.

New Mass schedule to be determined.

Effective July 1, 2021, St. Helen, St. Mark, and Holy Rosary will unite as one parish with one pastor and one pastoral team.

- St Helen will be the main worship site and will maintain all sacramental records.
- St. Mark will end ministry on or before Ash Wednesday, 2022 (3/2022).
- St. Stephen, King of Hungary, will become a canonical mission and the pastor of Parish #1 will serve as Rector of this Mission.
- Future use of Holy Rosary will be evaluated yearly with a final decision on the future of the parish within three years.
- There are no structural changes to St. Helen School.

Parish #2

New parish name and new pastor is to be determined.

New Mass schedule to be determined.

Effective July 1, 2021, Holy Innocents, St. Malachy +Precious Blood, and **Santa Maria Addolorata** will unite as one parish with one pastor and one pastoral team.

- Holy Innocents and St. Malachy +Precious Blood will both be worship sites for the newly created parish. St. Malachy +Precious Blood will maintain all sacramental records.
- **Santa Maria Addolorata** will end ministry on or before Ash Wednesday, 2022 (3/2022).
- There are no structural changes to St. Malachy School.

This has been a difficult process for all of us. As pastors we have meeting for more than a year working with each other and prayerfully listening to God's direction for us personally and for all of The West Town 7. We realize that this decision will be painful for many as it is painful for us. However, we truly believe that God has led us through the desert to this promised land.

In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus prays for unity: "that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you" (John 17:21). Let us work together to establish new parishes unified in the mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please remember this too is a sacred "a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens" Ecclesiastes 3.

Continue to pray for each other and for us. Know that you are in our daily prayers.

Sincerely,

Pastors of The West Town 7



Fr. Ed Cronin
St. Helen
St. Stephen, King of Hungary



Fr. Juan Carlos Arrieta Correa
Holy Innocents



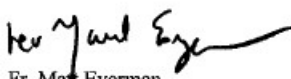
Fr. Martin Ibarra
St. Mark



Fr. Firmo Mantovani, CS
Santa Maria Addolorata



Fr. Tom Baldonieri
Holy Rosary



Fr. Mark Eyerman
St. Malachy + Precious Blood