



Renew My Church: Stony Grove Grouping Update **January 2018**

The *Renew My Church* Stony Grove grouping includes St. Ailbe Parish and School, St. Felicitas Parish and St. Joachim Parish in the City of Chicago.

Discernment Process

The Stony Grove grouping began the *Renew My Church* review and discernment process several months ago. The Grouping Feedback and Discernment Team, which was made up of representatives from each of the parishes, met to review and discern the future church, parish and school structures for the Stony Grove area. Based on their meetings and discussions with the larger parish community, they submitted a report for the Archdiocesan Standards and Recommendations Commission, which included representatives from across the Archdiocese.

The Archdiocesan Commission met to review the feedback report and other materials and information, including demographic data, financial summaries, and parish and grouping trends.

Decision

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago, and the Archdiocese's Presbyteral Council met, and based on the Archdiocesan Commission's recommendation and other considerations, a final decision was made in January 2018 regarding the grouping's structure.

All three parishes in the Stony Grove area – St. Ailbe, St. Felicitas and St. Joachim – will unite to form one new parish led by one pastor and staff team, effective July 1, 2018. The newly formed parish will come together at St. Ailbe Church by July 1, 2019. St. Felicitas Church and St. Joachim Church will close at a time before July 1, 2019, to be determined by parish leadership in consultation with Archdiocesan leadership. St. Ailbe School will remain open as the new parish's school.

Through the new parish structure, the Stony Grove community will unite their resources to become a stronger presence and reach more people in their work to implement the *Renew My Church* vision: to make disciples, build communities and inspire witness.

Next Steps

Over the next few months, the Archdiocese will work with the Stony Grove community to ensure an orderly and smooth transition to the new parish structure. The Archdiocese's Priest Placement Board will work with the community to identify a pastor to lead the new parish.