

Dear People of St. Colette, Mision San Juan Diego, St. Theresa and St. Thomas of Villanova,

God has made Himself vulnerable in a baby born in straw poverty, an act of humility of the One who is all. “Renew My Church” is a process inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, a Saint of humility and obedience. St. Francis was inspired in that same vulnerability of God. It connected him to the Lord and to his brothers and sisters accomplishing a much needed renewal in the Church. We strive for the same connection to one another and to the Lord. May we let ourselves be free of attachments and open to welcome the Lord so that He is present in stronger and more vibrant communities!

Beginning in January, our grouping of Parishes (named by us “PALMEADOW HEIGHTS” because our Churches are located in Palatine, Rolling Meadows and Arlington Heights) will begin the “Renew My Church” process. The process is expected to take six or seven months. Each parish in the grouping will have a team of representatives working together, consisting of the Pastor, Associate Pastors, Principal (if there is a school), one other Pastoral Staff member, two parishioners at large and two school representatives. A facilitator is being provided by the Archdiocese of Chicago to help guide the process with us. There will be six meetings which will take place between January through May. These meetings will begin to draw out questions and topics to be addressed together by the “Palmeadow Heights” grouping. In addition, two Town Hall Meetings will provide an opportunity for the individual Parish teams to hear from their parishioners.

“Renew My Church” will engage the following goals in every grouping throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago:

MAKING DISCIPLES

“Renew My Church” fosters belonging, particularly among young people, and invites them to have a true encounter and relationship with Jesus Christ. It evangelizes and forms new and existing Catholics in faith. It also will work to increase vocations.

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

“Renew My Church” supports vibrant parishes and schools that cultivate bonds with each other and provoke active participation in His Church. It will improve leadership development and support. It will increase parish mission vitality and Catholic school mission vitality.

INSPIRING WITNESS

“Renew My Church” asks us to come together in solidarity and spread the light and hope of Jesus Christ in order to transform the world.

In addition, our “Palmeadow Heights” grouping will work together to come up with a plan that will specifically engage our four Parishes as we plan for future ministry together. We are all very grateful for the opportunity to work together and look forward to whatever the Holy Spirit will inspire us to accomplish in the years ahead.

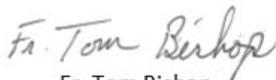
In the words of Tiny Tim this Christmas season, “God bless us every one!”

Merry Christmas!

Feliz Navidad!

Wesołych Świąt!


Fr. Diego Berrio


Fr. Tom Bishop


Fr. Tim Fairman

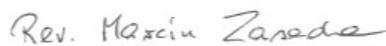

Fr. Alexander Garcia


Fr. Matt Jamesson


Fr. Mirek Kulesa


Fr. Michael Lewon


Fr. Tom Rzepiela


Fr. Marcin Zasada