



### November 2022 update

As most of you know, with the retirement on November 1st of Father Joe Jagodensky, administrator of St. Catherine of Alexandria, I assumed the position of Interim Administrator of that parish. Fortunately, due to the collaboration efforts thus far, I have been working closely with both the parish staff and lay leaders of St. Catherine, so the transition has been somewhat smooth.

We are now working with a Tri-Parish Steering Committee and Tri-Parish Workgroups to move the collaboration process forward. All three parishes have good representation on both the Steering Committee and Workgroups. We are also receiving great support from the Archdiocese staff in many areas.

The Combined Workgroups have begun to meet to begin the next phase of this collaboration: that is, looking at possible changes to make our three parishes a vibrant, growing Catholic presence in our northwest Milwaukee area. Our planning mission statement is:

***“Develop a vibrant and welcoming faith community of collaborating parishes, committed to praising God through worship, faith formation and serving others in need.”***

We have also provided specific planning guidance to our Workgroups. This planning guidance stresses true collaboration, taking bold actions instead of incremental steps, growing our parishes, and serving our extended communities. There will need to be candid and tough future discussions about Mass schedules, staffing at the parishes, common liturgies, better community outreach, and other issues. Recommendations for any changes will come to the Steering Committee from the Workgroups—the lay members of the parishes. This “bottom-up” approach to change ensures that the best interests of each parish will be carefully considered.

What will NOT change is that the parishes will not combine or merge; each will remain a separate entity. To that end, all parishes continue to rely on you for your financial support... now and in the future!

There will soon be a dedicated website, designed by parishioners with help from the Archdiocese, which will contain all of the vital information on our progress and future plans as well as updates on the timelines that we are working towards.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Gregory Greiten

***“Consult not your fears, but your hopes and dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.”*** Pope Saint John XXIII