



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

1150 Buffalo Road
Rochester, New York 14624
(585) 328-3210

July 23, 2018

Dear Deacon Lee:

I write to acknowledge your kind letter dated July 19, 2018, which arrived at my office today, July 23, 2018, in which you inform me of the recommendation of the Wayne County Planning Team, namely that: ***“Our Planning Team unanimously selected the two Pastor/two Parochial Vicar clustering scenario.”*** The two groups would be Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish with Saint Katharine Drexel Parish in the West, and Saint Michael Parish of Newark with Saint Joseph the Worker Parish and the Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity in the East. Mr. Bernard Grizard, Director of the Department of Pastoral Services, has kept me apprised of the Planning Team’s discussions and had advised me that the aforementioned recommendation would be proposed. I have seen the progression of all of the reconfiguration scenarios, and I know the thought and serious reflection that have contributed to this recommendation.

I am deeply grateful to all the members of the Planning Team and the parish consultative bodies, as well as the faithful parishioners of these communities, for the time, effort and spirit of collaboration that have characterized the deliberations leading to your recommendation, to which I have a positive response. However, I believe that it is now necessary to consult with the College of Consultors and the Diocesan Presbyteral Council for their review of this proposal before a final approval is given. The next meeting of the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, which includes the College of Consultors and the Deans of the respective deaneries, is scheduled for September 4, 2018. I have asked that this subject be placed on the agenda.

You are invited to be present for this meeting, as are the pastors copied on this letter, as well as Mr. Grizard and Dr. Shannon Loughlin, Associate Director of the Department of Pastoral Services. Prior to the meeting, you will be notified of the time that this subject will be discussed, which, most likely will be in the afternoon to respect the clergy’s schedule for funerals that may occur in the morning. Father Paul J. Tomasso, our Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, will confirm the time. Also, Mr. Grizard will provide the Presbyteral Council with the necessary information for discussion.

In the interim, the Planning Team can continue its discussion regarding the other areas identified in your letter, namely recommendations of possible Mass schedules,

Deacon Robert E. Lee
Chairperson, Wayne County Planning
6560 Mary’s Drive
North Rose, New York 14516

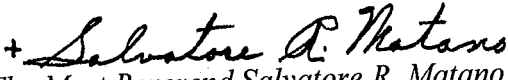
Deacon Robert E. Lee
Chairperson, Wayne County Planning
Page two
July 23, 2018

ministerial staffing and volunteer leaders training, as well as building and infrastructure needs, with the understanding that you will be making a proposal which I will review with the consultative bodies noted above.

In closing, it is my fervent hope that the reality of this situation spurs greater awareness and more fervent prayers for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Renewing my sincere gratitude to all who have participated in formulating this proposal, I remain, with an assurance of my prayers,

Sincerely yours in Christ,


The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester

cc: The Reverend Father William F. Laird, Pastor, Saint Katharine Drexel Parish
The Reverend Father Symon Peter Ntaiya, Pastor, Saint Maximilian Kolbe Parish
The Reverend Father David M. Tedesche, Pastor, Saint Joseph the Worker Parish
The Reverend Father Jeffrey S. Tunnicliff, Pastor, Saint Michael's Parish,
Newark
The Reverend Father Michael G. Upson, Pastor, Catholic Community of the
Blessed Trinity Parish
The Very Reverend Paul J. Tomasso, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia
The Reverend Daniel J. Condon, Chancellor
Mr. Bernard Grizard, Director of the Department of Pastoral Services
Dr. Shannon Loughlin, Associate Director of the Department of Pastoral Services