

June 25, 2018
The Month of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Very Reverend and dear Father Lioi:

I extend to you, as the Dean of the East Deanery, and to the entire Auburn-Northern Cayuga Planning Team, my gratitude for the work you have accomplished over the past year. On May 2, 2017, I wrote individually to each of the pastors and met with them as a group, asking that a planning team be formed and that cooperative work begin in addressing a number of areas of parochial life.

Since then, you have assessed ministerial areas and set pastoral priorities. You have identified the present use and condition of the buildings of all of the parishes. Strategies were identified to address the challenges faced by Saint Joseph School in the areas of recruitment, enrollment, marketing, fundraising, and ensuring a pastoral presence. The pastors have worked diligently and carefully with your Regional Finance Director, Ms. Shawn Gillen-Caryl, to create a shared business staff and office beginning on July 1, 2018.

I realize that much of the past year's work has been focused on preparing the parishes for a time in the not too distant future when, as I ensure sacramental ministry throughout the twelve counties of our Diocese, there will likely be four priests serving your parishes. The Planning Team proposed, and I accepted, that, as priests move to Senior Priest status or are given other appointments, two clusters will be created: 1) Our Lady of the Snow, Saints Mary and Martha, Saint Mary's, 2) Holy Family, Sacred Heart, Saint Alphonsus, Saint Ann. With the consideration of your parishioners, you are prepared with a future Sunday Mass schedule. At the same time, I am most grateful to you, Father Lioi, and to all our priests who continue to serve with such dedication even into your senior years.

The cooperation among the Pastors, the other members of the Planning Team, parish staff, and parishioners has already borne much fruit, and there is every indication these will continue into the future. Please be assured of my prayers as your collaboration continues and the shared business office begins.

The Very Reverend Father Frank E. Lioi
Dean, East Deanery
c/o Saint Mary Church
15 Clark Street
Auburn, New York 13021

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In the year ahead, I look forward to the expansion of your efforts to include a committee to assist Saint Joseph School and Tyburn Academy of Mary Immaculate, as well as specific efforts to foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The pastoral outreach we provide and the support we give to our young people is so vital as they discern how God is calling them to serve in the years ahead. Please continue to remember me and the Apostolic mission entrusted to me in your good prayers.

Renewing a promise of my gratitude and prayers while asking for a remembrance in your good prayers, I remain, with cordial regards,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester

cc: The Reverend Michael R. Brown
The Reverend William G. Darling
The Reverend John G. Gathenya
The Reverend Timothy L. Niven
The Reverend Erick Vioria
Ms. Diane Case
Mr. Frank DeOrio
Mr. Patrick Dooley
Ms. Anne Marie Duffy
Ms. Kim Guinnip
Ms. Lisa Ann Homic
Ms. Nancy Camardo
Ms. Shawn Gillen-Caryl
Ms. Liza Kelly
Mr. Thomas Kubus
Mr. James Malinowski
Mr. Joseph Manning
Mr. Edward O'Neil
Ms. Karen Rinefierd
Mr. Robert Ringwood
Mr. Daniel Szozda
Mr. Aaron Wilson