

*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.

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**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