



The Future of Mater Christi Parish - We need your help (AGAIN)!

Mater Christi Parishioners,

In the past month, the initial draft was released of the possible scenarios for the future of Mater Christi Parish and the three additional parishes in our grouping. Furthermore, the Mater Christi Renew My Church Team met with all involved parishes to discuss initial strengths and weaknesses of each plan and completed touring all of the parishes in our grouping.

The Mater Christi Renew My Church Team met on Wednesday, October 14 to discuss updated parish scenarios presented by the archdiocese after facility information from each of the four parishes were reviewed. These additional scenarios are presented here and your feedback will be needed at the upcoming Town Hall meetings.

*To again provide better understanding, and for us to collect feedback and address concerns, we will be hosting our **Second Round of Town Hall Meetings**. These Town Halls will last about an hour, include a short presentation, as well as an extended question and comment period. We encourage you to attend one, or both town halls. Please join us:*

Virtually, via Zoom, at 7pm on Thursday, October 22nd. The link will be listed on our website as well as our Facebook invite.

In the church (limited seating) at 9am on Saturday, October 24th. Please sign up for a seat through the Mater Christi Website.

If you know you have questions or comments, please email them in advance to businessoffice@materchristichurch.com so we can make sure to address them.

We will continue to update with information as quickly as we can through these Town Halls, our website, the bulletins, and our Facebook page. Similarly, Fr. Matt will continue to update parishioners during Mass, which can be viewed online.

Finally, please keep the Renew My Church Team, the Parishioners of Mater Christi, the parishes of our grouping, and the Church as a whole in your prayers as we continue to discern the path to creating an even stronger church community at the conclusion of the Renew My Church process.

Faithfully yours,
The Mater Christi Renew My Church Team



Updated Parish Scenarios for Discernment – NRLSR grouping

After receiving the facility information for each campus, the archdiocese reviewed the initial scenarios for the NRLSR grouping and has determined additional scenarios need to be considered that include potential building closures. The relatively small seating capacity of each church was the reason the initial scenarios did not include a potential closure. Capacity remains an important consideration to ensure there is sufficient space to maintain and grow once capacity restrictions ease.

Initial Scenario 1: 1 parish, 4 churches

All four parishes unite to form a new united parish, continuing to use all four campuses.

- St. Mary would serve as the administrative center for the united parish and formally be designated the parish church.

Additional Scenario 1b: 1 parish, 3 churches

All four parishes unite to form a new united parish.

- St. Mary, Mater Christ, and St. Pius X Churches would each be used for regular Sunday Masses.
- St. Hugh Church would cease regularly scheduled Masses and move toward formal closure.
- St. Mary would serve as the administrative center for the united parish and formally be designated the parish church.

Initial Scenario 2: 1 parish, 3 churches; St. Pius X joins a grouping to the north / east to continue discernment.

Parish 1: St. Hugh, St. Mary, and Mater Christi unite as one parish, continuing to use all three campuses.

- St. Mary would serve as the administrative center for the united parish and formally be designated the parish church.

Additional Scenario 2b: 1 parish, 2 churches; St. Pius X joins a grouping to the north / east to continue discernment

Parish 1: St. Hugh, St. Mary, and Mater Christi unite as one parish.

- St. Mary and Mater Christi Churches would both be used for regularly scheduled Masses.
- St. Hugh Church would cease regularly scheduled Masses and move toward formal closure.
- St. Mary would serve as the administrative center for the united parish and formally be designated the parish church.

In Scenarios 2a and 2b, St. Pius X would discern its future structure with the parishes in Berwyn and Cicero to the north and east. That area is scheduled for its discernment process in 2021.

Initial Scenario 3: 2 parishes, 4 churches

Parish 1: St. Mary and Mater Christi unite as one parish. Both churches continue to hold a regular Mass schedule. St. Mary is designated the parish church.

Parish 2: St. Hugh and St. Pius X unite as one parish. Both churches continue to hold a regular Mass schedule. One of the two churches would be designated the parish church.

In this scenario, the two united parishes would share one business and facility operations staff.

This scenario poses significant concerns for a united St. Hugh and St. Pius X to reach a level of resourcing to support investment in future vitality based on pre-Covid Mass attendance, operating revenue, and capital needs identified in the facility assessments.