

Question and Answer Responses from the weekend of May 5 & 6

- 1. What is the current cost of each building to keep it in use? (Electricity, Gas, etc...) What are the necessary repairs /updates needed on the buildings?**

Current costs of all buildings are reviewed on a routine basis. To put this more in perspective: During the fiscal year of 2016-2017 costs of the three chapels expenses totaled: St. Nicholas, Chapel (12,275.59) St. Peter Chapel (7,772.81) and St. Andrew Chapel (8,023.47). These expenses include utilities, repairs, garbage collection, insurance and taxes, lawn care, snow removal, land and building (furnaces, roofing etc.) When large projects on any of our parish buildings are needed they are first reviewed by the Maintenance Committee. The Maintenance Committees of our parishes now meet jointly. If financial approval is needed they are then presented to the Finance Council. Any project that incurs an expense of 30,000.00 or over needs approval from Bishop Thomas and Diocesan Finance Council.

- 2. Frenchtown Trailer – Is it Heated or Not? Was the furnace replaced? What are our plans with the trailer?**

The trailer at Frenchtown is heated in the winter. The temperature is kept low. This past year we encountered problems with the heating system in the trailer. The furnace was not replaced. Maintenance personnel were able to fix the problem. The trailer is not used at all. We do not have plans to use this trailer. Maintenance Committee has looked into the possibility of removing the trailer off the property. How this is handled is yet to be decided.

- 3. What is the current value of the Bascom rectory and what are our future plans to utilize it? Was it considered for fathers home?**

Future plans with the Bascom Rectory will be reviewed over the next year. Based on our needs of the newly formed Parish, options (use, updates, etc...) will be reviewed. One of the deciding factors in choosing Fathers residence was the logistics of having to travel from place to place. With the offices being combined and moved to New Riegel, and the weekday Masses being held in New Riegel, it became the wisest choice to keep his residence in New Riegel.

- 4. What will happen with the items that were donated to the parishes as a memorial or in honor of a loved one?**

All items that have been given from gracious hearts for the good of the church. We will always be mindful of the generous sacrifices of others and will seek the best and wisest use for the good of the church and its parishioners.

- 5. Could there be a historical book made of the closed parishes (Pictures of the statues, windows, etc....) Include some historical timeline of the memorable times of the parish.**

Following the unification of the Parishes, further information will be explained on how we will be honoring and documenting our history in rural Seneca County.

- 6. Is there a plan for the Hall? Remodeling of rooms, but the furnace in the rest of the school is old and only time until it goes out. Can the new Hall be attached to the church?**

There are no current timelines set with the future of the hall. All options will be assessed, and the needs of our parish will be reviewed.

- 7. Why was St Patrick chosen over St Andrews? Complaint is that churches are too close together, but we keep open the 2 close churches – St Andrew’s distance would provide a better satellite parish. What options were discussed? (NR – one site, St Andrews or St Patrick’s as satellite parish)**

When RCM completed their sustainability study, their recommendations were based on the current maintenance needs and a forecast of future needs of the buildings and upgrades to the facilities to meet the ADA standards. They also met with many of the active parish ministries to understand their current and potential future needs. From the RCM sustainability study and the listening sessions, a majority of the responses pointed to a unified All Saints, with a site in New Riegel and one in Bascom.

8. Why are the chapels only going to be used for funerals and daily prayer? Why take away the weekday Masses, what does that really impact?

By minimizing the amount of travel and preparation time in going to the various sites, the time gained will be better used pastorally for the good of the parish.

9. Weddings at the chapels would allow for more time for pictures and the ceremony would not be rushed to work around Masses.

The consensus from our Parish Assembly, Listening Sessions, and discernment from the Leadership Councils, in seeking a sustainable model of Parish Life for the future of the Church in our area, was to conserve personnel and parish resources by concentrating our worship and pastoral life at two centers instead of five. This results in limiting Sunday Masses and the celebration of the Sacraments to the Church sites in Bascom and New Riegel. We felt it was a compassionate response in this first year of transition, that at a time of death for those who request them, we could make use of the chapels for funerals only through June 30, 2019, as long as they are clean, safe and worthy. To extend their use for other celebrations and Sacraments would be contrary to our goal.

10. Why was the NR pastoral council allowed to decide the fate of St Patrick's and St Andrews? It should have been St Andrews or Patrick's?

The decision to unify was a recommendation from the listening sessions for the pastoral councils to review. Both All Saints and SS Patrick and Andrew's councils were allowed time to independently review the recommendation. After much deliberation the joint pastoral council and finance councils did come to a consensus that the best way forward for a sustainable future was to unite as one parish.

11. Why were the requests of the petitions (St Peter and Frenchtown) not responded to?

The petition dated 12 November was addressed to the pastor, Pastoral Council and Finance Councils. It was reviewed at the November Pastoral Council meeting. Council members noted that the concerns expressed in the petition had already been addressed in listening sessions the parish assembly and the RCM study. The Pastoral Council review of the petition was included in the minutes of the November meeting and published in the December 3, 2017 bulletin. While the response to the petition was publicly noted, as well as publicly addressed at weekend liturgy... a personal reply by the two councils and the pastor was not addressed to the 2-chair people responsible for circulating and submitting the petition. A personal response would have been most appropriate. Unfortunately, the demands of the holidays and the Christmas holydays distracted from a personal and pastoral response.

12. What is our plan for outreach to bring those that left before or will be leaving back?

A subcommittee of the transitional team (which includes members from Pastoral and Finance Councils, Parish Staff and members from the parish) has been created with a purpose to build a stronger community and to embrace the larger parish community through outreach.

13. Religious Education – now that we have less classrooms, what are our plans to educate our youth?

The sacramental years, as directed by the diocese, are scheduled weekly. First communion classes will be held at the All Saints New Riegel site, Parish Hall, the confirmation classes will be held weekly at All Saints Bascom Site, Church Basement. All other classes will be held at the current sites, according to the schedules.

14. What are main reasons that we needed to renovate the hall for offices and not utilize the existing rectories? One for offices and one for father.

One of the Pastoral Council's plan for long-term sustainability was to separate the office from the pastor's residence is part. It allows the parish office to be open more regularly, providing greater availability to the parish, while also affording greater accessibility to pastoral staff members, without interfering with a healthy lifestyle for the pastor. One of the deciding factors in choosing Father's residence was the logistics of having to travel from place to place. With the offices being combined and moved to New Riegel, and the weekday Masses being held in New Riegel, it became the wisest choice to keep his residence in New Riegel.