



## *Catholic Neighbors In Faith Renewal Update*

Change in our parishes affects us deeply. We turn to the church for comfort and stability when our lives are in turmoil, so when the turmoil happens within our church family, we feel as if we've lost an "anchor". None of us wants to lose the familiar. We fear the unknown, the those areas outside of our spiritual and emotional comfort zone.

While there are changes taking place. let me first share with you what is **NOT** changing.

- Each parish will continue to retain their own name and identity.
- Your parish's weekend collection will be counted at your parish by your parishioners.
- All employees expressing an interest in working at the Catholic FoP Central Office have been retained.

### **What is changing:**

**Catholic Neighbors in Faith Family of Parishes (FoP) Central Office** has been established in compliance with the diocese renewal program. Effective August 14, 2023, the Family of Parishes Central Office will be operational at:

**Catholic Neighbors in Faith Family of Parishes  
Saint James RC Church  
27 Allen Street  
Jamestown New York 14701**

The Parish offices at all other locations will no longer be open. Please be assured that your concerns and needs are important, therefore the following have been set up for your ease.

- The phone number for each Parish still function and will be automatically forwarded to the central office.
- All mass intentions, booking of rooms for events, bulletin announcements, etc. will be coordinated by the central office.
  - Mass intentions can be requested via envelopes located in the vestibule of each parish, by calling the central office, or by dropping a request in the offertory collection. A member of the central office will contact you to confirm/schedule your request.
  - For booking events, call the central office via your registered parish phone number.
- The central office will be open 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday and will remain open through the lunch hour.

### **Faith Formation:**

- Commencing with the September school year, Faith Formation will take place at Sacred Heart, Saint John, and Saint Patrick.
- Families will have the option as to the location where their children attend.
- All programs will be consistent allowing families the opportunity to attend an alternate location if their child cannot attend their normal session.
- A special mailing of material is being sent to parents which includes the dates for an open house to tour the classrooms.

## Mass Schedule:

New weekend mass schedule starting the weekend of **September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

### Saturday:

4pm	St James
4pm	Our Lady of Snows
5:30pm	St Patrick

### Sunday:

8am	St James
9am	St John
9am	Sacred Heart
10am	Our Lady Loreto
11am	SS Peter and Paul
11am	St Patrick

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation

- will be available.
  - o Wednesday 6-6:30pm St James
  - o Saturday 3-3:30pm St James
- Additional times and locations will become available during the Advent and Lenten Season.
- Appointments may also be made directly by calling the Central Office or contacting an individual priest.

I want to thank the Parish Representatives of the Administrative, the Forming Disciples, and the Liturgy Pillars for all their hard work in addressing these very important and difficult tasks. A lot of time, effort and prayer went into collecting and evaluating the mountain of data available. The other pillars: Stewardship, Spiritual Life, and the In reach/Outreach, have all been equally busy with making plans to strengthen each of our parishes.

## How can you help?

### Get involved:

- Become active in ministries within your parish.
- Support your parish by attending mass at that location whenever possible.
- If you do attend another parish, your envelope will be sent to your home parish and included with their offering.

### Pray:

- Prayer is the key that unlocks our resistance to change.
- Prayer shifts the burden of change into God's hands.
- It eases discomfort, erases fear, and helps us see from a different perspective.