

Dear Parishioners,

As our parish moves forward in search of a new pastor we must all realize that the Holy Spirit is guiding us through this process. The Parish Advisory Council extends a heartfelt thank you to all the parishioners who attended and shared their thoughts at the Parish Consultation and Town Hall Meeting on Jan 29. Parishioners used the forum to express their views of the strengths and opportunities for our parish to the members of the Archdiocese of Chicago Priest Placement Board, the Bishop and the Dean. Many of the PAC At-Large and Apostle members attended the meeting and reported to the Council at our February 10 meeting.

After their report, Dr. Mary Amore from Mayslake Ministry facilitated a discussion focused on the new pastor transition. Council members identified Hospitality as a key element of any transition. Members then reflected on how they first became involved in our parish: Who welcomed them? How did they get involved? The Council then discussed in more detail the parish's strengths and challenges identified by the parishioners. The discussion transitioned to ways we all can work with the new pastor: being accepting and welcoming of the new pastor's ideas, understanding that he will bring a fresh set of eyes upon who we are and what we do, being open to new ways of doing things, taking time to get to know and care about our new pastor, and finding out where he is on his spiritual journey.

We have asked the Council members to share the meeting minutes with their respective boards and councils, as well as friends and fellow parishioners. Furthermore, we are seeking suggestions as to how to welcome our new pastor.

Blessings,
Lisa Geneser
PAC Chairperson