



## **Little Italy Grouping Update January 2019**

The Little Italy grouping includes Holy Family Parish, Notre Dame de Chicago Parish, the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, UIC Newman Center, and Children of Peace School.

### **Discernment Process**

The Little Italy grouping began the review and discernment process last summer. The Grouping Feedback and Discernment Team, which was made up of representatives from each of the parishes, met to review and discern the future church, parish and school structures for the area. Based on their meetings and discussions with the larger parish community, they submitted a report for the Archdiocesan Standards and Recommendations Commission, which included representatives from across the archdiocese.

The commission met to review the feedback report and other materials and information, including demographic data, financial summaries, and parish and grouping trends.

### **Decision**

Over the course of the past several weeks, Cardinal Cupich, our auxiliary bishops, and the Archdiocese's Presbyteral Council met to discuss the commission's recommendation. Based upon those discussions and prayerful consideration, a final decision was made regarding the grouping's structure.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii and UIC Newman Center will continue operating in their current structures.

Holy Family and Notre Dame de Chicago will unite to form one, new parish, effective July 1, 2019. The new parish will be located at Notre Dame de Chicago Church. As Holy Family's property is owned by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), any Masses and celebration of sacraments at Holy Family Church will be decided upon collaboratively with leadership of the new parish and the Jesuit community. However, to be clear, the life of the new parish and regular Masses will take place at Notre Dame de Chicago Church.

Children of Peace School will remain in its current structure with no changes and will continue to set annual targets for improvement.

### **Next Steps**

Over the next few months, the archdiocese will work with the faith communities of each parish to ensure an orderly and smooth transition to the new structures. The Archdiocese's Priest Placement Board will work with the communities to identify pastors to lead the new parish. On February 20, there will be a joint consultation involving the parishioners of Holy Family and Notre Dame de Chicago to identify the gifts and characteristics needed for the pastor of their new, united parish. More details about the consultation meeting will be shared soon. meeting will be shared soon.

All parishes and ministries of the grouping will embark upon the next phase of the renewal process to become a stronger, more sustainable presence for the future capable of reaching more people in their work of making disciples of Jesus Christ.