Dear Parishioners,

As we continue to adapt to new ways of doing almost everything, I ask God to keep your hope strong so we can be open to new opportunities and possibilities for the future. Please take a moment to consider the following information as we move closer to our January 2021 merger:

1. **Vision for the New Parish:** “We will be a vibrant Catholic parish, united by our altars, shepherding all to the Kingdom of God.”
   
   I mentioned in the bulletin a few weeks back that this is our “elevator speech” to use. There will be elaboration about this statement in various ways.

2. **Parish Assembly**
   
   I am writing to invite you to our Parish Assembly. On September 1, our Parish Assembly will be posted on our website, [www.EMGCatholic.org](http://www.EMGCatholic.org), as well as our Facebook page, [www.Facebook.com/PittsburghCatholicGrouping101](http://www.Facebook.com/PittsburghCatholicGrouping101). The Parish Assembly provides important background information for completing the merger process. If you do not have access to the internet, I invite you to an in-person watch session. The dates, locations, and times are as follows:
   
   - Tuesday, 1 September 2020, St. Bonaventure Church, 1:30-3:00 PM
   - Tuesday, 1 September 2020, All Saints Church, 6:30-8:00 PM
   - Wednesday, 2 September 2020, Holy Spirit Church, 1:30-3:00 PM
   - Wednesday, 2 September 2020, St. Aloysius Church, 6:30-8:00 PM
   
   Masks and hand sanitizing are required as well as maintaining physical distancing between households.

3. **Feedback Regarding the Parish Assembly**
   
   We need your questions or feedback about the Parish Assembly. The timeline for offering feedback and asking questions is September 1 - 13.
   
   - Having watched it on the internet, complete a paper survey. You may also visit [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X6VNL2R](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X6VNL2R) to offer feedback. Please note that Survey Monkey allows only one submission per IP address. In English, any household with multiple family members wishing to submit feedback need to use different devices for submitting the survey, i.e., one a desktop computer, another a laptop computer, a third a smart device, etc.
   
   - After attending one of the in-person watch sessions, you can complete a paper survey. Please bring this copy with you. There will be limited amounts of on-site paper surveys to be fiscally responsible.
   
   - A copy of the paper survey can also be downloaded from our website, [www.EMGCatholic.org](http://www.EMGCatholic.org).
• You are also welcome to email or call the appropriate parish office to submit questions or offer feedback.
  All Saints: 412-781-0530 or AllSaintsEtna@Comcast.net
  St. Bonaventure: 412-781-0530 or Parish@StBonaventureParish.org
  Holy Spirit: 412-821-4424 or office@holyspiritmillvale.org
  St. Aloysius: 412-821-2351 or StAloysiusPgh@gmail.com.

4. Feedback Regarding the New Parish Name
I invite your participation in the final phase of selecting a name for the new parish. We have received a response from Bishop Zubik regarding the fifteen names we submitted for his initial review. He has approved 13. The list has been further trimmed to list those names which are less likely to be chosen by another grouping. From the names returned, we are to submit five final names for the Bishop’s consideration. Please remember that Bishop Zubik makes the final decision about the new parish name. In making his selection, he must consider the submissions of all Groupings and the needs of the entire Diocese. Therefore, a Grouping must be aware that any one of the five submitted names will be selected.

There are a number of ways to offer your recommendations on the five names. The timeline for all submissions is between September 1 - 13.
• A SurveyMonkey has been created for your feedback. Visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X6VNL2R. Please note that Survey Monkey allows only one submission per IP address. In English, any household with multiple family members wishing to submit feedback need to use different devices for submitting the survey, i.e., one a desktop computer, another a laptop computer, a third a smart device, etc.
• A paper form is enclosed/attached with this letter.
• In addition, a copy of this letter and paper survey will also be found on the parish website, www.EGMCatholic.org.

5. Contact Information Updates
I am grateful to so many of you for sharing your email addresses with us. It has made this mailing much more economical for the parishes. If you have not yet shared your email address, please do so by either contacting the appropriate parish office at the number or email address previously noted or in completing the survey.

Please keep our entire Grouping in prayer. I am grateful for your support and involvement in these endeavors.

If there is need for anything else on my part, do not hesitate to call upon me. Until then, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. James R. Gretz, D.Min., M.T.S
Administrator

Enclosure: Recommendation Form for New Parish Name