



February 18, 2024

Dear All Saints Parish Community,

It is with a heavy heart that I bring you this news and update today about All Saints Parish.

I have received over the past weeks multiple communications from Fr. Brian Zielenieski, Vicar for Renewal and Development for the Diocese of Buffalo, and other diocesan officials regarding the future of All Saints Parish.

The following is from an official letter dated February 15, 2024:

“Dear Fr. Joseph Tokasz and the All Saints Parish Community,

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024 the College of Consultors and Presbyteral Council of the Diocese of Buffalo met and had consultation on All Saints Parish. The consultation is required by Canon Law and helps to determine next steps for All Saints parish. During the consultations, it was shared with both groups the challenges of the parish property, the tremendous efforts of your parish community to increase contributions and raise fundraising efforts as well as working to minister to the faithful in your parish.

Unfortunately, with the challenges of the property, particularly the status of the school building the consultation resulted in moving the parish forward in the sale of the entire property.

This letter is to inform the parish that the sale will move forward, and the property will begin to be actively marketed. At this time, the parish will continue as is, functioning with weekly Sunday mass. Once an offer is received on the property an official date for the parish to merge will be set. The parish should begin discerning the community it will plan to merge with.”

This is difficult news for me to share with you having just arrived and taken on the responsibilities of shepherding this parish community and the Catholic Community of Buffalo, North. However, I also know that the realities and future of All Saints Parish have been being dealt with for almost two years.

There is much we will need to do in the time ahead. But the most important is supporting each other in prayer. We are going to be mourning and grieving as we go through a difficult time of transitioning and saying goodbye.

Above all, we must remain rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ and the fact that, although tied through experience and memories to this property, this same faith is not dependent upon them to live on in our hearts and lives.

I believe that St. Paul’s words to the Corinthians are pertinent for us in this moment, “Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal (2 Cor. 4:16-18).”

Let us make sure to pray for one another.

Rev. Joseph W. Tokasz
Parish Administrator
All Saints Parish and The Catholic Community of Buffalo, North

91 Dakota Street, Buffalo, NY 14216
www.CatholicCBN.com

