



St. Bruno and St. Richard Renew My Church Update: May 12, 2021

Discernment Process

St. Bruno and St. Richard Parishes engaged in the Renew My Church (RMC) review and discernment process through the past few months. The Grouping Feedback and Discernment team (GFDT), which was made up of members from each community, met to review and discern the future parish structure for the area. Our deepest appreciation goes to the GFDT who prayerfully discerned the parish grouping structure during this challenging time of the global pandemic.

Based on their meetings and feedback gathered from the larger parish community, they submitted feedback to the archdiocese. The Archdiocesan Standards and Recommendations Commission, which includes representatives from across the Archdiocese of Chicago, reviewed the feedback and other information, including financial summaries and parish trends.

Cardinal Cupich and Bishop Wypych are grateful to Fr. Bartos, Msgr. Galek and the Grouping Team who gathered throughout the past few months, and all parishioners who offered feedback through the recent discernment process.

Outcome

In the past few weeks, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, archbishop of Chicago, the archdiocese's auxiliary bishops, and the archdiocese's Presbyteral Council met to discuss the Commission's recommendation. Based upon those discussions and prayerful consideration, Cardinal Cupich made the following decisions regarding the parish structure for St. Bruno and St. Richard.

- **Effective July 1, 2021, St. Bruno and St. Richard will unite as a new parish, with a new name, one pastor and one pastoral team.**
 - Both sites will continue to be used for worship.
 - St. Richard will be designated the parish church where the united parish's sacramental records will be kept.
 - Fr. Andrzej Bartos will be the pastor of the newly united parish.
 - Fr. Andrzej Juszcec will serve as associate pastor.
 - The local community will discern possibilities for the new permanent name, within guidelines provided by the archdiocese, and submit three to five options to Cardinal Cupich.
 - The united parish's Mass schedule at each location after July 1 will be a priority topic for the pastor and parish leadership in the coming months.
 - School structures will be discerned during the 2021/2022 school year, with a final decision by November 2021.
 - As good stewards, the newly united parish will discern its use of two campuses versus one, over the next three years.

Parish Structure Rationale

- A united parish will gather resources for vitality for Catholics in the area.
- A united parish allows for continued trilingual ministry to the neighborhood, especially among the increasing Hispanic population.
- Discernment around the structure of St. Bruno and St. Richard Catholic schools provides for investment in Catholic schools, along with a united religious education program, allowing for young children growing as disciples.



Next Steps

Parish leadership and parishioners will discern possibilities for the name of the new parish, within guidelines provided by the archdiocese, and submit their considerations to Cardinal Cupich for his decision on the permanent name of the new parish.

The parish communities will embark upon the next phase of renewal, focusing on strong evangelization to the world around us. The renewal process calls us to become a stronger, more sustainable presence for the future, capable of reaching more people in their work of making disciples of Jesus Christ, building communities with one another and inspiring witness in the world around us.