

8/29/10

“IMPORTANT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT”

BISHOP JOHN HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT ST. GREGORY PARISH CAN NO LONGER CONTINUE TO EXIST IN ITS CURRENT FORMAT. THEREFORE, HE DESIRES THAT THE PARISH FAMILY MEET ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 6:30 PM HOLY DAY LITURGY, TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF EXISTENCE. ON AUGUST 11TH, THE BISHOP AND I MET TO DISCUSS THIS TOPIC AND SOME OPTIONS WERE PRESENTED. THE OPTIONS FOLLOW:

OPTION A: BE ATTACHED TO ANOTHER PARISH. THIS ROAD LEADS TO EVENTUAL CLOSURE AND MERGER WITH THE OTHER PARISH IF ST. GREGORY IS UNABLE TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH FACILITY.

OPTION B: HAVE A “SHARED CARETAKER” PROGRAM DEVELOPED. BRIEFLY, THE HALL IS CLOSED. A RETIRED PRIEST LIVES IN THE RECTORY TO SERVICE THE PEOPLE SACRAMENTALLY AND LITURGICALLY. THE EPARCHY ADMINISTERS THE PARISH AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRIEST AND THE RECTORY. THE PEOPLE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHURCH BUILDING.

OPTION C: TOTAL CLOSURE OF ALL THREE BUILDINGS. THE PEOPLE THEN ARE FREE TO GO TO WHERE THEY WANT TO WORSHIP.

OPTION D: BE ESTABLISHED AS A “COMMUNITY OF PRAYER.” THE RECTORY AND THE HALL ARE CLOSED. THE CHURCH BUILDING REMAINS OPEN AND IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE “COMMUNITY OF PRAYER.” LOCAL AREA PRIESTS OFFER LITURGIES ON A ROTATING BASIS.

OPTION E: MOVE THE CHURCH TO THE HALL. CLOSE THE CHURCH BUILDING AND THE RECTORY. CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO RENT THE HALL TO SUPPORT THE WORSHIP CENTER. BE AN ESTABLISHED “MISSION.”

I PRESENTED OPTIONS A, B, C, AND D AT THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED MEETING. THE BISHOP BROUGHT UP OPTION E. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT OPTION E IS THAT IT REFLECTS THE BISHOP'S WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ST. GREGORY'S CONTINUED EXISTENCE IN A DIFFERENT FORMAT. THE PRECEEDING OPTIONS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT GREATER LENGTH AT THE MEETING.

FATHER JOHN KACHUBA, PROTOSYNCELLUS, AND FATHER BRYAN EYMAN, PROTOPRESBYTER, WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING. THEY WILL RELAY YOUR OPINIONS, CONCERNING THIS TOPIC, TO THE BISHOP. OTHER OPTION SCENARIOS THAT ARE WELL THOUGHT OUT AND RECEIVED BY ME BEFORE SEPTEMBER 4TH MAY ALSO BE CONSIDERED.

DUE TO TIME RESTRAINTS, PLEASE GATHER YOUR THOUGHTS IN ADVANCE AND PRESENT YOUR OPINIONS CONCERNING THE VARIOUS OPTIONS IN A CONCISE MANNER. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AROUND 7:30 PM AND END AROUND 9:00 PM. IT IS VERY STRONGLY RECCOMMENDED THAT EVERYONE ATTENDS THE MEETING SO THAT EVERYONE'S OPINION CAN BE HEARD.

THANK YOU,

FR. BOB