



Joint Parish Planning “Creating One New Parish for All”

Frequently Asked Questions

What will change on July 1, 2025?

On July 1, 2025, the Bishop has directed that the Catholic Community of Rome, Lee Center and Holland Patent become a new Parish with a new name.

What will be the name of this new Parish?

The new name will be selected from the many suggestions that Parishioners have provided through the ballot process being conducted by the Parish Name Subcommittee.

What does the concept of one Parish mean for us?

On July 1, 2025, we will become one newly named Parish with four (4) worship sites. The locations of the four (4) worship sites will be finalized based upon the recommendations of the Weekend Mass Schedule Subcommittee. Our new Parish will have one Pastor and a Parochial Vicar, (a priest who assists a pastor in the care of a parish).

What will happen with St. Paul’s?

St. Paul’s is not closing. A final decision on where weekend Masses will be offered and how all facilities are utilized will be made when the Weekend Mass Schedule, Facilities, and Finance Subcommittees complete their tasking. They will provide their recommendations to the Joint Parish Council. If St. Paul’s doesn’t have weekend Mass, it can be utilized in many ways. Both liturgical and non-liturgical functions may be conducted here. For example, Baptisms, Funerals, & Weddings may be celebrated here along with Adoration and Novenas. It may also be a location for Faith Formation Classes, RCIA, Youth Ministry, meetings, social functions, etc.

What will happen with Transfiguration?

Transfiguration will be merged with the new Parish. The Rectory is being leased to Oneida County and ICAN for creation of a transitional home for homeless women and their children. Uses for the Church are being explored.

How is this transition being accomplished?

All the existing Parish Councils are meeting regularly to address the Canon and Civil Law requirements to achieve this goal. Subcommittees have also been formed to address all the logistics, facilities, administrative, personnel, and liturgical aspects of the transition. Communications and Social subcommittees have been created to ensure that all Parishioners are informed, feel welcome and heard throughout this process.

What are these Subcommittees?

The Joint Parish Council Subcommittees are: (1) Cemetery; (2) Communications; (3) Facilities; (4) Faith Formation; (5) Finance; (6) Parish Name; (7) Social; and (8) Weekend Mass Schedule.

Where and when will I be able to attend Weekend Mass?

The Weekend Mass Schedule Subcommittee has been formed to determine a weekend Mass schedule that best accommodates the faithful in Rome, Holland Patent and Lee Center. The schedule established must be one that can be handled by one (1) priest in the event of an emergency. The subcommittee will be working over the next few months collecting and assessing data to make a comprehensive recommendation to the Joint Parish Council.

How will we be kept informed?

Town Halls have been scheduled each month through October to offer you an opportunity to voice your concerns and learn more about the transition.

Your bulletin, Pastors, Deacons, and Parish Council members will keep you up to date too!

In our upcoming columns you will learn more about each of the Subcommittees, their mission, plans, and accomplishments toward completing this transition.

This information is current as of August 18, 2024.