

Commonly Asked Questions as St. John Vianney Parish is Divided

Bishop Zubik's decision to divide the parish of Saint John Vianney among the parishes of Saint Basil, Saint Mary of the Mount and Prince of Peace and to close the church building of Saint John Vianney goes into effect at the end of day on Sunday, April 3, 2016. The following provides information on commonly asked questions about the implications of this change.

1. WHERE DO I GO TO GET A CERTIFICATE TO BE A SPONSOR OR A GODPARENT?

It is the responsibility of the pastor of the person nominated to be a godparent or a sponsor to determine that the person understands his or her role and is qualified to assume that role. If you need a letter of eligibility to be a godparent or sponsor, go to the parish where you register.

In light of this, it is vitally important that you register in a parish. Registration in a parish allows the pastor and parish staff to know the Catholics in their area so they can serve you better in meeting your sacramental, pastoral and spiritual needs. Registration also allows for the effective building of a sense of community and shared mission.

2. WHERE WILL THE SACRAMENTAL RECORDS OF SAINT JOHN VIANNEY AND ITS PREDECESSOR PARISHES BE STORED?

Records of the four predecessor parishes (from February 11, 1994 or earlier) will be stored at:

Diocesan Archives and Records Center
1010 McNeilly Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15226
Phone: (412) 456-3158
Fax: (412) 563-6377
Email: archives@diopitt.org

Records from Saint John Vianney Parish (from February 12, 1994 onward) will be stored at:

Saint Mary of the Mount Parish
403 Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15211
Phone: 412-381-0212
Fax: 412-381-9921
Email: smom@smomp.org
Website: <http://www.smomp.org>

3. WHERE SHOULD I GO FOR PARISH CEMETERY RECORDS AND INFORMATION?

The ownership and operation of the cemetery are being transferred to Saint Basil Parish. Saint Basil's telephone number is (412) 884-7744.

4. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE PARISH FOOD BANK?

Father Stumpf of Saint Mary of the Mount, Father Kresak of Saint Basil, and Father Harcarik of Prince of Peace alongside lay leaders of the Food Bank worked with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to have the Food Bank charter transferred to Saint Mary of the Mount. Space will be rented from A Giving Heart on Climax Street to house the Food Bank. In this way, those who have been served by the Food Bank out of the church basement can continue to be served.

5. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE GOODS OF THE PARISH?

Sacred objects, such as chalices, monstrances and ciboria, cannot be sold and must remain in the control of, and for the use of, the Church.

There are no plans at present to sell non-sacred items such as tables, chairs, etc.

The items used for the operation of the cemetery such as computers, trucks and backhoes are being transferred to Saint Basil Parish which will own and operate the cemetery.

The items used for the operation of the Food Bank such as the van, freezers and refrigerators are being transferred for use by the Food Bank under the new charter from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank which is with Saint Mary of the Mount Parish.

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6. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE MEMORABILIA OF THE FOUR PREDECESSOR PARISHES THAT WERE ON DISPLAY IN THE PARISH CENTER?

Many of the items from the “memorial hall” are being packed for transfer to and storage at
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Anyone interested in obtaining a scanned copy of a photograph that was in the memorial hall should contact the Archives. There is a nominal fee for this service.

7. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CHURCH BUILDING?

In accord with Bishop Zubik’s decree, the church building will be closed. This means that Mass and the sacraments will no longer be celebrated in the church. Further, parishioners will no longer have right to access the interior of the building. As far as the final disposition of the closed church building, no decision has yet been made.

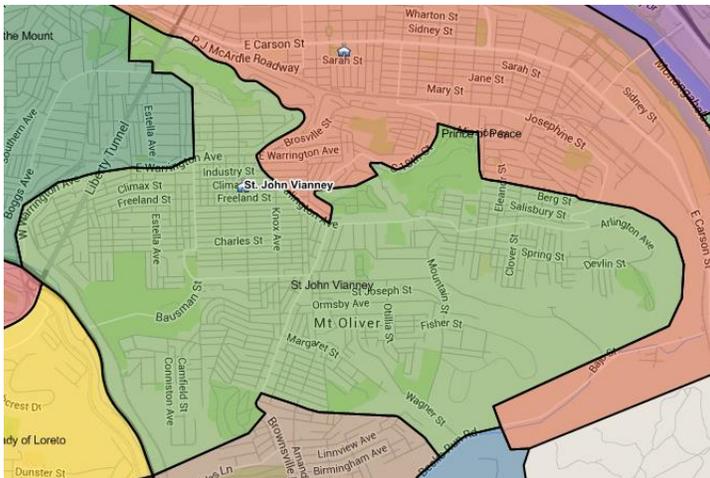
8. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE EMPLOYEES OF SAINT JOHN VIANNEY PARISH?

Saint John Vianney Parish employees displaced by the closure of the parish who were not retained by a successor parish will receive a severance package to ease their transition into new employment relationships or retirement.

9. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!?

There are two beneficiaries of the gifts and pledge payments to the *Campaign*. 60% of one’s gifts and pledge payments are directed to fund the projects and priorities for the Diocese as set forth in the campaign case for support. (See <http://www.churchalivepgh.org/pdf/Diocese-Booklet.pdf>.) 40% of one’s gifts and pledge payments are directed to fund the case statement of the parish. All gifts made to the Campaign are administered and distributed by the Board of a separate corporation established by Bishop Zubik to ensure that the gifts are used in accordance with the case statements. If the Board determines that a case statement is impractical or impossible, the Board may exercise its discretion in the use of such gifts, giving appropriate priority to the purposes expressed in the relevant case statement.

God our Father, by the promise you made in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ your Son, you bring together in your Spirit, from all the nations, a people to be your own. Keep the Church faithful to its mission. May it be a leaven in the world renewing us in Christ, and transforming us into your family.



As of April 4, 2015, Saint John Vianney Parish will be divided as follows:

- ❖ the area north of Bausman St. and west of Brownsville Rd. will be added to **Saint Mary of the Mount**;
- ❖ the area south of Bausman St./Penn Ave./Parkwood Rd. will be added to **Saint Basil**;
- ❖ the area east of Brownsville Rd. and north of Penn Ave./Parkwood Rd. will be added to **Prince of Peace**.