



Item #13

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**From :** kclinton <kclinton@mailbox.syr.edu>  
**Sent :** Wednesday, July 18, 2007 6:29 PM  
**To :** daniellecummings@att.net  
**Subject :** Priest shortage

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Hi Danielle,

My name is Katie Clinton and I am a practicing Catholic trying to make sense of what is happening in our parishes.

I know that Bishop Moynihan is trying to "plan for the future" with the church closings and recent priest appointments. However, what I don't understand is why there are some parishes with more than one priest in residence and why others had to close. Holy Cross, for example, has three priests in residence.

Other parishes have retired priests in residence who would be willing to offer mass once a week and would be welcomed at any of the churches slated for closure.

St. Mary's, in Jamesville, was a "mission" or "quazi parish" of Holy Cross and was able to maintain itself without the administrative support of a priest, however it was slated to close. It only required a priest for its weekly service.

St. Andrew's and St. Lucy's have a priest who is willing to continue serving both parishes, but still the Bishop insists on closing one within the next 18 months (even though the two parishes serve very diverse communities).

I have tried to come to terms with these decisions, but I need further explanation as to why communities are being torn apart and people are turning away from the faith.

I appreciate you taking the time to explain this to me.

Sincerely,

Katie Clinton