



New York Province of the Society of Jesus

39 East 83rd Street • New York, NY 10028
Phone: (212) 774-5500 • Fax: (212) 794-1036
Email: nykprov@nysj.org

Office of the Provincial

June 2, 2007

Colleen K. LaTray
Parish Pastoral Council Representative
Religious Education Instructor
4142 W. Shore Manor
Jamesville, NY 13078

Dear Ms. LaTray:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 23, 2007 concerning St. Mary's Parish in Jamesville. I am writing to you now to respond to some of your questions.

The New York Province of the Society of Jesus typically considers requests to assume responsibility for a diocesan church only at the invitation of the local bishop. Even if such an invitation were issued to us at this time it is unlikely that we would be able to respond to such a request since we, Jesuits, are also in the middle of a national strategic discernment process which will take some years to complete and implement. We need to see where this strategic discernment process will lead us as a Province before we can consider or assume new ministries.

I am sure you also know that we have been challenged by the decline in the numbers of Jesuits to staff existing ministries. More and more, we invite our non-Jesuit partners in ministry to assume responsibility for works historically administered by Jesuits. We simply do not have the personnel to do what we did years ago.

I hope this response helps you to understand that it would not be possible for the New York Province Jesuits to assume responsibility for St. Mary's.

Please be assured of my prayers and best wishes for you and the parishioners of St. Mary's.

Joyfully in the Lord,

Gerald J. Chojnacki, S.J.
Provincial