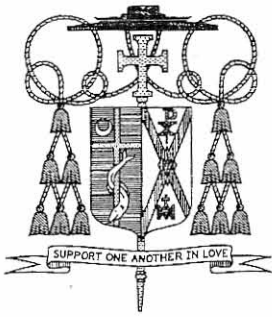


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January 5, 2007



Ms. Colleen LaTray
4142 West Shore Manor
Jamesville, NY 13078

Dear Ms. LaTray:

I write to acknowledge your recent letter regarding St. Mary's Parish in Jamesville.

I understand that the process of consolidation, merging, and realignment can be a painful one, and I do know that there are ways of mitigating that pain, but certainly not of eliminating it.

One thing I do know, however, is that we have an insufficient number of priests and way too many buildings to justify their continuance, particularly given the geographical size of our diocese. I know that will mean a disruption in the habits that have been formed over the years of having a church in close proximity to where we live. On the other hand, if we want to keep our priests alive and the faith alive as well, we need to do some restructuring and re-prioritizing of what we currently have at our disposal.

Thank you for writing, and please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us all in arriving at a workable solution to our challenges of the moment.

With prayerful good wishes during this holy Advent season, I remain

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James M. Moynihan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Most Rev. James M. Moynihan
Bishop of Syracuse