



January 26, 2021

Reverend Monsignor Michael E. Turek, Pastor
St. Rita Parish
8240 Washington
Vinita Park, MO 63114-6236

Dear Monsignor Turek,

I commend the careful thought and hard work which produced the January 15, 2021 "St. Rita Plan in Response to the 15 October 2020 Town Hall". It is a solid plan for evangelizing the neighborhood and the fallen away Catholics connected to parishioners. I see reasonable hope that the united efforts of St. Rita parishioners could grow the parish and reverse its past trends. It is good to know that the parish foresees \$62,000 in funds available at the end of FY20/21.

Therefore, I have decided that St. Rita Parish should continue in FY21/22. Since parishioners' participation is crucial for evangelization, the Evangelization Committee should send Bishop Mark Rivituso quarterly progress reports. Each report should list the work of the past quarter.

After reviewing the parish's deficit spending trends and current reserves, I continue to have serious concerns regarding the financial viability of St. Rita's Parish. I acknowledge the important cost saving measures and increased contributions already achieved. Yet I note that even if proceeds from fundraisers materialize, FY21/22 projects a \$30,000 deficit. Then it seems to me that more cost saving measures must be found. St. Rita Parish continuing beyond FY21/22 will not be possible unless the following can occur.

- 1) The parish ends FY21/22 with substantial funds available (\$20,000 or more).
- 2) The parish budget for FY22/23 reasonably projects substantial funds available at the end of FY22/23 (\$20,000 or more).
- 3) An estimated parish budget for FY23/24 reasonably projects no deficit.

Only God knows the future, and yet we know the Lord is with us always (James 4:15; Matthew 28:20). So I commend you and your good efforts to God's grace, and I ask for your prayers,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mitchell T. Rozanski".

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis

Copy: Bishop Mark Rivituso; Deacon David Harping; Mr. Charles Blair