



## St. Francis of Assisi Church

P.O. Box 116

Humphrey, NE 68642

Phone: 402-923-0913 Fax 402-923-1931

Fr. Stanley Schmit, Pastor

December 19, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

This past weekend we celebrated the Gaudete Sunday, meaning rejoice, and even with Christmas approaching so closely, there is not much rejoicing in our hearts. Many of us, including myself, are still reeling from the information from the Archbishop and the Archdiocese concerning the closing of St. Francis 7-12 and Holy Family 7-12 schools and a new entity being created.

I know there are millions of questions running through people's minds. Many are ones that even I, at this point, do not have answers to. What I can tell you is that the process that we will go through is set up by the Archdiocese. The first piece to be taken care of is gathering a few people from each community to form a transition team. This team will help me and the administration formulate the best path when it comes to this process.

We are asking the people of both communities to submit names and mascots for the new school. These can be sent to either of the principals of St. Francis or Holy Family Schools by January 1. The transition team will then narrow down the names to a reasonable number. It is my desire to include students in the name and mascot selection process. Once the top three names and mascots are identified, they will be sent to the Archbishop for his final decision. Once the Archbishop has informed us of the name/mascot, we will begin forming committees to look at the many different areas which must be accomplished as this process unfolds.

As information becomes available to me, I will then communicate it to you as stakeholders of both communities. I will do this through different means such as the bulletin, parish website, school website, and regular mail letter. That is my intent at this time. I feel it is the best way to keep everyone informed. Let us please pray for one another as we go through this difficult time of coming together as a new junior/senior high school.

In Christ's peace,

Fr. Stan Schmit

Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Parish