



# Saint Patrick's Church

404 East Main Street · Madison, Wisconsin 53703

608/257-5000

Dear Friend in Christ:

This letter respectfully requests a response about your membership. Please return the enclosed response card or completed registration form by Friday, June 6.

As you may know, the Catholic Church in downtown Madison is going through an important transition. In July, the three historic parishes around the Capitol Square – Holy Redeemer, St. Patrick, and St. Raphael – will formally merge into a single parish community to be known as the Cathedral Parish. We approach this transition with deep respect and appreciation for the past, but equally with great hope and confidence in the future.

The Catholic Church does need to be present in downtown Madison now and into the future. She needs to live in a community of believers with a commitment to the local mission of the Church. This is the positive vision that motivates the merger of the isthmus parishes.

For those who have loved St. Patrick Parish, the merger will not mean saying goodbye to St. Patrick Church. For a number of years, St. Patrick will remain fully utilized for Sunday and weekday Masses and for the celebration of the other Sacraments. The office of the merged parish will be at St. Patrick for the time being. Once a new cathedral is built, that will be the principal church of the merged parish and there will be offices and other facilities on that site.

Recognizing the respect and affection that Catholics properly have for their past, I think it is a very good thing that we will be able to remain fully at home in St. Patrick Church for a number of years. But I hope that you also have sufficient zeal for the mission of the Church and sufficient hope in the future that you will want to be part of the next era of the life of the Church in downtown Madison.

This letter is your formal and personal invitation to become a member of the newly merged Cathedral Parish, which will begin its life in July 2008. You have been a faithful and valued member of St. Patrick Parish; it is my hope that you will want to be a committed and enthusiastic member in the life of the parish as it continues to evolve.

Please return the enclosed response card or the completed registration form to the parish office. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call Monica Freng, Director of Parish Life and Mission, at 257-5000, ext. 14, or visit [www.isthmuscatholic.org](http://www.isthmuscatholic.org). Thank you for reading this letter, and I hope that I will hear from you soon.

Yours faithfully,