



## **The Columbia-Greene Perpetual Adoration Chapel Committee**

Rebecca Romanchuk, President  
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Dear Friends,

We would like to take this opportunity to share some exciting news with you. Some of you may be aware that our committee, in consultation with Father Anthony Barratt, has been working on a plan to establish a Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration (PEA) Chapel serving Columbia and Greene Counties. We are writing this letter to provide an update on the progress to date and to ask your prayers for the success of this wonderful project. Here are some of the developments to date:

A few months ago we wrote to Bishop Scharfenberger letting him know of our hope to implement Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration and requesting his permission to proceed with planning the project. Last month, we received the Bishop's enthusiastic endorsement for us to continue planning the project, including the following sentiment:

*"The idea is beautiful and I am pleased that you are approaching the plan with care and thoroughness. Assuming you can gather enough people from neighboring parishes to commit to its operation, I believe the chapel will be a great asset to our diocese."*

As the Bishop alluded to in his letter, the success of this project depends upon support from parishes in Columbia and Greene counties. Please keep this intention in prayer, and also prayerfully consider undertaking the commitment of becoming an "adorer".

The project was discussed at the September 2017 Vicariate meeting (a meeting of the various parish leaders in the two counties that make up the Hudson Valley Vicariate). Our parish leaders supported the project and then contacted parishioners in their respective parishes to provide two or three representatives to be part of the *planning group* for the project. The group has met on a number of occasions since then.

A key development in the preliminary planning stages of the project has been for the planning group to examine the geographical and practical factors that would provide a reasonably convenient location to the greatest number of people in the two counties. After some discussion and a review of a number of sites, Saint Mary's Church in Hudson has been

suggested as the site for the Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Before any further developments, there will be an informational meeting at Saint Mary's Church, 429 E. Allen St., Hudson, on March 14 at 6:30 pm to provide an update on progress, to obtain feedback/ideas and to answer questions and concerns posed by the community there, as well as the other parishes in the two counties/Vicariate .

Please look for future letters from the group providing updates on the progress of the project, as well as brief catechetical reflections to aid you in your contemplation of the Eucharistic mystery. The Eucharist is such a wonderful gift and yet it is also a mystery that can never be completely understood by any of us. The Eucharist is indeed "the source and summit" of the life and mission of the Church and our Catholic faith. Incidentally, this is why Bishop Scharfenberger has asked for a Diocesan-wide *Eucharistic Congress* to take place later this year. May God bless and keep you.

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