

I recently received this letter from the Archbishop and share it with you now, so that you might be aware of how our church leadership, lay and clergy, is continuing to come together to listen, and to find a way forward to correct the structures that led to the abuse crisis. Please know that our priests will be attending our regional listening session with lay members from St. John's. My special thanks to the more than 60 parishioners who came forward for a first, of several meetings last week, to enable us to plan a format for our own "Town Hall" meeting here at St. John's. If you would also like to help direct our church's planning, you may contact my parish secretary, Mary Casey at Mary.Casey@sjerc.org, or call the office at 410-964-1425 x 302..

This weekend, we welcome the Archbishop to celebrate the 10:30am Mass at Wilde Lake, and to share in an interfaith celebration and blessing of our renewed facilities and to dedicate our reservation Chapel with its new stained glass windows. A reception will follow in the lobby and courtyard.

Dear Fathers & Monsignors,

As our Church continues to suffer the effects of the revelations from the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report, it is important for me and my brother bishops to hear directly from you and from those you serve. We will gather as a presbyterate this afternoon prior to the "JJ Cronin" event and over these next several weeks the auxiliary bishops and I will be celebrating Masses throughout the Archdiocese and greeting people afterwards in an effort to be present to you and to them and to convey our pastoral love and concern.

In addition, we plan to take part in a series of regional listening sessions involving both clergy and laity. We need to hear more directly how all of this continues to impact clergy and the faithful and our parish communities. We want to hear your concerns and questions, learn what ideas you have to address the challenges before us, and how we might be of help to you at this most difficult time.

With that in mind, I join my brother bishops in inviting you to take part in the following session along with two lay parish leaders. Please RSVP to confirm the names of all who will attend.

In addition, similar sessions will be held for deacons, those involved in Catholic education, and parish staff members at the upcoming Pastoral Staff Day. I will also be meeting with seminarians individually and I welcome a conversation with any of you who may wish to come in to talk things over with me. Beyond that, the Archdiocese will be using the two communications tools, Flocknote and MyParish App, to assist all the members of the local church to express their concerns and ideas in an interactive manner.

My brother bishops and I look forward to this important conversation and assure you of our continued support and prayers at this difficult time in the life of our Church.

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ William E. Lori". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend William E. Lori

Archbishop of Baltimore