

Diocese of Joliet

TARGETED RESTRUCTURING PROCESS

PARISH MEETING #2

Goals for Today's Session

- The terminology of parish restructuring
- Review draft scenarios
- Small group discussion and feedback on draft scenarios

Father, we praise you and thank you for your blessing upon the Church of Joliet for these many years. With your grace, the Church has faithfully passed on the Catholic faith for several generations. We are at a time of transition in our culture and in our Church and we need your guidance. Send your Holy Spirit to lead the Restructuring Process and to enlighten, guide, and strengthen us and also the leaders in this process, especially Bishop Ronald Hicks. We promise to submit ourselves to all that you desire of us and accept your will for us.

O God, renew your Church “as by a New Pentecost” through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.



TARGETED
RESTRUCTURING
PROCESS-WHERE WE
ARE

First round of parish sessions were held

Your feedback was submitted by your Key Parish Leaders and reviewed by the Targeted Restructuring Committee

Initial draft scenarios were created and shared with the KPLs

The KPL feedback was shared with the Targeted Restructuring Committee and additional work was done with the initial draft scenarios

TARGETED
RESTRUCTURING
PROCESS-WHAT IS
NEXT

- Your feedback to the draft scenarios will be compiled and provided to the Targeted Restructuring Committee

Members of the Targeted Restructuring Committee will be visiting each parish during the month of November

On November 26th the Targeted Restructuring Committee will meet to discern recommendations for Bishop Hicks. They will meet again in December if necessary.

The Committee's recommendations will be submitted to Bishop Hicks before the end of the year.

TERMS THAT YOU
WILL SEE IN THE
DRAFT SCENARIOS

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CHURCH AND PARISH

The term “church” is a physical place of worship— a structure where sacred activities are performed.

A parish is a community of the faithful whose pastoral care has been entrusted to a parish priest under the authority of the diocesan bishop.

Symbol Key



Parish with church building open



Parish extinguished with church building open as worship site



Parish extinguished with church building closed.



Mission, Oratory or Chapel

MERGER

PARISH A



+

PARISH B



=

NEW PARISH C



- A new parish with a new name is created; Parish A and Parish B are extinguished.
- All territory and assets and sacramental records go to the new parish C.
 - Diocesan liabilities are negotiated with the Diocese.
- All of the churches in the new parish may remain open as worship sites, or some may remain open and others close.

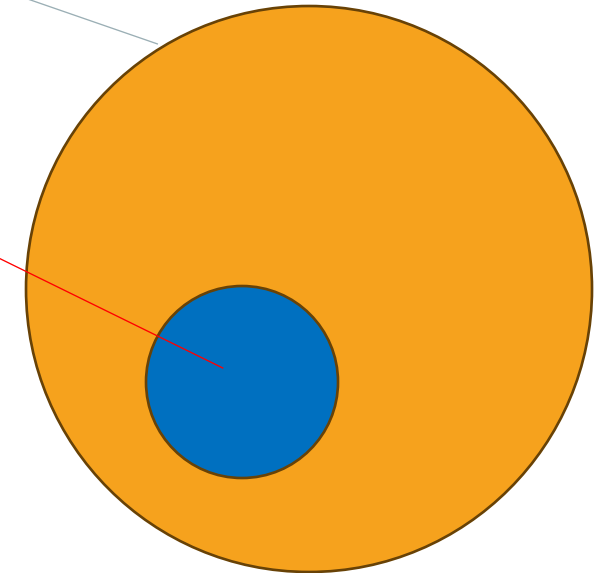
PARISH A



PARISH B



AMALGAMATION



Amalgamation – B is amalgamated (subsumed) into A, only A remains; Parish B is extinguished. The assets, territory and sacramental records of Parish B go to Parish A. The diocesan liabilities of Parish B are negotiated with the Diocese.

All of the churches in the parish may remain open as worship sites, or some may remain open and others close.

PARISH B BECOMES A CHAPEL, ORATORY OR MISSION

PARISH A



+

PARISH B



=

PARISH A



Parish B is extinguished, either through merger or amalgamation. Church B becomes a chapel, oratory or mission of Parish A. Parish B's church remains open. Masses and other sacred rites may take place in the chapel or mission.

CHAPEL/ORATORY/MISSION



Chapel or Oratory: A structure set aside for prayer and/or liturgy, at the discretion of the Bishop. These are places of worship that have no pastor or priest and no permanent congregation. They may be open only for baptisms, weddings, and other sacramental celebrations and for certain liturgical celebrations during the year (for example, the parish patron feast day).



Mission: a church that is served by a priest from another parish. Masses at a mission will usually not happen as often (maybe only Saturday Vigil Mass).

Closure of a Church

PARISH A



Parish A is extinguished (either through merger or amalgamation), and its church building is closed.

The church property remains an asset of the receiving parish, which must care for the property or may sell the property, with the sale proceeds going to the receiving parish.

POSSIBLE OUTCOMES FOR CHURCHES AND OTHER BUILDINGS

A church could continue to be used as a worship space in a merger or amalgamation scenario. This means Sunday masses, weekday masses, baptisms, reconciliation, adoration, marriages and funerals could be held in the church. Other buildings can also be used.

A church could be relegated to a mission or chapel. It would retain its sacred status and could be used for limited purposes as permitted by the Bishop. Other buildings can also be used.

A church could be closed, and its sacred status would be removed canonically. The parish real property could then be sold with the sale profits going to the parish.

MINISTRY AND
OTHER PARISH
ACTIVITIES AND
RESTRUCTURING

- After a merger or an amalgamation, the ministries that exist at each parish are not suppressed – they continue at the new parish and may take place at any of the worship sites.
- It is up to the pastor of each parish to determine going forward which activities will take place at each worship site.



AFTER RESTRUCTURING, THE NEXT STEPS INCLUDE:

- Pastor and priest assignments (effective July 2025)
- Bringing parish communities together
- Changes in leadership structures
- Stewardship of parish staff, ministries, practices, traditions and physical artifacts
- Direction of parish assets
- Negotiation of parish liabilities
- Timing of implementation
- Changes to church buildings (if applicable)

MINISTRY AND
OTHER PARISH
ACTIVITIES AND
RESTRUCTURING

- After a merger or an amalgamation, the ministries that exist at each parish become ministries of the new parish.
- It is up to the pastor of each parish to determine going forward which activities will take place at each worship site.

DRAFT SCENARIOS

These initial scenarios present creative and realistic possibilities for the best use of parish resources to build thriving parish communities. Your Key Parish Leadership Team may develop or consider additional scenarios it believes are viable and merit discussion.

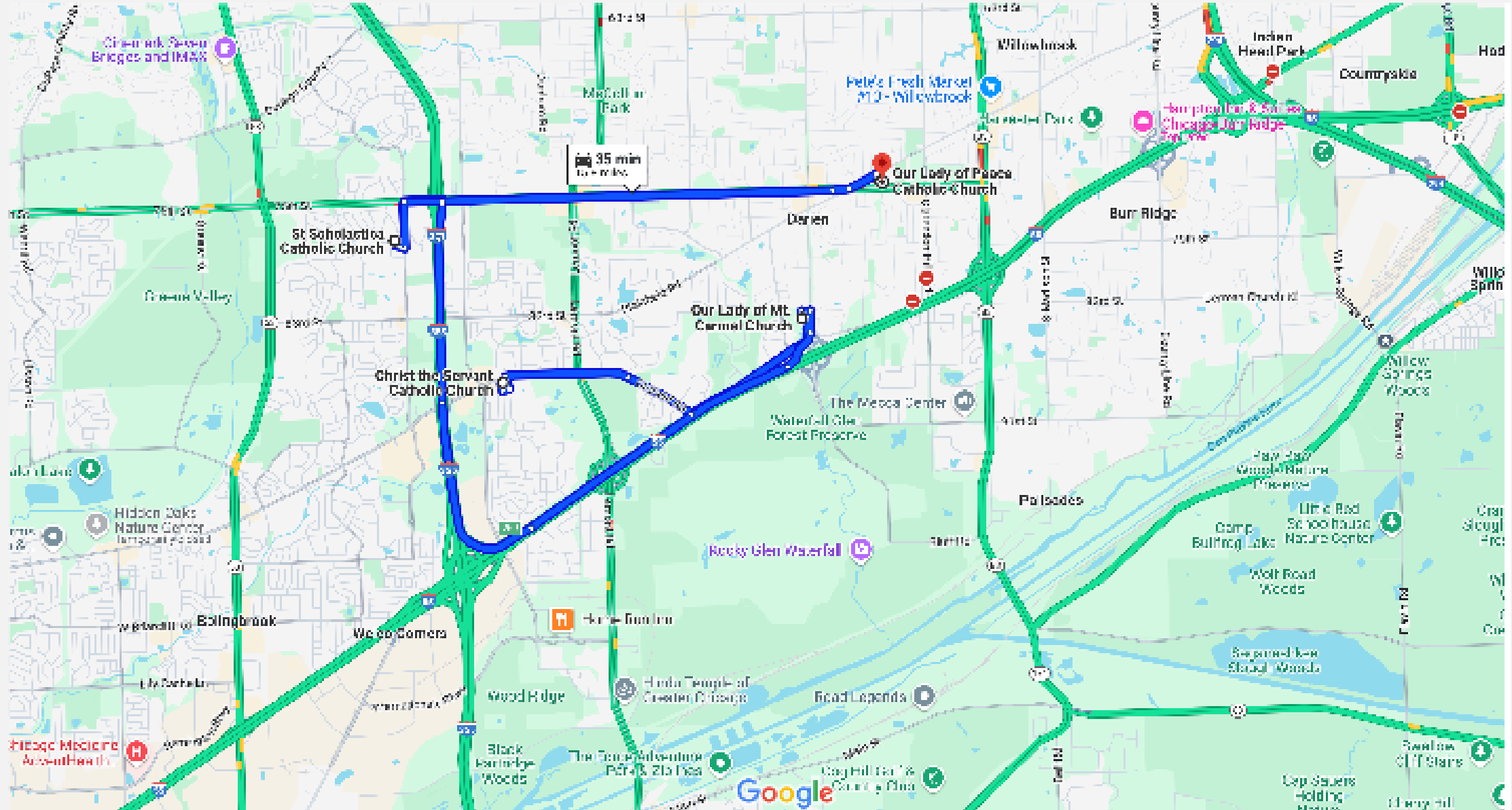
TARGETED RESTRUCTURING INITIATIVE: KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Considerations that are prioritized throughout the restructuring process include:

- 1) the number of priests available to serve as pastors as well as the age and health of current pastors;
- 2) the availability of qualified professionals such as business managers, DRE's, musicians, etc. willing to work for the Church;
- 3) the highest and best use of existing parish facilities; and
- 4) the minimization of costs to parishes to staff and maintain their facilities.

REVIEW SCENARIOS

South DuPage



SOUTH DUPAGE

1

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

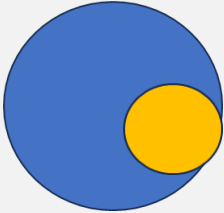


Christ the Servant



2.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel



Christ the Servant

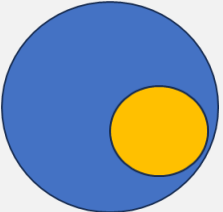


3.

Our Lady of Peace



Christ the Servant

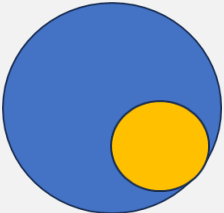


4

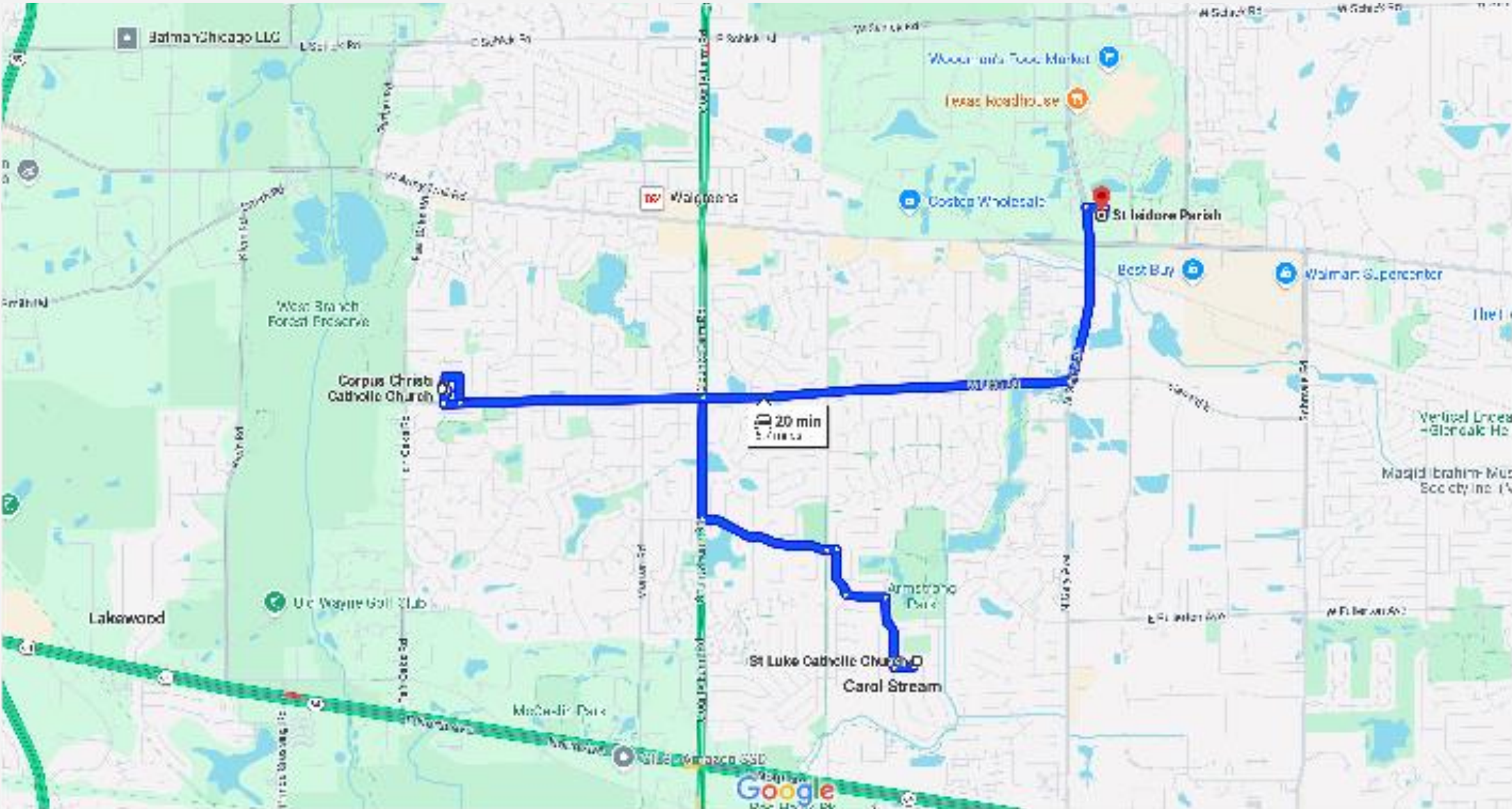
St. Scholastica



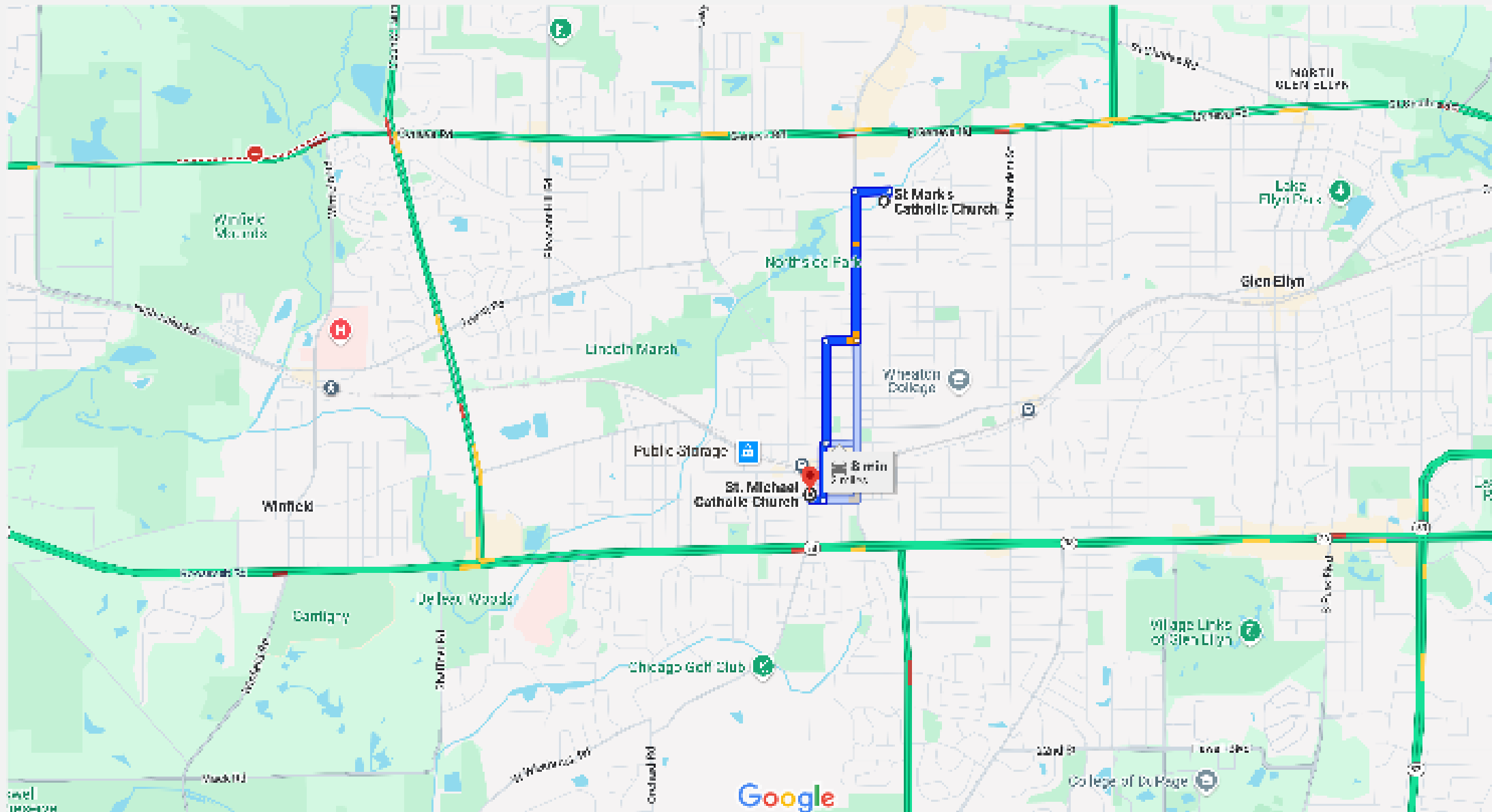
Christ the Servant



West DuPage-St. Luke



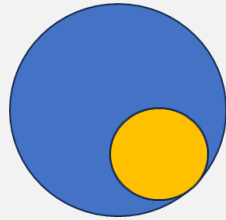
West DuPage-St. Mark



WEST DUPAGE

1A.

St. Isidore

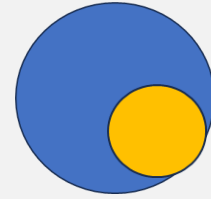


St. Luke



1B

Corpus Christi



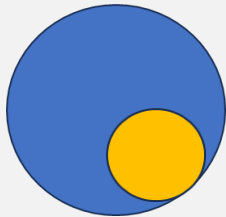
St. Luke



2B

2A.

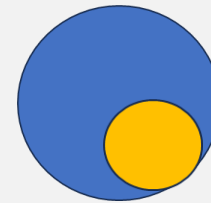
St. Michael



St. Mark



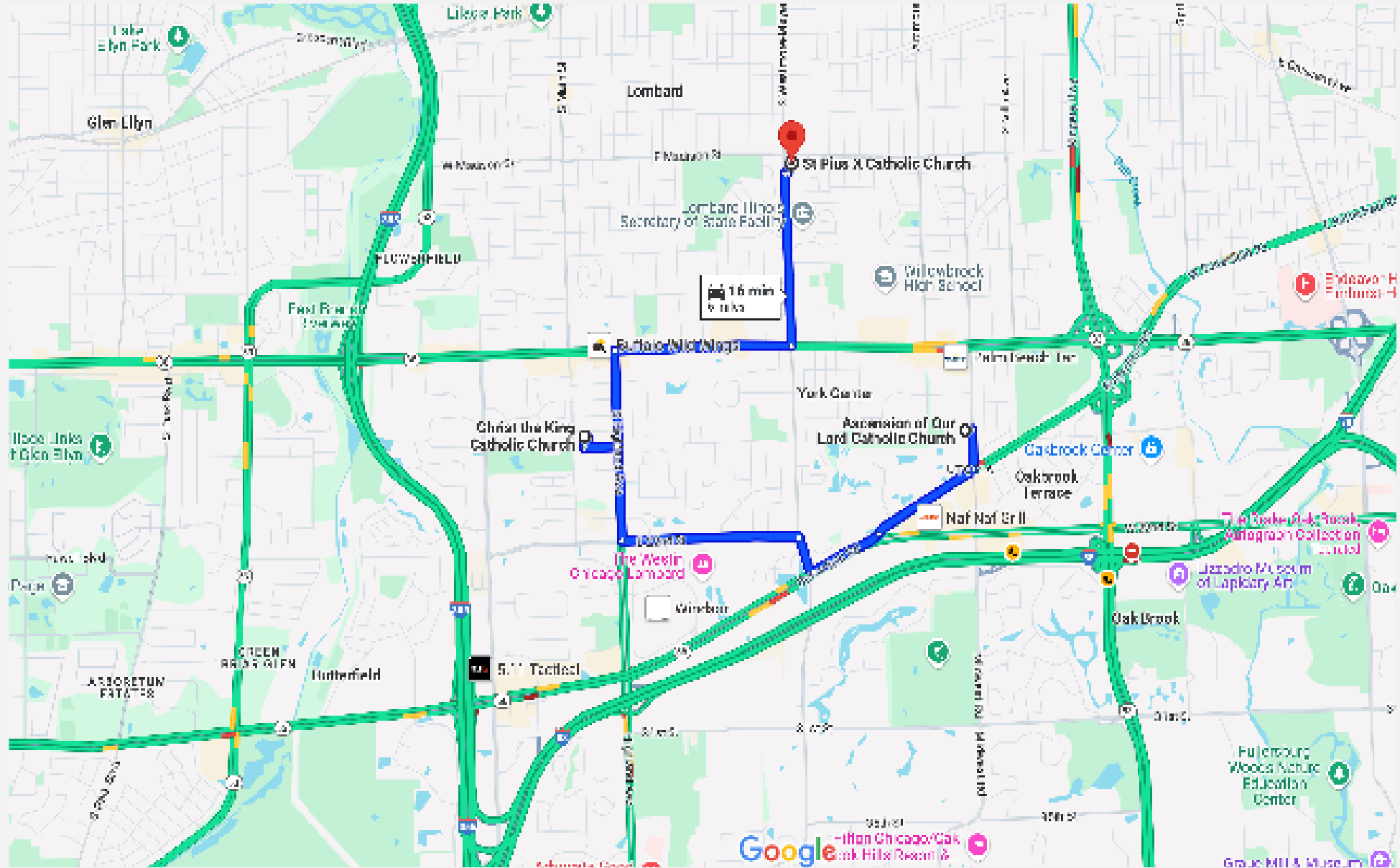
St. Michael



St. Mark



East DuPage- Oakbrook Terrace & Lombard



EAST DUPAGE/OAKBROOK TERRACE & LOMBARD

1. Christ the King



+



=

New Parish



2. Ascension



+

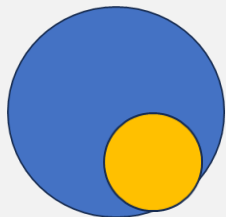


=

New Parish



3. Christ the King

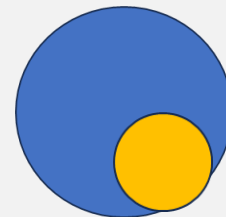


Ascension

4. Christ the King



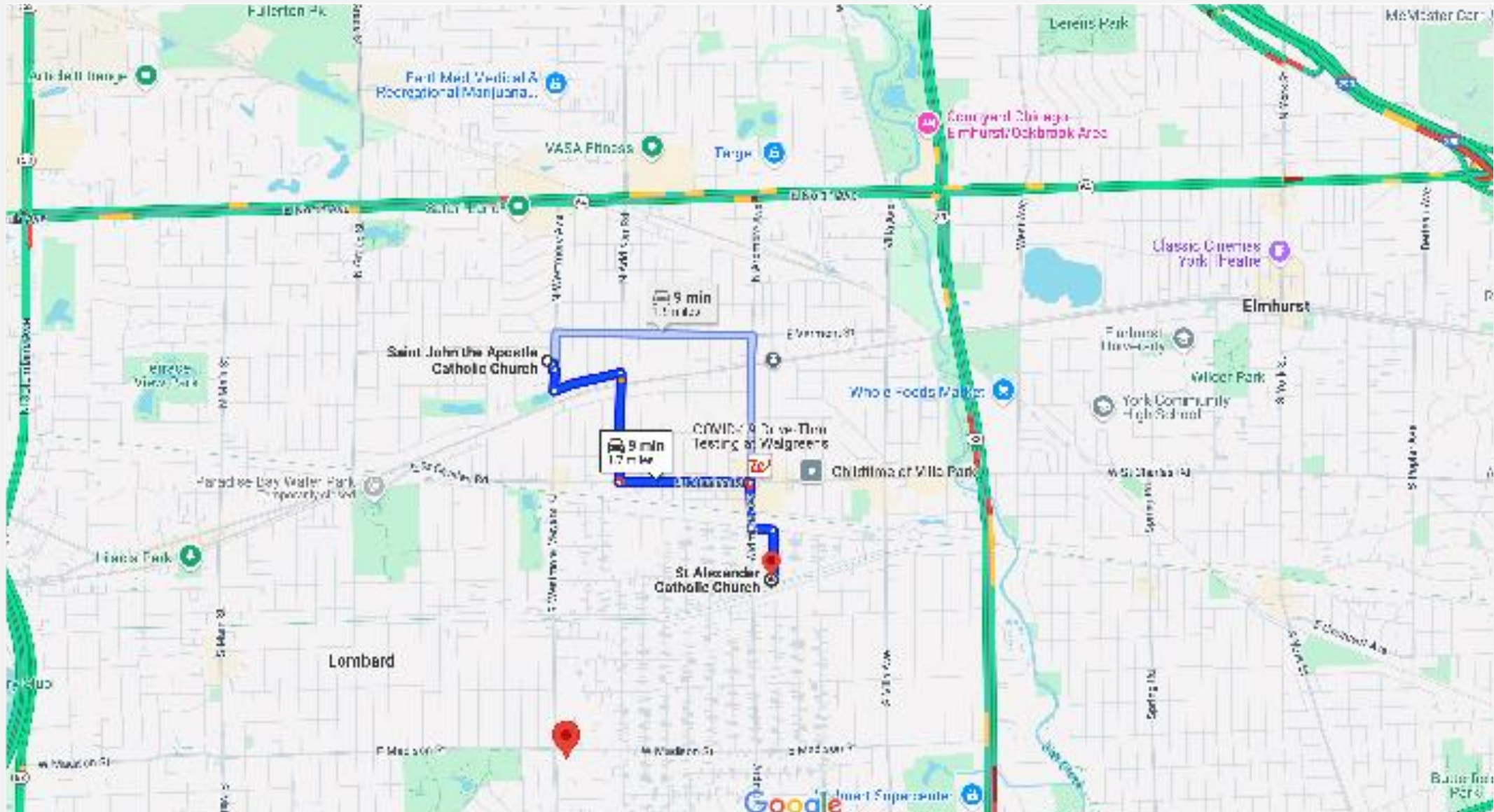
St. Pius X



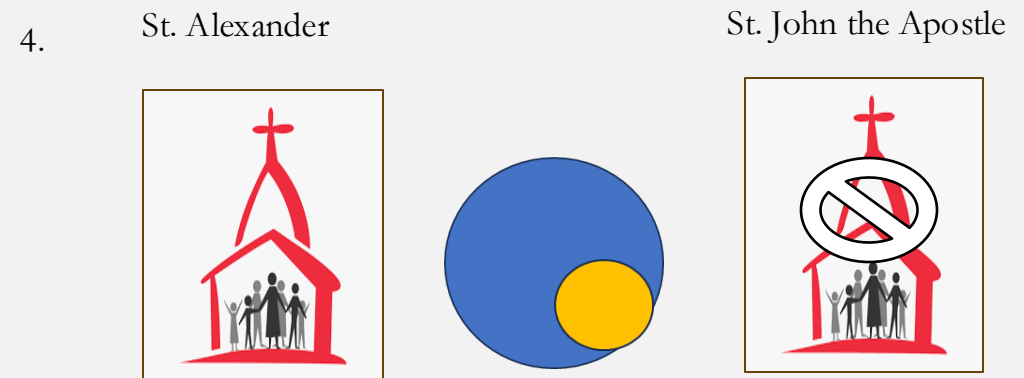
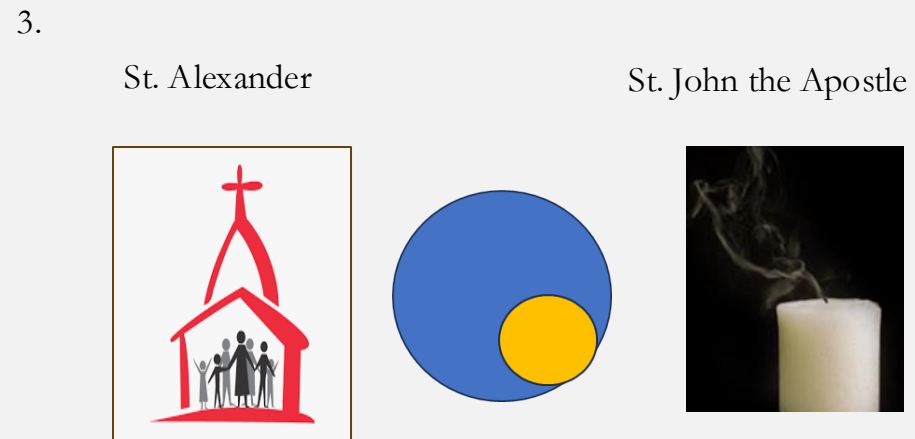
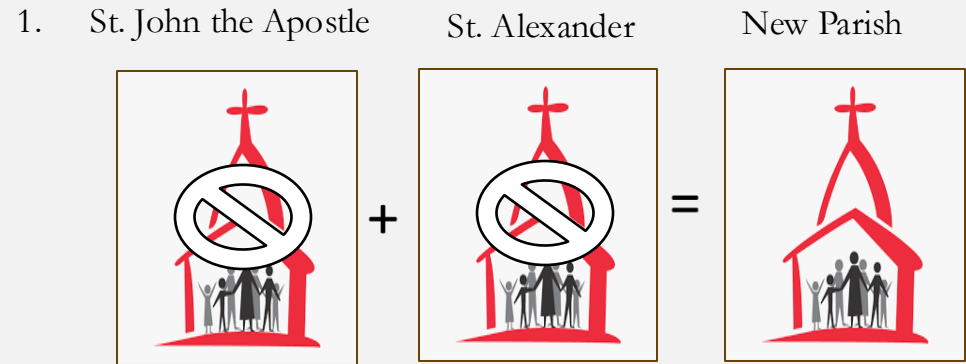
Ascension

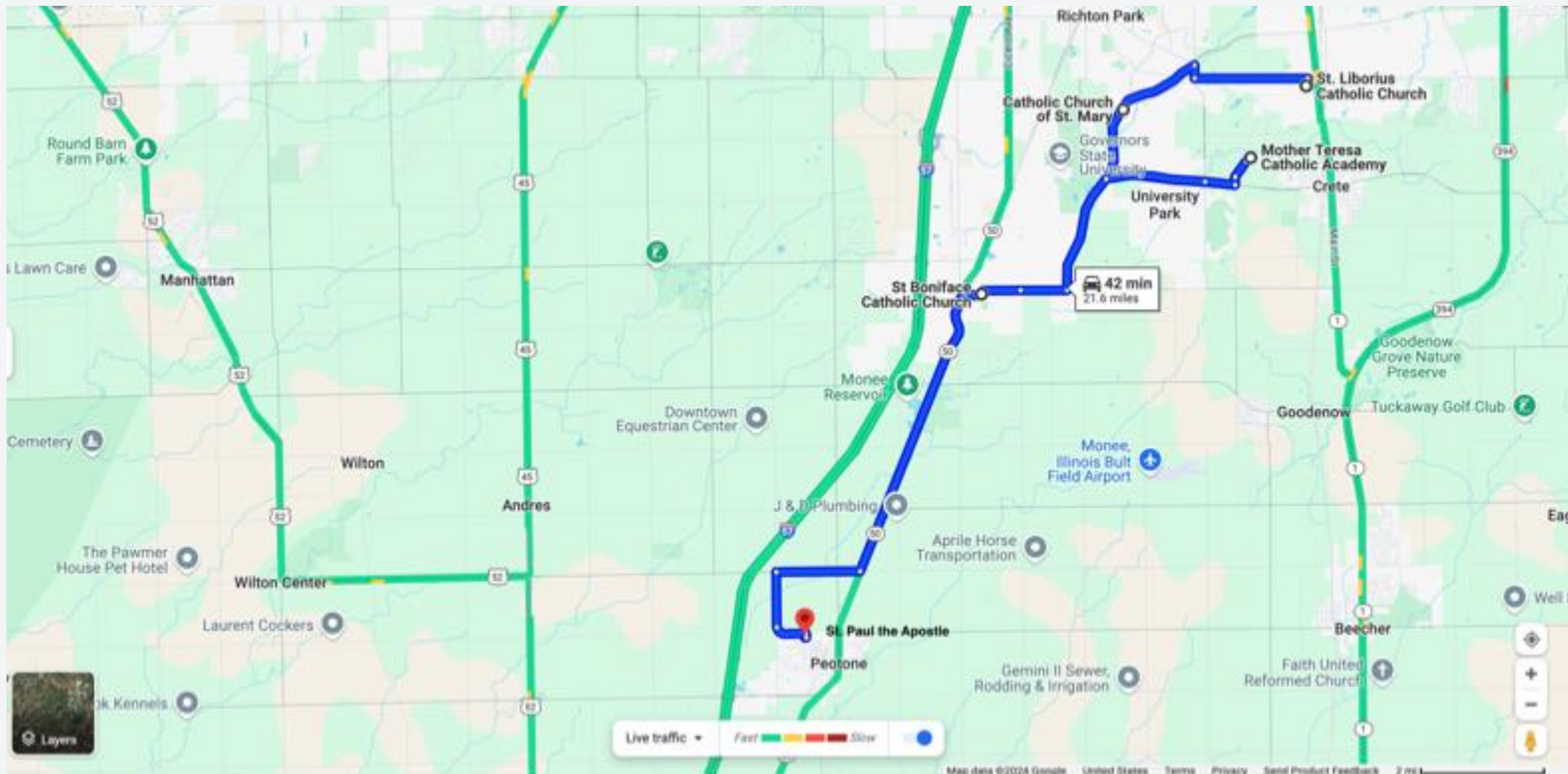


East DuPage- Villa Park



EAST DUPAGE/VILLA PARK





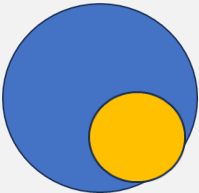
SOUTH WILL-GRUNDY: EAST

1

St. Liborius



St. Mary



St. Paul



St. Boniface



2.

St. Liborius



+

St. Paul



+

St. Mary



+

St. Boniface



=

New Parish



SOUTH WILL-GRUNDY: EAST

3

St. Liborius

St. Boniface

St. Mary

New Parish with church at Mother Teresa Academy property

St. Paul



+



+



=



4.

St. Liborius

St. Boniface

St. Mary

St. Paul

New Parish with church at Mother Teresa Academy property



+



+



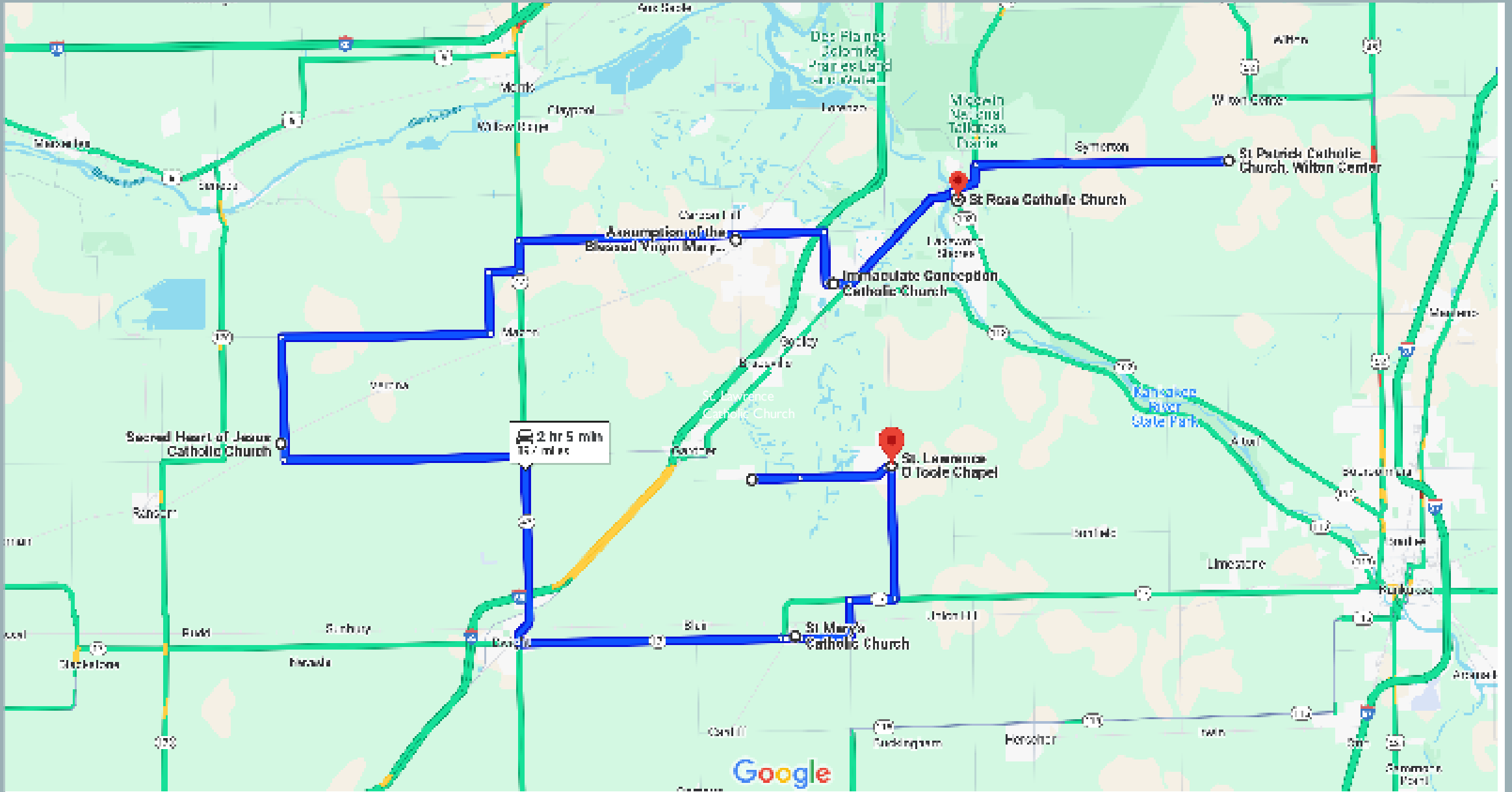
+



=



South Will-Grundy:West



SOUTH WILL-GRUNDY: WEST SCENARIO 1

1.

St. Rose of Lima



St. Patrick



St. Lawrence



Sacred Heart



St. Mary Mission



Assumption



Immaculate Conception



St. Lawrence Chapel



SOUTH WILL-GRUNDY: WEST SCENARIO 2

St. Rose of Lima



St. Patrick



St. Lawrence



Assumption



Sacred Heart



Immaculate Conception



St. Mary Mission



St. Lawrence Chapel



SOUTH WILL-GRUNDY: WEST SCENARIO 3

Assumption



Sacred Heart



St. Lawrence



St. Rose of Lima



St. Patrick



Immaculate Conception



St. Mary Mission



St. Lawrence Chapel



TAKEAWAYS

- Implementation of the **most ambitious** scenarios would result in a reduction from seventeen (17) parishes to five (5) parishes.
- Implementation of the **most conservative** scenarios would result in seven (7) parishes.
- Most people are inclined to go with the most conservative approach, but this is not necessarily the best approach given the current realities of the Church. Making bolder moves now will ensure that five (5) years down the road, we do not have to go through this process again.