



5529 South Lake Park Avenue \* Chicago, IL 60637 \* 773.493.1893

**January 24, 2016**

**Kevin J. Marzalik  
Director of Business Transactions and Affiliated Services  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
835 North Rush Street  
Chicago, IL 60611-2030**

**Dear Mr. Marzalik:**

**I am writing on behalf of the Hyde Park Historical Society regarding the proposed demolition of The Shrine of Christ the King, formerly St. Gelasius Church. The Hyde Park Historical Society strongly supports the request of the Shrine's constituents to be allowed more time to gather the resources to save this historic structure.**

**In support of this, the Hyde Park Historical Society cites the activities of Theaster Gates and the Rebuild Foundation for finding creative, community-driven ways to preserve, restore and repurpose numerous threatened buildings in the Woodlawn community through ethical redevelopment.**

**Again, at this point all that is being asked of the Archdiocese is more time for the community, the Archdiocese and the City to work together for a non-demolition solution. The Woodlawn community continues to show great commitment, unity and sacrifice to insure the future of this historic shrine. The Archdiocese needs to demonstrate that this dedication on the part of its Woodlawn constituents has not been misplaced.**

**Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,**

**Michal Safar, President  
Hyde Park Historical Society**

**Cc: Alderman Willie B. Cochran  
The Hyde Park Herald  
The Coalition to Save the Institute of Christ the King Church**