Summary of Parish Reorganization, April 29, 2006

I have question contact

At noon of the 26th, the Bishop of London, and the prior, met in private at the Bishop's House, at the request of the Bishop of London, the Bishop of London was present, and the Bishop of London, after a short conference, appointed the Bishop of London as the controller of the property of the church.

I have question contact

As a result of this process and the experience of clustering, I truly believe that the church in our day is not the building, but it is the people of God who come together.

It is a process of parish reorganization that has highlighted the considerable challenges before us, changing demographics in our cities and rural areas, fewer priests, declining clerical and lay people; it became clear that the decisions now being made are no longer viable. For the first time, we face the challenges we face and to ensure vibrant faith communities for the future in every area of our diocese.

This year, we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of our diocese. During this period, we have built a strong presence across our diocese, through parishes that flourished and reached out to those in need, and through schools and hospitals, and other Catholic institutions. This grace given history gives us hope as we look to the future.

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish - Aylmer

The incredible sacrifices made by our forefathers and fathers continue to inspire us. The challenges we face today are not new, but we must be willing to tackle them with the same courage that our ancestors in the faith demonstrated. Accepting the need for parish reorganization is one of these challenges and a severe one at that.

Today, I appeal to you, the people of our diocese, to open your hearts and minds to the spirit of faith, hope and love. I ask you to reach out to one another in a meaningful support. It is essential that we fully appreciate the great sacrifice that some of our people are being called to make, especially those whose parishes are closing. We need to be in solidarity with them, to welcome them with open arms into our parishes that are remaining open and invite them to participate in parish ministry programs. We need to understand anger, hurt and disappointment, to be in no undue hurry to shout the phases of grieving, but at the same time be to ministries of reconciliation and healing.

Jesus calls us to follow him. Being a follower means accepting the call to lay down one's life for the things behind. Today, our diocese is embarking on major change. With confidence, we turn to God in prayer for the intervention of our Blessed Lady, may our hearts be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, so that the life of Christ will always flourish in our diocese.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Ronald Fabbes, C.S.B.
Bishop of London.

Embracing a Future Full of Hope

A PASTORAL PLAN for the Diocese of London accepted, Penncost Sunday, 2004

Called by Jesus through baptism into his passion, death, and resurrection and anointed by the spirit, we are called to follow him now and forever. To follow him is to be his selfishness. To follow him is to be his suffering.

We are called to follow him, and in so doing, the people of God offer to the world, to the diocese, and to the people of God, a new sense of meaning.

As a people of faith, trusting in the Spirit who leads us, we dedicate ourselves to the following goals:

PERSONAL HOLINESS: As living signs of Christ's presence, we will respond to the call to personal holiness given to us by all the coming sacraments to make our lives holy and joyful. We will also offer these sacraments of salvation to all who are seeking them.

EVANGELIZING AND TEACHING: Called by Christ, we will evangelize through the clear proclamation of the Gospel and the constant teaching of the Catholic faith, asserting that such proclamation is linked to the life experience of the people.

JUSTICE AND COMPASSION: With our hearts set on the mission of Jesus, we will minister with justice and compassion to the wounded, the searching, the entranced, and those in material and spiritual need.

LITURGICAL COMMUNITY: We will seek to celebrate the Eucharist as the very soul and expression of our beliefs; we will make provision for meaningful liturgical celebrations in our parish communities to ensure full, conscious, and active participation by all.

FORMATION: Having all co-responsible ministry, we will encourage and support the ongoing formation of laity, religious, and ordained.

GOVERNANCE: Imitating Christ the servant-leader, we will employ and model governance practices at all levels that seek to meet the needs of God's people; support the Church's mission as it is meant to be; and foster a climate of mutual respect, commitment, accountability, and transparency.
PARISH REORGANIZATIONS IN THE DIOCESE OF LONDON

Windsor Diocese

St. Anne of the Lakes Parish, Windsor, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Windsor.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Windsor, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Windsor.

Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Windsor, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Windsor.

St. Joseph Mission, Windsor, is to be closed effective June 2007, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Sacred Heart Parish, Windsor, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.


Blessed Sacrament Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into St. Patrick, London.

St. Pius X Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into St. Patrick, London.

Church of the Holy Name, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Holy Angels Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. Joseph Mission, London, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into St. Patrick, London.

St. Joseph, London, is to be closed effective June 2007, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Bishop Milot Parish, London, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. Augustine of Canterbury Mission, London, is to be closed effective June 2006.

St. Joseph Mission, London, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Sacred Heart Parish, London, is to be closed as a parish effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Holy Trinity Church of the Holy Name, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. Anna Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. John the Baptist Church of the Holy Name, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

La Sanza Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. Martin Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Sacred Heart Mission, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. Augustine of Canterbury Church of the Holy Name, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

St. Patrick, London, is to be closed effective June 2006, and its territory is to be absorbed into the parish of St. Patrick, London.

Lambton Diocese

Please visit diocesan website: www.londoncatholic.ca

Further Study

Further study will be undertaken in the following parishes and missions to determine what establishment, alteration and/or closure is required. These studies are to be concurrent with the work of the Deanery Implementation Teams as directed by the Parish Reorganization Policy of April 2006. These studies are to be conducted by June 2007 and changes implemented by June 2008.

Further study of the National and Ethnic Parishes in the Windsor Diocese will be undertaken. The goal of this study is to include the national and ethnic parishes in the diocesan restructuring effort.

Further study of Our Lady of Gabriel Parish, St. Rose of Lima Parish, and St. Augustine Parish, Windsor, is to be undertaken to determine which two sites will remain open under the leadership of one priest. This study shall be under the direction of Bishop Anthony Dautom.

Further study of St. Paul Parish, Leamington, Sacred Heart Parish, Leamington, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Parkhill, is to be undertaken to determine which two sites will remain open under the leadership of one priest. This study shall be under the direction of Bishop Anthony Dautom.

Further study of St. Patrick Parish, Listowel, Sacred Heart Parish, Listowel, and Holy Name of Mary Parish and Assumption Parish, Parkhill, is to be undertaken to determine which two sites will remain open under the leadership of one priest. This study shall be under the direction of Bishop Anthony Dautom.

Further study of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, London, is to be undertakend to determine which two sites will remain open under the leadership of one priest. This study shall be under the direction of Bishop Anthony Dautom.
Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, are to come to full cluster by June 2007. The church of Sacred Heart Parish, London, is to be clustered effective June 2006. Holy Trinity Parish, Woodstock, is to be established at a new site with a new name at a date to be determined.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, London, is to be clustered effective June 2006 and its territory is to be absorbed into the new parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Community at a site to be determined. The church of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, London, is to be re-established as a Preliminary Community to worship at its present site. The community is to provide a Preliminary Parish Council and Outreach Program in the interim. This confirms the announcement made to the parish effective June 2006. It is to be re-established as Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Community.

Further Study
Further study is to be undertaken in the following parishes and missions to determine what establishment, alteration and/or closure is required. These studies are to be undertaken in the light of the work of the Deanery Implementation Teams as directed by the Bishop Responsible for Diocesan Restructuring. Further study shall be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Agnes Parish, Blessed Sacrament Parish, St. Joseph Parish, and St. Joseph Parish, London, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. John the Baptist and Constitutions of the Passion Parish, Blenheim, and St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Goderich, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Paul Parish and La Salle, Sacred Heart Parish, and Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Windsor, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of Our Lady of Grace Parish, St. Rita Parish, and St. Agnes Parish, Listowel, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Anne of the Lakes Parish, London, is to be closed effective June 2007, and its territory is to be absorbed into the new parish of St. Patrick, London. This study shall be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Adalbert Parish and St. Walburgis Parish, Tilbury, and St. Patrick Parish, Tilbury East, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Andrew Parish, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Holy Name of Mary Parish and Assumption Parish, Windsor, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Joseph Parish Mission, Sarnia, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of the Catholic Community of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, London, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

Further study of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart Parish, London, and St. Patrick Parish, London, is to be undertaken to determine the future reduction in the number of clergy and facilities. This study shall review the diocesan restructuring.

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Summary of Parish Reorganization, April 29, 2006

Sisters of St. Joseph
Spiritual Ministries Network

Throughout the year, the sisters of St. Joseph have been a constant beacon and source of hope for us in our diocese. Once again, through their Spiritual Ministries Network, the Sisters are willing to assist anyone who desires to grow through the church. For more information, brochures will soon be available in your parish.

If you have question contact

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This weekend, in all the parishes of our diocese, pastors are announcing the final decision of our parish reorganization process that will take until June of 2006, to fully implement. The number of parishes directly affected by this reorganization - those that are being closed, clustered or newly established - leaves no doubt that these decisions are going to have an enormous impact on our diocese. Today’s announcement is a defining moment in our history. It is a call to us, as Christ’s people to put our trust in God and make a bold commitment to journey together on the path that now open up before us.

This is not an easy day for many of us. I am deeply aware of the pain that this process is causing, particularly for those whom parish will be closing. For some, the future will appear bleak indeed, because their parish – their special spiritual home – will be no more. As a result, some may even question their commitment to the Church. I ask you all to take comfort in the knowledge that our Church is one, as we have always known, and that we will continue to support each other.

This year, we are celebrating the 15th anniversary of our diocese. During this period, we have built a strong presence across our diocese, through parishes that flourished and reached out to those in need, and through schools and hospitals, and other Catholic institutions. This grace gifted history gives us hope as we look to the future.

It “calls us to put our trust in God and make a bold commitment to journey together...”

I am convinced, however, that what is required of the diocese is the fulfillment of our Diocesan Pastoral Plan, through this plan, we are committed to building stronger parishes, where good liturgies are the norm, where there is outreach to our youth and elderly, and to our fellow Catholics who do not feel that they belong, where problems are encountered, when our linguistic and cultural differences are valued, and where the needs of the poor and vulnerable are met. Parish reorganization is but one step toward the fulfillment of the Pastoral Plan, but it is an essential step.

Embracing a Future Full of Hope

A Pastoral Plan for the Diocese of London accepted, Pentecost Sunday, 2004

Called by Jesus through baptism into his passion, death, and resurrection and anointed by the Spirit, we are called to live lives that life offers them at this time. Today, United in Christ, the Head of life, we commit ourselves to carrying out the mission of proclaiming the content of the Gospel we have received.

As a people of life, trusting in the spirit who leads us, we dedicate ourselves to the following goals:

PERSONAL HOLINESS: As living signs of Christ’s presence, we will respond to the call to personal holiness given to all by all constructing ourselves to opportunity for: ENSANING AND TEACHING: Called by Christ, we will evangelize through the clear proclamation of the Gospel and the constant teaching of the Catholic faith, ensuring that such proclamation is linked to the life experience of the people.

JUSTICE AND COMPASSION: With our hearts set on the mission of love, we will minister with justice and compassion to the wounded, the searching, the entangled, and those in material and spiritual need.

LITURGICAL CULTURE: We will encourage and affirm the sacred word and sacrament; we will make provisions for meaningful liturgical celebrations in our parish communities to ensure full, conscious, and active participation by all.

FORMATION: In keeping all co-responsibility ministry, we will encourage and support the ongoing formation of lay, religious, and ordained.

GOVERNANCE: Imitating Christ the servant-leader, we will employ and model governance practices at all levels that seek: the needs of God’s people, support the Church’s vision and purpose and world. Today, United in Christ, the Head of life, we commit ourselves to carrying out the mission of proclaiming the content of the Gospel we have received.

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