



FAMILY OF PARISHES QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – PART 5



**The Family of Parishes and
YOU... the parishioners**

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. HOW WILL THIS AFFECT THE LIVES OF PARISHIONERS?

Parishioners will become part of a larger faith family. You will still be part of your own parish communities. You may worship alongside and work with other members of the new Family. You will continue to share two priests that will rotate between the three churches. You will share, benefit from and work together using shared resources in pursuit of the mission-oriented goal of the Church.

2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE MISSION-ORIENTED?

In setting up the Family of Parishes model, the Diocese underlined the importance that every baptized person is called to play their part; using their God given talents, in order that the Family might meet the spiritual needs of its members and serve the wider community. We are called to become more active in our parish and beyond in imitation of Christ, seeking to live in Christ and evangelize.

3. HOW CAN I HELP IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A FAMILY OF PARISHES?

First of all, your prayers are crucial. Ultimately, true change is always the work of the Holy Spirit, and we need to call upon God's grace to guide and bring us clear vision. All are invited to gather in prayer with the focused intention of a successful transition into our "Family of Parishes" the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at Holy Trinity Church, Woodstock (more info on our website shi.dol.ca). If you are not able to attend, please take some time to pray at home.

Second, as mentioned in Part 4, the Transition Team will be responsible to consult all parishioners in various platforms seeking their input, guidance, concerns and questions. Once the transition team begins their work, please be open and participate. When they organize an info event, please attend. Your contributions are key to the success of the Family.

Finally, be open to the new possibilities that the Family of Parishes can bring to our communities. A mission-oriented parish that can respond to the needs of people today can be a shining light of hope to all.

As we prepare to embark on this process, we ask
for your prayers, support and patience.

May the Holy Spirit guide us along the way!

All parts of this series will remain on our website.