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22 June 2022

To: The Parishioners of North Oxford Catholic Family of Parishes Consisting of Sacred Heart, Ingersoll; Holy Trinity, Woodstock; Holy Cross Polish Catholic Community, Woodstock

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the Great Commission, the Church was given the mission of forming disciples of Jesus. It is the mission you have taken on as a Family of Parishes. Father Dariusz Jagodzinski will serve as your Pastor and Father Abraham Sebastian, C.S.T. as your Associate Pastor. These appointments and the full activation of your Family of Parishes will take effect on 4 July 2022.

Over the last six months, a Transition Team representing all your parishes has taken the time to consult, make decisions and communicate with you. It has been a time well spent in preparation for the activation of your family. Since we have started activating Families of Parishes in 2018, 31 Families have been activated across the Diocese.

With the Family of Parishes model, it is my hope that this will bring your parishes together in a closer relationship and enable you to collaborate with one another and be more effective in the mission that Jesus has entrusted to our Church.

Pope Francis has spoken powerfully of his dream that we become a “missionary Church” – a Church that is not turned inward on itself but that reaches out to those who do not know Christ by welcoming them and announcing to them the Good News of God’s mercy and love.

Pope Francis’ dream inspires all of us. He calls us to a deeper, personal encounter with Jesus and to a confident, informed witness of our Catholic faith which attracts others and invites them to experience themselves the joy of meeting Jesus. Your Family of Parishes is now taking up this great mission. You will build a vibrant community centered on the Eucharist that supports and empowers each of its members – clergy and laity – to be involved in their parish, to journey together in faith and to be missionary disciples of Jesus in the world today, announcing his Gospel to all, especially the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized.

We continue to pray for you. The work of being a mission-oriented Church forming disciples of Jesus is an ongoing labour of love. The core of our mission is prayer as we seek to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit. May we take up the exciting mission Jesus gives us with renewed boldness, energy and enthusiasm.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Ronald Fabbro, CSB*

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, CSB
Bishop of London

+ *Joseph Dabrowski, C.S.M.A.*

Most Rev. Joseph Dabrowski, C.S.M.A.
Auxiliary Bishop of London