

Family of Parishes
Report from the Transition Committee
Update # 2: July 14, 2019

In our first update, we informed you of the names of the committee members, the goals of the committee, and the topics for consideration as we transition toward a family of three parishes (Holy Name of Mary, Immaculate Conception, and St. Joseph's). This update was included in the June 16 bulletins and was also posted on the parish websites.

In that first update, we also emphasized that the Family of Parishes model is a diocese-wide transition. This point was emphasized recently by Bishop Fabbro at the annual Bishop's Dinner. Our bishop used this opportunity to state that: this transition is his vision for the future of our diocese, that he desires all priests of each family of parishes to live together in order to support each-other in their service to us, and most importantly, that this transition phase be used to grow as **"Mission oriented parishes, forming disciples of Jesus"**. As a transition committee, we realize that if we view this transition as merely a reaction to some challenges we face, we will have missed a much bigger, more important opportunity to focus on our mission and grow as Christ's disciples.

Our Family of Parishes Transition Committee met recently. At this meeting, we decided to meet monthly, from September 2019 until at least June 2020. We also acknowledged the importance of regular communication with you. For this reason, an update following each meeting will be published in the bulletin and will be posted on the parish web-sites. We also developed a schedule of our committee's work for September to June. At each monthly meeting, we will concentrate on two or three topics needing to be addressed in our transition. We will then report on our decisions or recommendations. Finally, we agreed that, in order for our committee to work effectively, each committee member will be available to listen to questions, suggestions, or concerns from parishioners. But, committee members will not report on progress or decisions until our decisions and recommendations have been reported to all parishioners in the bulletins and on the web-sites.