



The Archdiocese of Regina

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Update for Holy Cross Parish, Little Flower Parish, and St. Mary's Parish, Regina

September 29, 2022

At the ArchRegina Congress in September 2019, Archbishop Don asked parishes to consider with whom they should be in conversation. Many parishes in the Archdiocese of Regina have experienced challenges relating to engagement, participation, and finances. Bishop Don encouraged us to look for ways to collaborate creatively within our communities. The collaboration could be with other Catholic parishes, with ecumenical partners, and with other organizations in the local community. In early 2020, Bishop Don asked the pastors and lay leaders at the parishes of Holy Cross, St. Mary's, and Little Flower to dialogue about how the Catholic faith might be able to be shared in their common geographical area for many years into the future. It was communicated that the status quo would not be sustainable for much longer for any of the three parishes.

The pastors, along with lay representatives from each parish, gathered together several times between 2020 and 2022. These meetings were not secret; however, due to the sensitive nature of the conversations, it was decided by the entire group (under the leadership of an independent facilitator) that there would be a high level of confidentiality with respect to the discussions. Bishop Don asked the representatives to provide a collective recommendation based on the conversations. Some of the priorities identified by the group during the discussions included: preserving the spirit of each community, remaining financially viable and sustainable, and serving the needs of the people in the parish area by being responsive to those particular and unique needs.

It was determined in June 2022 that a clear and unified recommendation from the representatives of the three parishes was not possible. Bishop Don was appreciative of the time that the representatives of the three parishes took to participate in the consultation. He has now provided a timeline of two years in which each of the three parishes can continue to self-evaluate, enabling them the opportunity for wider parish consultation and conversation. ***There has been no decision to close any parish now or at the end of two years.*** All parishioners are encouraged to participate in honest reflection and engagement regarding the future of the Catholic Church serving the people in the neighbourhoods of Gladmer Park, Assiniboia East, Arnheim Place, Al Ritchie, Broders Annex, Core, Boot Hill, Dominion Heights, and Douglas Place. This new consultation period will be the responsibility of each of the three parishes and will be led and directed at the local parish level.

Questions and comments can be directed to your parish pastor and/or pastoral council chairperson.