

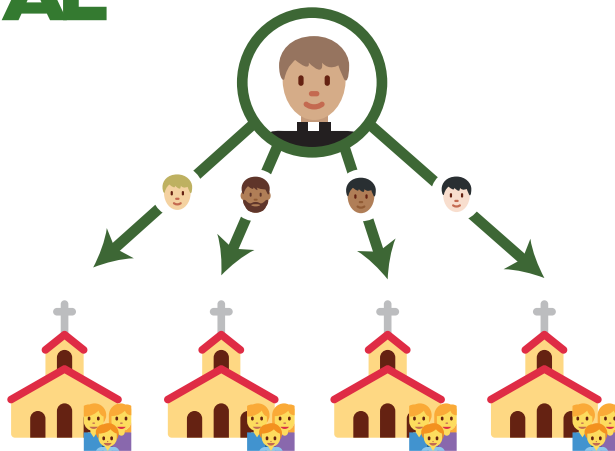
ROAD TO RENEWAL

Renewing the Church in Western New York

Family of Parishes

A family of parishes will be a grouping of parishes that comes together to form a family. Each family will contain three to six parishes that will make up their family.

The goal of families of parishes is to strengthen parishes. There is no plan to close parishes.



Advantages of the Family of Parishes Model

- **Each parish has gifts and talents that can benefit other parishes.** This model allows parishes to bring their best to the family, so all parishes in the family can benefit.
- **Collaboration between parishes is important for a strong future.** This model allows for a collaborative approach between parishes and ministries. Parishes can work together towards a common goal.
- **Priestly ministry becomes shared within the family.** With the declining number of priests available, this model has parishes collaborate by sharing mass schedules and sacramental life. This means priests can focus their attention on sacramental ministry, working more closely with their brothers within the family of parishes.
- **Better utilization of financial resources.** With parishes working together in a family, shared staff and resources will contribute to financial stability and savings.

Family of Parishes does NOT mean:

- Closures
- Mergers
- Pooling of assets & resources

Other Diocesan models for reference:

Archdiocese of Detroit - Families of Parishes
familiesofparishes.org

Diocese of London, Ont. - Families of Parishes
dol.ca/ets

Archdiocese of Chicago - Renew My Church
renewmychurch.org

Timeline

- **August 2020:** Road to Renewal announced
- **September - November 2020:** Diocesan Renewal Task Force created and performs consultation process
- **June 2021:** Family of Parishes draft distributed
- **Summer 2021:** consultation phase on draft of Families of Parishes
- **September 2021:** three families begin as pilot families
- **September 2022:** implementation of Families of Parishes model
- **Ongoing:** consultation and research; continual prayer for the Road to Renewal