



Diocese of Saint John

Plan to Revitalize and Realign the Diocese for Discipleship and Evangelization

“Pursuing the vision which was captured in our *Diocesan Pastoral Plan...*
we want our diocese to be a community of missionary disciples, an evangelizing community,
which gives Jesus Christ to the world in which we live.”

- Bishop Robert Harris

SAINT JOHN REGION PROPOSED MODELS

The Saint John Region today has:

- 23 parishes and 7 missions served by 17 priests
- 6,109 people attend one of 57 Masses each weekend - an average of 107 people per Mass
- 39% of our communities (8 parishes and 4 missions) have serious financial challenges
- In 2015 there were 298 Baptisms, 208 Confirmations, 72 Weddings, and 430 Funerals

There are three proposed models to Revitalize and Realign the Saint John Region. In all models, resources would be allocated to hire two full-time youth ministers for the Region and to invest in liturgy and music.

Model 1 – Four Parish Model

In the first proposed Model, the 23 parishes and 7 missions will be merged into 4 new parishes.

Parish 1 would include the communities of St. Stephen, St. George, St. Andrew, Holy Rosary, *St. Timothy Campobello (served by the Portland diocese)*, Stella Maris Blacks Harbour, and *St. Michael, Grand Manan*

The parish would be served by 2 priests: a Pastor and a Parochial Vicar. **With 435 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Stephen Church and St. George Church. St. Andrew Church would be used for Sunday Mass in the summer.

Parish 2 would include the communities of Our Lady of the Assumption, St. Francois de Sales, St. Matthew, St. Rose of Lima, St. Augustine, *St. Brendan Dipper Harbour*.

The parish would be served by 2 priests: a Pastor and a Parochial Vicar with specialized ministry to the French-speaking community and the hospital. **With 1,555 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, St. Francois de Sales Church, and St. Matthew Church.

Parish 3 would include the communities of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sts. Joachim and Ann, St. Joseph, St. Pius X, *St. Bridget Chapel Grove*, St. John the Baptist, Stella Maris, Holy Trinity, and St. Peter.

The parish would be served by 4 priests: a Pastor and 3 Parochial Vicars with specialized campus ministry. **With 2,420 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, St. Ann Church, St. Joseph Church, St. Pius X Church, and *St. Bridget Church Chapel Grove*.

Parish 4 would include the communities of OLPH Rothesay, St. Mark, St. Alphonsus, St. Francis Xavier, Sacred Heart, *St. William, St. Anthony, St. Phillip in Millstream.*

The parish would be served by 4 priests: a Pastor and 3 Parochial Vicars. With **1,710 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at OLPH Church, St. Mark Church, St. Alphonsus Church, and St. Francis Xavier Church. Sacred Heart Church would be used for Sunday Mass in the summer.

Model 2 – Ten Parish Model

In the second proposed Model, the 23 parishes and 7 missions will be merged into 10 new parishes.

Parish 1 would include the communities of St. Stephen, St. Andrew, Holy Rosary, *St. Timothy Campobello (served by the Portland diocese).* The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 245 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Stephen Church. St. Andrew Church would be used for Sunday Mass in the summer.

Parish 2 would include the communities of St. George, *St. Michael Grand Manan*, and Stella Maris in Blacks Harbor. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 190 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. George Church and St. Michael Church in Grand Manan.

Parish 3 would include the communities of St. Matthew, St. Rose of Lima, St. Augustine, and *St. Brendan.* The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 940 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Matthew Church and St. Rose of Lima Church.

Parish 4 would include the communities of St. Francois de Sales and Our Lady of the Assumption. The parish would be served by 2 priests: a Pastor and a bi-lingual Parochial Vicar with specialized ministry to the French-speaking community and the hospital. With **620 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Our Lady of the Assumption Church and St. Francois de Sales Church.

Parish 5 would include the communities of St. Pius X, *St. Bridget*, Holy Trinity, and St. Peter. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 895 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Pius X Church and St. Bridget Church.

Parish 6 would include the communities of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, St. John the Baptist, and Stella Maris. The parish would be served by 2 priests: a Rector and a Parochial Vicar. **With 850 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Parish 7 would include the communities of Sts. Joachim and Ann, St. Joseph and St. William. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 675 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Ann Church and St. Joseph Church.

Parish 8 would be the community of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rothesay. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 700 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Parish 9 would include the communities of St. Mark, St. Alphonsus, and *St. Anthony*. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 640 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Mark Church and St. Alphonsus Church.

Parish 10 would include the communities of Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, and *St. Phillip*. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 370 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church and St. Francis Xavier Church.

Model 3 – Seventeen Parish Model

In the third proposed Model, the 23 parishes and 7 missions will be merged into 17 new parishes.

Parish 1 would include the communities of St. Stephen, Holy Rosary, and *St. Timothy Campobello* (served by the Portland diocese). The parish would be served by ½ Pastor who is shared with St. Andrew Parish. **With 175 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Stephen Church.

Parish 2 would be the community of St. Andrew. The parish would be served by ½ Pastor who is shared with the community worshipping at St. Stephen Church. **With 65 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Andrew Church.

Parish 3 would be the community of St. George. The parish would be served by ½ priest who is shared with the community worshipping at Stella Maris. **With 130 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. George Church and St. Michael Church.

Parish 4 would be the community of Stella Maris Blacks Harbour and *St. Michael Grand Manan*. The parish would be served by ½ priest who is shared with the community worshipping at St. George. **With 65 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Stella Maris Church and St. Michael Church in Grand Manan.

Parish 5 would include the communities of St. Matthew and St. Augustine. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 410 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Matthew Church.

Parish 6 would include the communities of St. Rose of Lima and *St. Brendan*. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 525 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Rose of Lima.

Parish 7 would be the community of St. Francois de Sales. The parish would be served by 1 bilingual priest, with specialized ministry to the French-speaking community and the hospital. **With 170 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Francois DeSales Church.

Parish 8 would be the community of Our Lady of the Assumption. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 450 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Our Lady of the Assumption Church.

Parish 9 would include the communities of St. Pius X, St. Peter, Holy Trinity, and *St. Bridget*. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 900 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Pius X Church. St. Bridget Church would be used for Sunday Mass in the summer.

Parish 10 would include the communities of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, St. John the Baptist, and Stella Maris. The parish would be served by 1 priest: a Rector. **With 850 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Parish 11 would be the community of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rothesay. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 700 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Parish 12 would be the community of St. Mark. The parish would be served by 1 priest. **With 450 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Mark Church.

Parish 13 would be the community of Sts. Joachim and Ann. The parish would be served by 1/2 priest who is shared with the community worshipping at St. Joseph Church. **With 375 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Ann Church.

Parish 14 would be the communities of St. Joseph and *St. William*. The parish would be served by 1/2 priest who is shared with the community worshipping at St. Ann Church. **With 300 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Joseph Church.

Parish 15 would be the community of Sacred Heart. The parish would be served by 1/3 priest who is shared with the community worshipping at St. Francis Xavier and St. Alphonsus. **With 140 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church.

Parish 16 would be the communities of St. Alphonsus and *St. Anthony*. The parish would be served by 1/3 priest who is shared with the community worshipping at St. Francis Xavier and Sacred Heart. **With 190 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Alphonsus Church.

Parish 17 would be the communities of St. Francis Xavier and *St. Phillip*. The parish would be served by 1/3 priest who is shared with the community worshipping at Sacred Heart and St. Alphonsus. **With 230 weekly Mass goers**, Sunday Mass would be celebrated at St. Francis Xavier Church.

In all of these models, the workgroup thought the merging of communities and resources would contribute to a richer experience of Sunday Eucharist, would increase the focus on discipleship and evangelization, would reduce the administrative burden on our priests so they can spend more time pastoring their people, and would allow the region to invest more resources in youth ministry and in liturgy and music.