

PARISH SELECTION UPDATE

SEARCHING FOR A NEW RECTOR

From Eric Preston, Chair of your Parish Selection Committee. This is the 2nd update on the status of the Committee's work.

Two weeks ago, I told you we would be asking for pictures to illustrate our Parish Profile and that we would be conducting a survey later in January to gather more information for the Profile. Today I want to update you on both those items.

PHOTOS

You will soon be receiving our letter on gathering pictures for the Profile. Thanks to Canon Stephen and others, we already have over 200 pictures on our Facebook page. If you have more pictures that help to tell the Holy Trinity story, we'd love to see them. If you have the pictures in electronic format, you can send them in via the Parish Selection Committee email address on the website. If you have hard copy pictures, you can contact Swan who will help you scan the pictures and upload them to our site. More detail on both processes is set out in the letter.

SURVEY

Our Parish survey is now ready and will be launched this week. You'll receive an email letter that describes the survey and the process for completing it. We hope that most people will complete it online but there is the option of completing a paper survey. You can contact Swan if you'd prefer to go the paper route.

The survey is designed to gather information about the Parish and to find out what you expect in our new priest. We tried to be careful not to ask for personal information that people may be uncomfortable in providing. The criteria we used are whether the question would provide information about the Parish that would be relevant to potential applicants or relevant for the PSC in establishing the selection criteria for a new incumbent. We hope that we've designed the survey well and that you'll be comfortable completing it.

Both the online and paper survey replies will be held in strictest confidence by the Diocese. The results will go directly to our Diocesan coaches, Elizabeth McCaffrey and Brian Hatch to be tabulated. Our coaches are bound by confidentiality agreements with the Diocese to ensure that no personal information is released, and only aggregate information will be provided to the Parish Selection Committee. Once we receive the aggregate results, we will share them with you and use them in preparing our Parish Profile.

The email letter you'll be getting will provide more detail on the survey and how you can access the online or paper versions. Most importantly, it will contain the link to the online survey. We encourage you to complete the survey individually. If more than one person shares an email address, you can each complete the survey separately. We'd like you to complete the survey as soon as you can, but we'll keep the survey open for two weeks. We can also extend the deadline if we find we need more time.

The survey is an important step in preparing the Parish Profile and we thank you in advance for your help in completing it. If you have any questions about the survey or submitting pictures, please go to the Parish Selection section on the website and click on contact the committee.

Thanks again for your help.



PRAYER FOR HOLY TRINITY THORNHILL'S PARISH SELECTION

ALMIGHTY GOD, LOOK GRACIOUSLY ON US THE MEMBERS OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, THORNHILL, DURING THIS TIME OF TRANSITION. BE WITH US AND LEAD US AS WE SEEK THE NEXT PRIEST AND PASTOR FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

WE ASK YOUR DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO IDENTIFY A NEW INCUMBENT, THAT WE MAY CHOOSE A COMPETENT AND FAITHFUL LEADER WHO WILL CARE FOR YOUR PEOPLE AND EQUIP US FOR MINISTRY. GRANT THEM EARS TO HEAR THE VOICES OF THOSE WHOM THEY WILL INTERVIEW, EARS TO HEAR EACH OTHER AS THEY DELIBERATE, AND EARS THAT ARE ATTENTIVE TO YOUR VOICE AS THEY DISCERN THE BEST CHOICE FOR US AT THIS TIME.

CONTINUE TO LEAD US WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, AS WE PATIENTLY WAIT UPON YOU AND ON THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS. THIS WE ASK THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN

Written by Canon Stephen Fields, 2021

BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE BLESSED.