

## PARISH SELECTION UPDATE

## SEARCHING FOR A NEW RECTOR

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

Just to remind you, the Special Vestry on November 2021 appointed the Parish Selection Committee to conduct the process of selecting our new priest. The other members of the Committee are Ed Carter, Cassandra Culpepper, Enid Corbett, Nancy Cutler, Dirk Drieberg, Leanda Kirwan and Malcolm Shiner plus two coaches assigned by the Diocese to guide us in the process. The role of the Committee is to prepare the Parish Profile, which is in essence our advertisement for our new priest, interview and evaluate the short list of applicants provided by the Bishop and recommend our preferred applicant to the Bishop. The Bishop makes the final decision on who to appoint as our Priest.

Our first task is to prepare the Parish Profile. This is a description of the parish, its activities, financial situation, physical plant, and our expectations for the new priest. Each Committee member is responsible for preparing a particular section of the Profile. If you are the head of a committee or group at Holy Trinity, a Committee member will likely contact you to gather information about your activity. We will be conducting a survey later this month and holding focus groups in mid February to solicit more information about the parish and your views on the current state of affairs at Holy Trinity, our view for the future and what we would like to see in our new priest. We will be providing more information on the survey and the focus groups closer to the dates.

We are also in the process of setting up a mailbox for parishioners to submit any questions, comments or even suggestions for potential applicants. We will be gathering photos of the church and various activities to include in the Profile. Cassandra is our photo editor and will be advising you on how to submit your photographs once we get the process in place.

We plan to complete the Parish Profile by April and, although these are uncertain times, we hope to have our new priest by the fall. We'll provide you with regular updates on the preparation of the Profile. However, once we start the process of inviting applications and interviewing candidates, we will be entering a 'cone of silence' to

ensure the confidentiality of the process and protect the privacy of the individuals applying and will not be able to tell you much of what's going on.

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### **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

A light blue horizontal banner containing the text "BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE BLESSED."

**BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE BLESSED.**