

Dear parishioners,

In the coming weeks, the new yet-to-be-named parish of Saints Joseph, Anne and Emeric will slowly begin to unite at its new location St Joseph Church in Homewood. This unification creates opportunities for growth and expansion of existing parish life as we incorporate the ideas, gifts, and talents in creating a new parish community.

KEY ASPECTS OF THE UNIFICATION

- The former parishes of Saint Joseph, Saint Anne and Saint Emeric have been extinguished, conically. They no longer exist, individually. A new parish has been established. St Joseph Church is designated the Parish Church.
- The new parish was founded on July 1, 2022. It is literally in its infancy. It will grow in the coming weeks and months, slowly developing as its members unite in our new location.
- Every single member of Saint Joseph, Saint Anne and Saint Emeric is considered a “Founding member” of the new parish. Every parishioner has an important role to play. We count on you.
- The *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Gadium et Spes)* promulgated by the Second Vatican Council teaches us that, “in every age it is the duty of the church to read the signs of the times and interpret them in the light of the Gospel, if it is to carry out its task.” This is a new age of opportunity and growth for a new community of believers. Let us accept the challenge of the Gospel and build a new community of faith and help our new parish grow into a vibrant community where we *Build Community, Make Disciples and Inspire Witness*.

As was mentioned in recent weeks, our Renew My Church working groups are meeting and discussing the way forward for our new parish. The Liturgical Working Group has selected the dates for the end to regular Sunday worship at St Anne and St Emeric worship site; as well, a special mass to celebrate the legacy of St. Joseph parish. Please make a note of the dates below – more details to follow:

- St. Joseph church – Sunday, October 16, 2022, 10:30 Mass
- St. Anne church – Sunday, October 23, 2022, 9:30 Mass
- St. Emeric church – Sunday, November 6, 2022, 10:30 Mass

The first Mass as our unified parish will be held at St. Joseph Church on Sunday, November 13, 2022 (time to be determined).

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of our Unification team, our Liturgical team, our Communication team, and our naming team. They are working behind the scene with the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help us build the new reality of our new parish. Our thanks go as well to the volunteers who help in different ways in our unification process. Let us keep them in our prayers.

May the blessing of health, peace and joy be yours.

Fr. Edmond